# EVENING NEWS. Whitmer emphatically asserts, as did Harris and Cowdery, that while Smith was dictating the translation he had EVENING NEWS FOUR O'CLOCK.

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# CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR

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# DAVID WHITMER AND THE no foundation for such an assertion. BOOK OF MORMON.

WE present be'ow an interesting letter to the Chicago Times, in relation to the testimony of the last thing concerning the Church of the Three Witnesses to the Book Christ, as it was known then. His of Mormon. Oliver Cowdery and attention was specially brought to Martin Harris, who, as well as Ia-it by the appearance at his church, near Kirtland, Ohlo, in the fall of vid Whitmer, saw the angel who exhibited to them the plates, and heard the voice of God bearing wit-heard the voice of God bearing witness to the correctness of the trans-lation are both dead bouing main that lation, are both dead, having main-tained the truth of their testimony carried with them the printed book, until the last, under all circum-stances, whether in the Church or out of the Church. They were excommunicated for transgression, but returned repentant and were receiv-ed into fellowship, dying with a repetition of their first testimony re- could get that was of tenefit to his corded in connection with the Book fellow-men, he would do so, and of Mormon. David Whitmer re- would like to hear them. Then they mains, but is aged and feeble. Reports have been received that he also had passed away, but we have ing was that 101 persons were reno reason to believe that they are ceived into the Church at Kirtland; correct. The letter following contains some inaccuracies, which we will correct at the close of this arti-

RICHMOND, Mo., Oct 14.-In the they beautiful shire town of Richmond, and and Ray county, Mo., there has resided for well nigh a half of a century David Whitmer, known to the world as one of the three witnesses that testified to the validity and reality of the golden plates from which it has been asserted that Joseph Smith translated the "Book of Mormon. the original manuscript of which Mr. Whitmer has in his possession which shows by finger-marks and where it has been cut into "takes"a printer's term-that it has passed a printer's term—that it has passed through the hands of the type-set-ters. As a citizen of his town he stands deservedly high, having fill-ed the office of mayor and council-man, is a good scholar, and thorough-ly posted in biblical lore. During the past two years he has been slowlo declining and is now confined to his home, carefully attended to by his wife, children and grandchil-dren. Born in the State of New York from Revolutionary ancestors, he

brought with him to the West his habits of thrift and hospitality. To ate ht

was no answer to their prayers until Martin, who felt that his lack of authorities

NO MANUSCRIPT NOTES OR OTHER MEANS OF KNOWLEDGE

Save the Seer stone and the charac Harris was, a little distance off, and Joined with him in prayer, when In addition it is alleged that ther ters as shown on the plates, he be ing present and cognizant how it

In regard to the statement that iney Rigdon had purloined the he had seen and heard as the oth- most unanimous that the failure of work of one Spaulding, a Presbyte-rian preacher, who had written a romance entitled "The Manuscript

The next error is that the seer Brady. Found," Mr. Whitmer says there is tone which Joseph used in the translation "was called Urim and The "Book of Mormon" was trans lated in the summer of 1829, and

printed that winter at Palmyra, New York, and was in circulation crystal stones "set in the two rims before Sidney Rigdon knew any of a bow." The seer stone was separate and distinct from the Urim and Thummim. The latter was delivered to the angel as well as the plates after the translation was comleted; the former remained with the Church and is now in the pos-

ensively published in several lanjuages and will be sent eventually

and desired all the light that he The next mistake is that Orson Pratt stated that the manuscript in ossession of David Whitmer was "the original manuscript, from which the Book of Mormon cenitor of. The result of that meet-Strike printed." word mark will be correct. David's copy that Rigdon and Partridge, two influential preachers, were sent as delegates to New York to see Joseph is no doubt that from which the book was printed, but is not the Smith, and they were so much im-pressed with his history of the book original transcript of the Book of and his connection therewith, that Mormon, to which is appended the believers, names of the three witnesses, in of Huested for the treasury, by from home

evaugelists, preaching the new religion. In a short time thereafter Smith, Whitmer and others, learning of the beautiful which Apostle Orson Pratt identicountry in Ohio, moved west, and

The remarks about the Church having "broke loose from the teach-ings of Christ," are probably those of Mr. Whitmer, and correctly given. But it is easy to perceive wherein that gentlemen has avoid from the teach-Silo,000; insurance, \$100,000. Mill saved. the Church increased rapidly, and would have so continued had it not strayed from the true path, to preach only Christ and Him cruci-ings of Christ,"are probably those of fled, as it had begun. Mr. Whitmer

truths. Man is not to be confined

emphatically asserts that he has heard Rigdon, in the pulpit, and in private conversation, declare that the Spaulding story, that he had used a book called "The Manuscript Example" of the assert of the save as it Found" for the purpose of preparing the "Book of Mormon," was as false was taught from the Bible and the Book of Mormon." Both those as were many other charges that sacred records teach that things not were then being made against the infant Church, and he assures me

sacred records teach that things not Lanquet to night, Gladstone, reply-written therein are to be revealed to ing to the toast of Her Majesty's mankind, and Mr. Whitmer's doc-trine-which is merely an extension signs of improvement in Ireland. I

trine-which is merely an extension of the sectarian theory on the conon In his youth [Joseph | Smith was of scripture-would bar the recep- necessary to take strong measures in

