

THE DEMOCRAT.

D. F. VAN ALKENBURGH, Editor.
PLATT McDONALD, Editor.

Thursday, December 30, 1869.

The State Convention—Half Fare Arrangement.

Mr. J. P. Early, the member of the state central committee for this district, informs the chairman of our county central committee that ample arrangements have been made with the Chicago, Peru and Indianapolis R.R. for the accommodation of all delegates from this part of the state who may wish to attend the Democratic convention of January 3rd, at the Capital. A train will leave LaPorte on Friday, January 7, and will return on Monday the 10th. Full fare going and return free. A return ticket is promised from Indianapolis, Saturday at 4 p. m., if sufficient numbers apply for conveyance.

Mr. A. C. Thompson has secured accommodations at the Palmer House for the Marshall delegates, and a few think of starting on Thursday. We hope we shall be able to send a full representation and that our delegates will go with minds intent on business, and aid in making up the strongest ticket ever presented to the people of this state. We have the material, and should use it wisely.

Death of E. M. Stanton.

E. M. Stanton, ex-secretary of war, died at Washington last Friday morning. The Sunday preceding, the president had tendered him the appointment as associate justice of the supreme court; death, therefore, stopped between him and one of the most honorable positions within the reach of an American citizen.

We cannot speak well of Edwin M. Stanton. The mantle of charity is not broad enough to cover all his offenses, which were "rank, and smelted to heaven." The land is yet too full of mourners, whose hearts were wrung by his cruel hand; and the strain of innocent blood is yet too fresh upon his garments to admit of his deification, even though defenseless in an early grave, to which remorse has driven him.

Defective Ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment.

In the official report to congress, by the secretary of state, twenty-one states are given as having ratified the fifteenth amendment. In these pretended ratifications it is admitted that Missouri and Kansas are "defective." The "defective" adoption arose in this manner: The legislatures, being in session at the time the amendment was forced through congress, ratified it upon mere telegraphic dispatch or conjecture. The telegraphic report did not contain the section which gives to congress the power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the article; so, therefore, these ratifications are null and void.

This is all right; but we desire to say to the secretary of state that there is another "defective" ratification, which he counts as "not defective." We allude to the state of Indiana. The legislature of that state did not adopt it according to the terms of her constitution. It is "defective" in a more material manner than that of Missouri and Kansas above referred to. They ratified one section of the amendment, whereas Indiana has never legally ratified any part of it. When the house of representatives pretended to adopt it, it was no house at all—consisting of less than the number required to make a house.

A contemporary, in commenting on the fact that in his march the Anglo-Saxon exterminates the aboriginal races, while the Frenchman always lives with them in peace. This statement is true, not only of the French, but of all the Latin races. In Mexico, to-day, we find that the Spaniard has united himself to the native blood, to a vast extent. In Canada, and throughout the British possessions of this continent, there is a race of half-breeds, in which one-half is Indian, and in ninety-nine of every hundred cases, the other half is French. In Washington, a few days ago, a member of the Latin race, a distinguished Portuguese diplomat, was married to the daughter of a mulatto. In South America, the Spanish race unite with the Indian population until, as in Mexico, there exists a powerful element composed of these mixed races. But the Anglo-Saxon rarely intermarries with an inferior race. He does not absorb, he destroys it.

The fact may be regarded as one from which we may deduce the purity and permanency of the race. It will reproduce only itself. It will not deteriorate itself by mixing with races to whom nature has affixed an indelible stamp of inferiority.

The friendly relations between Butler and Grant would be a matter for surprise if Grant had not, in his reconciliation with Senator Ross, of Kansas, shown a capacity for accepting and forgiving insults which none of our other presidents have had. When Ross accused him of falsehood, and told him to "go to hell," it was not thought that our president and the senator would soon be fast friends, and the latter would be given control of the Federal patronage in Kansas.

Butler has as sharp and bitter a tongue as any man in congress, and he has employed it on more occasions than one so as to make Grant wince. The president, so far from manifesting resentment, takes Butler into his confidence, and intrusts to him the leadership in working through the bill for the

repeal of the civil-tenure act. Butler is the president's "poker-man" in the house, and talks of Grant in a patronizing and supercilious manner that must be offensive to such republican members as have the grace to be ashamed of Grant's vassalage. It is a good thing to forgive enemies, but it is not creditable to a president of the United States to be subdued by such men as Ross and Butler.—Times.

