

WHITNEY'S WEEKLY BUDGET OF NEWS

AN ANECDOTE OF JOE SMITH THE MORMON PROPHECY.

A Curious Rock Near Great Bend. Case of Mistaken Identity at Starrucca—Latest Topics of Interest in Railroad Circles—A Few Paragraphs in Lighter Vein. Events of the Week in Montrose.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Susquehanna, May 3.—A large number of newspapers have recently contained the following: "While the Dan Rice show was playing in an Illinois town Rice learned that Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet, was in the same place. Rice called on Smith and the next day it was advertised all over the country that the prophet would walk on the surface of a small river that flowed near the town. The people came by hundreds to see the miracle. The water was muddy and Joseph began to walk on its surface. He stroled out about fifteen feet when suddenly he went down and out of sight. Rice had removed one of the boards of the platform that had been prepared just beneath the surface of the water the night before."

Joseph received the ducking, but Dan Rice had nothing to do with it. It is well-known that Joseph Smith, the father of Mormonism, was, for a time, a resident of this vicinity. Here he translated (?) the Book of Mormon, the Mormon bible, prospected for gold and other precious minerals, performed "miracles," and duped the early settlers.

At one time he announced that at a certain hour he would imitate our Savior's miracle and walk upon the water. The place selected was in the Susquehanna river at what is now West Susquehanna. At the appointed time a crowd assembled at the point selected, and Smith appeared, dressed in a long white robe. He commenced his walk, but when he arrived in the middle of the stream, he gave a great shout and sank from sight. Men put out in boats and rescued him, half dead. Mormonism came very near seeing its finish on that Sunday afternoon. Smith had built a submerged water, two board wide, across the river. Some unbelievers had, from a bluff, observed the process of construction, and when the prophet retired they sawed out a section of the walk. Hence Joseph's unexpected and unannounced baptism.

A CURIOUS ROCK.

Near the Red Rocks, in Great Bend township, is a curious rock of peculiar dimensions. It is twelve feet long by seven or eight wide, and rises above the surface of the ground about eighteen inches. Its edges are angular, its surface flat, and it shows little effect of the action of weather. It is composed of a soft, bluish limestone, and its whiteness makes it a conspicuous object. On the surface are several deep and perfect footprints, as though made by the left moccasined foot of a woman or boy. It is said that it was known as a religious rock to the Indians, who worshipped it.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

A Susquehanna county missionary to Africa is coming home, by easy stages. The chief cannibal chief requested him to come across the salted sea and fatten up. Cannibals detest lean meat. This is the month when women sell nearly all of their husbands' earnings to the rag man for about 19 cents worth of jammed tinware.

A vicinity chap is said to have severely chastised his little daughter, who pleaded illness as an excuse for not attending Sunday school. He compelled her to walk twelve miles in order to go. When he dies, if Satan does not give him a seat right up against the fiery furnace he ought to lose his job.

A Susquehanna girl told her young man that she would never marry him until he was worth \$100,000. So he started out with a brave heart to make it. "How are you getting on, George?" she asked at the expiration of a few months. "Well," George said hopefully, "I have saved up \$22."

IN RAILROAD CIRCLES.

Quite a large number of Erie railroads are taking good positions upon southern roads.

Six conductors on the Delaware division of the Erie have been reduced to flagmen on account of light traffic.

Hullstead is recovering from her late railroad scare. She has lost some excellent citizens, by changes in runs, but she has a large number left.

The Erie is hot-footed after the tramps and other who break into its freight cars in transit. Beer, beef and clothing are the chief goods stolen.

Quite a large number of immigrants are passing over the Erie for the far west. Time was when the Erie carried a great number of immigrants, but of late years the traffic has diverted to other roads, which carried them for profligate rates. The Erie doesn't care to do business for fun nor in fact for the sake of doing business.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY. A farmer, living near Starrucca, whose wife was troubled with an aching tooth, decided to come to Susquehanna. The pair took a seat in Palmer's Erie "flyer," and, soon after the train started, the farmer went forward into the smoking car, telling his wife that he would be back directly. While her husband was absent, the conductor came leisurely along, ticket punch in hand, and, approaching the old lady, reached over for her ticket, whereupon the victim of the toothache opened her mouth and said:

"You needn't mind giving me chloroform, doctor. Just pull it right out, anyhow! I can stand it, and when John comes back he will settle with yer!"

A STRING O' THINGS.

This has been a big week in Montrose. She has had the Bridgewater Baptist association, the Susquehanna county Medical society and the Susquehanna County Sunday School association. It will be so quiet over there next week that the people can hear themselves think.