# proceeding by the inter postoffice the Walsh case, but the postoffice outhorities deny this. They say LIST OF LETTERS

faith was a hindrance, withdraw. Then the angel appeared, and after the vision closed, Joseph Smith menced has satisfied the require-menced has satisfied the require-Salt Lake City, sent to the Dead Letter Office ments of the statute of limitations went to the place where Martin even though the proceedings ha LADIES' LIST.

arl N J

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lack C M

en H

the angel again appeared, and Mar-tin rejolcingly bore testimony that regrounds for many indictments without touching the Walsh cases. he Government is flual as regards

A fire, early this morning, in the Thummim." The instrument thus denominated was composed of two crystal stones "set in the two rime" Palkenhorn building, caused the building.

#### The Memorial Committee

Sixty thousand circulars have Sixty thousand circulars have been mailed to various parts of the country by the Garfield memorial committee and to foreign consuls by Secretary Blaine. Blaine will soon supplement these by personal notes to the consuls, requesting them to bring the matter to the attention of the consuls, the while they are acsession of the President. The statement that "millions of copies" of the Book of Mormon are being sent to the ends of the earth is an exaggeration. It has been ex-tensively published in second has

#### Henry Wood.

PHILADELPHIA, 10. - Henry Wood, superintendent of the Phila-delphia and Westchester Railroad, nw P has been summoned as a witness in the Guiteau case.

#### Railroad Rates.

NEW YORK, 10 .- It is rumored hat the Pennsylvania company has educed rates on fieights, and that the New York Central would fur-"original" and the re- ther advance them. Also that a agreement has been made which would end the trunk line war.

#### New York Returns.

ALBANY, 10,-The Evening Journal claims the election of the repub lican State ticket, with the exception their own handwriting, while Mr. 10,000 to 12,000 majority. It gives Whitmer's copy has the names all in the Senate 10-democratic by two majority, and the Assembly by two or three majority.

trian DG 2 Buckley D

FOREIGN. Claintone's Rophy.

Braige G H Burns G Bishop J Dackman J Branch J J 

Bradford L H quite illiterate, knew nothing of tion of those divine and important Ireland in defense of public land and private liberty. One question, at

least, has been decided. The



and the state of the

WALKER BROS.



the stranger of the unfortunate his home and purse have ever been open, and his name is a synonym of prob-ity and integrity. Knowing that he was approaching the full term allot-ted for man's stay on earth and that the readers of the *Times* would like to hear what he had to say concern-ing the origin of the "Book of Mor-mon," I called at his residence—a plain and unpretentions frame building-was ushered into his chamber by his granddaughter and found the old patriot reclining on his bed. Upon being told the object of my visit he promptly responded to my ques-tions, and after an hour's interview I gleaned the following valuable in-formation from him-he speaking freely and unreservedly-in regard to the origin and rise of the Mormon Church, as well as the authenticity of the "Book of Mormon."

#### THE PLATES

From which the book was translat-From which the book was translat-ed, supposed to be gold, were found in the latter part of the year 1827 or 1828, prior to the acquantance on Mr. Whitmer's part, with Joseph Smith, and he was loth to believe in their actuality, notwithstanding the community in which he lived (Ontario County, New York,) was alive with excitement in regard to alive with excitement in regard of Smith's finding a great treasure, and they info med him that they knew that Smith had the plates, as they had seen the place that he had that Whitmer would not part with it under any circumstances regardrah, about two miles from Palmyra. ing it as a sacred trust. Mr. Whit N.Y. It was not until June, 1828, toat he met the future prophet, who visited at his father's house, and mer also has a number of other re cords of the early Church, ere it had, as he says, 'broke loose from the teachings of Christ and acknowledgvisited at his father's house, and while there completed the transla-tion of the Book of Mormon, and thus he became conversant with its history, having witnessed Smith dictate to Oliver Cowdery the trans-lation of the characters that were inscribed on the plates, said by Mr. Anthon, our Egyptian scholar, to resemble the characters of that an-cient people. Christian Whitmer, his brother, occasionally assisted Cowdery in writing, as did Mrs. Joseph Smith, who was a Miss Hale Joseph Smith, who was a Miss Hale

before she was married. In regard to fluding the plates, h In regard to finding the plates, he was told by Smith that they were in a stone casket, and the place where it was deposited, in the hill Cumorah, was pointed out to him by a celestial personage, clad in daz-gling white robe, and he was informed by it that it was the history of the Nephites, a nation that had passed away, whose founders belonged to the days of the tower of Babel. The plates which Mr. Whitmer saw were in the shape of a tablet, fastened with three rings, about one-third o with three rings, about one-third of which apprared to be loose, in plates, the other solid, but with perceptible marks where the plates seemed to be sealed, and the guide that point-ed it out to Smith very impre sively reminded him that the loose plates bells. alone were to be used, the scaled portion was