Letter from California.

SAN FRANCISCO, DEC. 24, 1869.

DEAR DEMOCRAT: The ghost of a promise to write a squib or two for the perusal of your gentle readers, has been haunting our dreams for many nights past; and that we may regain our wonted tranquility, we will give you a brief account of our trip and a few items wise and otherwise, that we have jotted down in the nooks and crannies of our memory. Our mutual friend, ORLANDO M. PACKARD, so graphically described, through your columns some months ago, the Pacific Rail Road and the sights to be seen on the line, that there is not much left to tell. We left Plymouth on the morning of Nov. 10th, and arrived at Promontory [at that time the junction of the Union and Central Pacific roads] at 6 p. m., of the 14th. Here we met our

OLD FRIENDS and former fellow-townsmen, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. EDWARDS, and the vigorous shaking which our hand received, testified that the climate of Utah territory gives more strength to one's grip than do the aqueous marshes of Marshall county. Mr. EDWARDS is the agent at the western terminal station of the Union Pacific R. R., and is located at Ogden. With the single exception of Omaha, Ogden is the most important station on the road, as it is the point where the freight is transferred from one road to the other. By the assistance of his excellent lady, Mr. E. keeps the best eating house on the line of the road.

Monday morning found EDWARDS and your correspondent aboard the cars bound on a flying visit to SALT LAKE CITY,

which is distant from Promontory about 93 miles. Getting off at Utah,—60 miles east of Promontory,—we took passage in one of Wells, Fargo & Co's stages, and after bumping for 32 miles along the foot of the Utah mountains "up a hill and down a yale," through a driving storm of snow and rain, we found ourselves in the "city of the saints"; and were soon snugly ensconced at the Revere House—the only Gentile hotel in the place. The stage was late—arriving at 5 p. m.—and as we started homeward at 9 o'clock the next morning, our observations were necessarily limited.

The first thing that particularly attracted our attention, was

THE TABERNACLE, a great, barn-like building, possessing no architectural beauty whatever. It is circular in form; its walls are about 20 feet high; the roof, of dome, impressed us as resembling a huge, old-fashioned bell-crowned hat, with the rim torn off. We did not get an inside view of the tabernacle, but were informed that it is very plainly finished. It is capable of seating 10,000 people, at present, but arrangements are being made to put in galleries, enlarging its capacity to 18,000. The foundations are laid, adjoining the tabernacle, for a magnificent temple, estimated to cost \$1,500,000, but Gentiles are of the opinion that the building will never be completed.

THE STREETS are of uniform width, 130 feet. Fifteen feet on either side for sidewalks and shade trees, and 100 feet for the street proper. Where the grade is established, streams of water flow on both sides of the street—a healthy, and certainly very pleasant arrangement in the summer season.

THE BUSINESS BLOCKS are principally built of wood and brick; but occasionally there is a stone or an adobe building. There are a few elegant

PRIVATE RESIDENCES, but the majority are plain and make no "high-toned" pretensions. There is a substantial look about the buildings and improvements in the city, that is pleasant to look upon.

THE INHABITANTS number about 22,000, of which only about 175 are Gentiles. A more quiet or orderly town we never saw, and if some of our eastern cities would imitate the strictness with which the Mormons enforce and obey their laws, they would do themselves no discredit.

NON-INTERCOURSE. Mormons who are engaged in commercial and other pursuits, and wish the world to understand that they are of the elect, usually place the following, neatly painted, over their regular business signs:

HOLINESS TO THE LORD.
ZION'S
CO-OPERATIVE
MERCANTILE
INSTITUTION.

In the evening we attended the SALT LAKE THEATER and was agreeably surprised at the extent and finish of the auditorium, and with the performance, which was much better than in many theaters where greater pretensions are made.

BRIHAM, like Napoleon III., believes in keeping his people amused, and frequently makes his appearance at the theatre. We did not get a peep at this great worthy but

have, as yet, experienced no inconvenience from the deprivation. He preached a very bitter sermon, in the Tabernacle, against the Gentiles, the Sunday previous to our visit, and if reports are true used almost as much profanity as Henry Ward Beecher is capable of condensing in one discourse,—a very naughty thing on Brigham's part.