Bro. Haines, of the Homesdale Independent, charges about everything against the Republicans of the state, except the late Spring. And he has that matter under advisement. The young lady who, in a newspaper card, a few days since, announced the remarriage of her parents, is up-to-date.

A Susquehanna county man two years ago took \$750 and went to the Klondike country. Last week he came home with gold—in one tooth. When the dear ladies give their ages to the census man, they will be gratified to know that they are not under oath; and the census man doesn't care whether they are 29 or 99.

LATE LOCALITIES. Susquehanna fishermen who go to the Delaware river section in quest of trout and shad, come home with few fish. The streams are too high.

William Snape died at his home on Erie avenue on Wednesday afternoon, aged 67 years. The funeral will take place on Friday afternoon. In St. John's Catholic church on Wednesday morning, Jerome McAuliff and Miss Margaret Kelly were united in marriage. They left immediately on a wedding tour.

Civil Engineer George Leighton, of Glenburn, has completed the official survey of Susquehanna, in connection with the contemplated sewerage system. The common council is said to favor the paving of Main street. A certain alleged hot place is said to be "paved with good intentions." Susquehanna's streets need something more substantial and more costly. Whitney.

FOUND A FORTUNE.

Heirs to a Large Estate Who Had Mysteriously Disappeared Turns Up After Sixteen Years—Had Been in an Orphan Asylum.

From the Pittsburg Commercial Gazette.

A bill in equity filed in common pleas No. 2 between Leon A. and Lewis Hall, plaintiffs, and the Fidelity Title and Trust company, of Pittsburg, guardian of the estate of Francis J. Hall and William E. Hall, defendants, develops an interesting romance which resulted in a family brought fortunes to wandering orphan boys and disposed of thousands of dollars' worth of property for which all hope of finding the heirs had been given up. Attorneys Lawrence W. Bingham and Ernest W. Mariand filed the bill asking for a partition of this property.

Francis J. Hall, one of the best known and wealthiest colored men in Pittsburg in the early '80s, died in February, 1888, leaving about \$40,000 in real estate and personal property. His last will was made and dated December 15, 1874. To this will he added at various times codicils, changing its provisions until the last codicil left the property to a daughter and four grandsons, who had mysteriously disappeared. The property consisted of seven brick houses and about \$10,000 in cash. By the provisions of the will he divided the houses on Kirkpatrick and Perry streets, leaving them to his daughters, Lulu and Elizabeth Hall. By the first codicil he left three brick houses to Lulu Hall and three houses to his son, Richard A. Hall, Elizabeth having died. By the second codicil, the testator, on account of his son's wife, Josephine Hall, having incurred his displeasure and dislike, revoked the first codicil and cut his son and his heirs off without a cent. By a third codicil, the daughter-in-law having died, he revoked the second codicil and again left his son and his heirs, one-half of his property.

WENT OUT INTO THE WORLD.

In the meantime the son, Richard A. Hall, died, knowing only of codicil No. 2, which cut out himself and his children. Before he died, however, he placed the four children in the colored Orphan's asylum at Bellevue, with the understanding that when each attained the age of twelve years, he was to be sent out into the world to make his own way. The last codicil was added in 1884. The grandfather did not know where the children were and none of the relatives were taken into the father's confidence, he having cut loose from the family, and not being on speaking terms with any of them. The Orphan's home knew nothing of the grandfather or the will, and as the children reached the stipulated age, each was given some ready cash and sent out to make his own living. One by one they left, taking a different course, until all had left the home and disappeared without a trace. It was not until several thousand dollars each was waiting a claimant.

Lewis, the eldest, wandered all over the world as a newsboy on trains, and for sixteen years the Fidelity Title and Trust company held the property waiting for the heirs to turn up. Leon, the second boy, became a janitor in Pittsburg, and William F. Hall became a bootblack or something of the sort in Ohio. William R. Hall, the last to leave the institution, disappeared entirely, and was given up for dead, when the final discovery of the estate was made in a most peculiar manner and by mere chance.

Two years ago Lewis Hall, who had been all over the country, got homesick and decided to come back to Pittsburg and try to locate some of his brothers. He reached the city in the



Prospectus of the Siegel-Cooper Co.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES, NEW YORK AND CHICAGO.

Profit-Sharing with our Patrons. Co-operation with our Employees.