Having so short a time to stay, and the weather having been unpleasant, everything was seen at a disadvantage; but it is said, that in the spring and summer time, when its thousands of shade and fruit trees are in leaf and blossom, with the lake stretching out on one side, and hemmed in by the grim old mountains on the other,—there is no place more beautiful than Salt Lake City.

On our return trip we chose an outside seat, (couldn't get any other, come to think of it), and the weather turning off pleasant, we had a fine view of the country. About a mile north of the city are the famous

HOT SPRINGS and the morning being quite cool, immense clouds of steam arose from them, well-nigh suffocating us as we passed by. There is no visible boiling of the water, but the springs afford a stream of water almost as large as a man's body, which empties into the lake. These springs are said to be possessed of great medicinal properties;—we don't know that is, but do know that they have tremendous "odoriferous" properties.

THE COUNTRY along the stage road is very thickly settled, and if one can judge by the improvements and general appearance, by a thrifty class of people. There are three villages between the city and the railroad, and one of them—Farmington,—contains about 1500 inhabitants. Arriving at Utah in due season we took the cars and were soon safely landed at Promontory, with our prejudices against

THE MORMONS very much mollified. The Gentiles in this part of the country are very bitter against the latter day saints, and threaten what they will do when they get more "backing." Everybody agrees that it is but justice to "give the devil his due." Why not be equally as generous with Brigham and his people? They came to this country many years ago,—converted a barren waste into a blossoming garden,—killed innumerable Indians, with a Gentile thrown in occasionally for seasoning—were killed and scalped in turn by the Indians,—and now all they want is to be "let alone." They will not be let alone, however, for the railroads are already bringing in swarms of Gentiles, who will soon be strong enough in numbers to materially disturb the even tenor of Brigham's way. Brigham does not appear to be alarmed, but is flinging open the door of his sanctuary by building

THE UTAH CENTRAL R. R. This road starts at Salt Lake City and runs northward 32 miles until it reaches Ogden, forming a junction with the Union and Central Pacific roads. 20 miles are already in running order from Ogden south, and the remaining twelve miles will probably be finished by the first of January.

A LITTLE INCIDENT and we are done, for the present. A short time before reaching Ogden, on our journey to Salt Lake City, the engine whistled an alarm,—brakes were put on, train stopped and most of the male passengers got out to see the cause of detention. About fifteen yards ahead was an old Mormon with a light load of lumber on an old "hackety" wagon. His team had stuck, just as the wagon, was fairly on the track, and could pull the load no further,—and it was no wonder, for a smaller, heavier, poorer, or more skeleton like pair of animals we never saw hitched together. They looked like Orpheus C. Kerr's Gothic steed, Pegasus,—"hand-railings down the back and fluted sides." The men helped the mormon off with his wagon and were starting to get aboard the train, when a brakeman, who had been eyeing one of the horses for some time, blurted out:

"I say, old fellow, no wonder you got stuck, I'm d—d if I couldn't read a newspaper right through that horse!" "Wall, stranger," drawled the old Mormon, "that hoss had just the s-a-m-e chance as the other hoss had."

Hoping we have succeeded in quieting our ghost, for the present, we are, reportorially and individually,

Yours, J. McD.

The State Senate of Ohio. The death of Mr. Russell (republican) Senator elect to the next State Senate of Ohio from the Clarke, Champaign and Madison counties district, is an important event. Unless his vacancy can be supplied by a new election before the meeting of the general assembly on the first Monday in January next, the state senate will stand as follows:

Regular Democrats.....18
Regular Republicans.....16
Hamilton County Reformers.....2

If there is no successor to Mr. Russell at the time of the organization, the democrats will constitute just half the senate, without the aid of the reformers, who were elected by and with them.

Our friends of the South Bend Union and the Plymouth Democrat, are rather ahead of us on the lousy individual who sold the wounded soldier a load of wood. This is the first instance on record where we have heard of any radical beating a copperhead for downright and shameful meanness. We care, of course, gentlemen, and in true sincerity "acknowledge the corn."—Northwestern Indian.

To the Farmers and Business Men of Marshall County.

A cut-off railroad south of Chicago will be built next season. The first project is, one from Plymouth to Moline, thence to Bureau Junction, on the Rock Island & Pacific Railroad. This will be 65 miles in Indiana, and 100 miles in Illinois. For this road, about \$550,000 have been subscribed, and the iron and equipments are positively pledged. A subscription of \$200,000 in Indiana will complete it; and it can be made in money, land, ties, labor, timber, material, and made on such conditions as to make the subscriber safe. As soon as \$30,000 more is subscribed, the organization can go to work.

A second project is, a road from Ft. Wayne to Rensselaer, in Indiana, through Rochester, and thence to Muscatine, Iowa. For this, the company is organized, but has only a small subscription, and no guarantee of outside aid at all.

The last is a bill introduced into congress for a charter to build a road from Ft. Wayne to Ottawa.

Of all these roads, the one having its terminus here is the most important, and at this time has the advantage; but unless we organize in Indiana, at once, it will be lost to us. No money is now required, and none of consequence will be soon. The person who subscribes \$500 will not be called on for more than enough to pay preliminary expenses—say \$50—for three months, and can guard his subscription as he pleases. The building of this road will enforce the building of a road from here to Goshen via Bremen—to St. Joseph via South Bend, and from LaPorte to Michigan City; and will give us the benefit of competition on all the great roads leading into and out of Chicago, east and south, and that of three points on the lakes. It gives us a route 90 miles nearer from Omaha to New York, and six to ten hours sooner than by any other route. It advertises Plymouth all over the continent, and will make her a manufacturing point, and build up the county as nothing else ever will or can. If you lose the benefit of this cut-off, you will never become a place of any importance. In order to secure it, you must act now. There is no time to be lost. Come forward, every man, and subscribe something towards it, if not more than \$50, and as much more as you can. A subscription paper is in my hands, conditional, such as will fully protect you, with a map showing the route and its importance. You have no time to lose if you would secure this great benefit to your business and property to grow out of this enterprise, for the advantage we now have will be given to one of the other routes unless we organize without delay. Thirty thousand dollars of subscription will organize us at once, and it ought to be raised in one day. Let no farmer or business man hesitate a moment. You are not called on for money; only your name, in order to organize. After that is done, you can protect your subscription by any resolution you please. Act at once, or it will be too late.

C. H. REEVE.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—A Berlin letter published to-day, from Rome, "emphatically denies the current reports of the American bishops at the Ecumenical council. The correspondent asserts that they follow blindly the papal lead. The last thing I hear is that the infallibility will not be passed, the Jesuits having pushed the matter too hard. This has been related to me as a mortifying conclusion come to with some suddenness. I find it difficult myself to credit anything of this sort, and can hardly believe that Pius IX would summon all the bishops of his communion to the foot of the throne with so abortive a conclusion, or with so paltry a result as the mere condemnation of a catalogue of philosophical and political opinions. It seems to me much more likely that first one definition and then another will be presented, as in a series of dissolving views, that the scientific dangers of human faith at the vatican may find how far they may safely go.

New York, Dec. 27.—A Havana letter of the 18th says that Gen. Carbo went up this week to take command of the Cinco Villas country, relieving Gen. Lesco, who left for Spain on the 15th inst., under an order of arrest, resulting from the burning of Taguayabon. His successor has been equally unfortunate so far, having been routed by Gen. Cavaca, and at this moment being besieged in Espiritu Santa. The Spaniards at Holguin have met with a reverse, 70 of them having been captured on a late foraging excursion. Gen. Marmot is laying siege to Las Tunas. Report has it that he intends to remain there and annoy the garrison and capture convoys coming from Manzanillo. From Puerto Marengo, the intelligence comes that an expedition of 300 men landed 600 guns, which were brought along, besides 200 kegs of powder, between the 2d and 18th of December. The property of 280 Cubans has been confiscated.

The Chicago Tribune, of yesterday, has the following from Indianapolis:

"Hon. James S. Frazier, of the supreme court, has written a letter to A. H. Connor, chairman of the republican state central committee, declining to permit the use of his name in convention for renomination to the supreme bench. His reasons are that he desires harmony in the party.

Col. R. J. Ryan, the talented Irish orator, died this morning."

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