THE great success attained since 1887 by Siegel, Cooper & Co., has induced and given warrant to the enterprising owners to further ingratiate themselves into public favor by consolidating their two mammoth establishments into a co-operative enterprise on a profit-sharing basis. They recognize the tendency of the present age to be in the direction of co-operation of employers with employees, as well as in profit-sharing with patrons. To accomplish this desired condition, a new Company, the Siegel-Cooper Co. (Co-operative Stores, New York and Chicago) has been incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey with a capital stock of \$24,000,000.00, of which \$14,250,000.00 is divided into 285,000 shares 6 per cent. cumulative Preferred Stock of \$50.00 par value, and \$9,750,000.00 into 195,000 shares Common Stock of \$50.00 par value.

The charter of the Company provides that, after full dividends of 6 per cent. per annum have been paid on the Preferred Stock, and full dividends of 3 per cent. per annum have been paid on the Common Stock, all additional dividends shall be apportioned and paid on the basis of 2/3 in amount on the Preferred Stock and 1/3 in amount on the Common Stock.

To carry out the plan of Co-operation

with its employees. \$2,000,000.00 of the Common Stock has been placed in trust, the annual dividends of which will be distributed among such employees as have been or may hereafter be with the New York or Chicago establishment for a period of three years during their satisfactory continuance in the service of the new Company; such dividends will also be continued and paid to employees for life who, after ten years of service with the new Company, become incapacitated for further employment, thereby practically providing a pension fund for faithful employees in their old age.

owners having no desire to sell out, but intending to remain with the business; they will therefore not part with any more stock than they believe necessary to fully carry out their plans for co-operation and profit-sharing, as previously stated.

The owners confidently believe that, by inaugurating the liberal policy above outlined towards their employees, they will in return be rewarded by more faithful service, and courteous attention to patrons, the result of which must be beneficial to the new Company as well as augment the continued good will of the public.

Furthermore, it can be calculated to a certainty

that with many thousands of new stockholders exerting their personal influence toward the success and welfare of the business, larger patronage and correspondingly greater earnings for the new Company will be assured. It is from the increased benefits and material advantages which these changed conditions are expected to bring about, that the present owners feel confident of better pro rata remuneration on the stock which they retain, and in a measure justifies them in parting with any portion of their interests in an established and exceptionally profitable business.

The SIEGEL-COOPER CO. Co-operative Stores will take possession Monday, July 2d, 1900, of the two great department stores of Siegel-Cooper Co., New York, and Siegel, Cooper & Co., Chicago, in their entirety, covering a floor space of over thirty acres, with their millions of dollars' worth of Merchandise, Store Fixtures, Delivery Plants (consisting of many hundreds of Horses, Wagons, etc.), Machinery, extensive Stable Properties, and all the appurtenances required for the complete operation of the two stores, and also its Palatial Fireproof Store Building and Real Estate in New York City, which alone represents an asset of many millions of dollars, free of all encumbrances or indebtedness whatsoever, so that the Siegel-Cooper Co. (Co-operative Stores, New York and Chicago) will start its career without owing a single dollar.

For the good and sufficient reason of not wishing to divulge the details of our business to our competitors, we present no balance sheet for publication. We do not however, desire to ask our patrons or the public to rely exclusively on our representations, and, therefore, the money required has been set aside and will remain on deposit with the above-named Trust Companies to absolutely secure the dividends on all the Preferred Stock to be allotted as stated. More-

over, we allude with pride to the fact that the Chicago establishment has since its inception paid millions of dollars in dividends to its stockholders, and that the New York establishment, while only in its fourth year, is not only doing a larger business than the Chicago store, but is also on a most profitable dividend-paying basis. We can also say for the benefit of subscribers, that the net earnings of our two establishments for the past year were largely in excess of the amount required to pay the dividends on all the Preferred Stock of the new Company.

There will be no change in management,

and the same men who thirteen years ago started the original Siegel, Cooper & Co. store in Chicago (and later its sister-store in New York) and who have achieved a success almost without parallel in modern retailing, have pledged themselves to continue in the management of the business of the new Company the same as in the past, and they will deposit with the Central Trust Company of New York, all of their stock holdings for a term of years to secure such pledge.

Subscriptions for the 200,000 shares of the Preferred Stock

will be received in person, or by mail, on blank forms provided for that purpose, by the Central Trust Company, 54 Wall Street, New York, and Siegel-Cooper Co., New York and Chicago, beginning at 10 a. m. Monday, May 7th, 1900, and will continue for a period of One Week; the right, however, is reserved to close subscriptions upon one day's notice in the New York and Chicago daily papers. The above Trust Company, for the convenience of our patrons and the public, will receive subscriptions at the Siegel-Cooper Co. store in New York, or at its own office, 54 Wall Street. All subscriptions must be accompanied by money, check, money order or draft, payable to the Central Trust Company of New York, to the amount of 20 per cent. of such subscription (equal to \$10.00 per share), for which proper receipts will be given by said Trust Company. Notice will be given as soon as practicable of the number of shares allotted to each subscriber, and the balance due must be paid to said Trust Company on or before July 5th, 1900, upon the delivery by said Trust Company of the stock allotted.

To the CENTRAL TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, 54 WALL STREET, NEW YORK. Enclosed please find \$... being 20 per cent. first payment upon... shares of the Preferred Stock of the Siegel-Cooper Co. (Co-operative Stores, New York and Chicago), for which I hereby subscribe, and promise to pay to the Central Trust Company of New York, at its office, 54 Wall Street, the balance due on shares of the stock allotted to me on or before July 5th, 1900. Name, Street Address, Town, State.

With a view of extending the benefits of our offer to as many of our patrons and the public as possible, it is proposed to allot the stock in the following order, namely:

- 1st. To all subscriptions for one share; 2d. To all subscriptions for two shares; 3d. To all subscriptions for three shares;

and to continue in the same order for larger subscriptions until the entire 200,000 shares have been allotted.

Respectfully, SIEGEL-COOPER CO. (Co-operative Stores, New York and Chicago.)



It Has Happened

More than once that a child has been carried off by an eagle. When such a thing does happen the press rings with the story. There's not a line given by the press to the babies carried off daily by disease. It isn't the fact of the child being taken away that is startling or interesting, it's only when the method of taking off is novel that it excites interest. How many children die who might have been saved if the mother who bore them had been able to give them strength and vitality. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription makes healthy mothers and healthy mothers have healthy children, strong enough to resist disease if they are attacked.

Mrs. Axel Kjer, of Gordonville, Cape Girardeau Co., Mo., writes: "When I look at my little boy I feel it my duty to write to you. This is my fifth child and the only one who came to maturity; the others having died from lack of nourishment—the doctor said. This time I just thought I would try your Prescription. I took nine bottles and to my surprise it carried me through and gave us as fine a little boy as ever was. Weighed ten and one-half pounds. He is now five months old, has never been sick a day, and is so strong that everybody who sees him wonders at him."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets keep the bowels healthy and regular.

Orphan's home to make inquiries for his relatives. Nothing was known of any of the boys, and he could not find a trace of his family. However, an old man connected for many years with the home, had heard of rumor that a grandfather had left the boys some property. He communicated the fact to Lewis, who, while he thought it a myth, not even knowing his grandfather's name, asked for an attorney, and by chance wandered into Ernest W. Mariand's office. To Mr. Mariand he told his story. The attorney could

not even learn which grandfather had left this estate sixteen years before, but went to work on the case, and within a few days located the will, and the estate. By hard work they also found Leon Hall and William F. Hall, but the last of the brothers to leave the home could not be found. The Aunt Lulu Hall, now Mrs. Bandel, was located, and it required little effort to prove the claim. The Fidelity Title and Trust company turned over to each his share of the personal property, and efforts were about to be made to divide the third portion among the three

brothers on the ground that the fourth was dead, when a letter sent to Pittsburg furnished a clue to William R. Hall, who was a half-brother. LOCATED IN NASHVILLE. The boy had written to Pittsburg to learn something of his brothers, and one week ago this letter fell into the hands of his aunt. He was located in Nashville, Tenn., and is made defendant with the Fidelity Title and Trust company in the present proceedings. Had he delayed writing the letter he would have been adjudged dead, and

another streak of luck, which seemed to follow all of the boys, placed him in possession of many thousands of dollars. The two Williams are minors; hence the partition proceedings on the part of the elder brothers to get their undivided share of the real estate. The Fidelity Title and Trust company will hold the remainder of the estate, both personal and real, in trust for the two younger boys. All will make Pittsburg their future home, and the two oldest boys expect to embark in business in this city with the fortune a kind providence brought them.

Great Men Fall Out. Not it chanced that Pro Bono Publico while taking a stroll, fell in with Vox Populi. "It always makes me tired," he said, "to see your name in print. You are such an infernal blunder! You never speak for anybody but yourself, and you know it!" "You miserable fraud!" loudly responded Vox Populi. "You never introduced a public measure in your life that was for anybody's good but your own, and every man of sense knows it!" At this juncture they were about to elude, when Veritas happened along, and they both fell upon him and gave him a severe thrashing, the being the Biggest Liar on Earth.—Chicago Tribune.