#### NOT TO BE TAMPERED WITH.

After the plates had been trans lated, which process required about six months, the same beavenly visi-

tained quite a good education after he came West; was a man of great to ancient prophecy, but to "live by ple are determined to make a full magnetism, made friends easily, was iiberal and noble in his impulses, tall, finely-formed and full of ani-mai life, but sprung from the most humble circumstances. The first good suit of clothes he had ever worn was presented to him by Christian Whitmer, brother of Da-As an evidence of their belief in

UNTRUTHFUL AS IT IS RIDICUL

OUS.

became firm

started

that the story is as

back

Many thousands of people in differ- will be boycotted. I can safely say the divine origin of the book, Martin Harris, one of the witnesses, mortgaged his farm for \$1,500 for the purpt s of having it printed, and the sale of the book soon reimbursed of this promise, and truth is one of the strong that the record. By these means they able to draw a picture less charged have a knowlege for themselves of with anxious and critical features him for the outlay. Now millions of copies are being published and sent to the furthermost ends of the -arth. A few years since I was present at an interview between

other person, living or dead. Mr. Whitmer and Orson Pratt and Joseph F. Smith, who had been sent from Utah to Richmond to secure We are pleased to reproduce the our readers, and look upon it-those careful examination Elder Pratt prononnced it the writing of Oliver Cowdery, and informed those pre-addition to the cloud of witnesses to means for meeting the great evil of the divine origin of a Book which is script from which the "Book of Mormon" had been printed, and in a stumbling-block to the worldly a conversation with the writer he wise, but a joy and a blessing to the assure i me that the archives of the humble and meek of the earth.

BY TELEGRAPH

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE. AMERICAN. LATEST DISPATCHES.

Infamy.

Yuba Dam. SAN FRANCISCO, 10. — The com-mittee appointed by the board of trade to investigate the debris ques-tion, and report on some basis of

and miners, has completed its report. After reviewing the recent report! through Yuba, Sutter and Nevada counties, and considering the great damage inflicted on the rests his hopes of the inture in water courses and farming population by the deposit of debris from the mines, and on the other hand the magnitude of the mining inter-Scriptures; that the 'Book of Mor-msn' is but the testimony of another ests, involving as it does nearly onenation concerning the truth and di-vinity of Christ and the Bible, and that is his rock, his gospel and his salvation." Seeing, with him, is believing. He is now as firm in the faith of the divinity of the book that bris from the mines, but also upon he saw translated as he was when the glory of the celestial visitant almost blinded him with the gleam debris already washed out and lia-ble to be carried down by the winter floods. The report concludes by of its glowing presence, fresh from the godhead; and the voice, mejestic, floods. The report concludes by recommending that dams to imme-diately constructed on the Yuba River, below the junction of Deer Creek, and at Degare Point, and that the brush dam on Yuba River be at once repaired. ringing out from the earth to the mighty dome of space, still lingers in his ears like chime of silver

Then follows the "proclamation" or testimony of David Whitmer.

given in March of this year, and which was published in the DESERET EVENING NEWS of April 7th.

nal court this morning, Judge Cox rendered a decision in the Star route EVENING NEWS of April 7th. The foregoing is not only valuable avidence directly in favor of the

been subjected to by their so-called Condie, Bu condemn it because of the imperfec-tions which are in it, the same shall know of greater things than these." Many thousands of people in differ-

ent nations have proven the that the Irish will make use of the land act, which will be impartially administered. testimonies they have of the truth of stone said Lord Granville will be have a knowlege for themselves of than that of a year ago. Afghanist Cooke W S Cooke W S tan, instead of being broken into Clayton W W

fragments, is now under a single fuler. We are happy to think that parce reigns in South Africa. Reletter to the *Times* for the benefit of ferring to extending Parliament, De Wolfe H D i Gladstone said: It will be an early, Dewkin I I Dunkin I I Dunkin I I ablivion which has presented itself. I would wish the question to be kept,out of party dispute. In the interest of all parties, in the interest of the nation and country, it is ne-cessary that public business be regu-larly and effectively conducted. (Cheers.) Ernest M A COR S D Cheers.) Fkman A J

# German News.

Felin C Fish F BERLIN, 9 .- Of the 22 elections, he liberals carried 15, socialists, 4, Field H and clericals, 1. Nobody here believes that Bis-marck's threatened resignation is

Kas C P

anything more than a pretence to influence supplementary elec-It is believed

It is believed in well informed circles that Bismarck will seek a distinct expression of the Emperor's wishes in regard to the present situ-ation, and the Emperor's declara-tion will be such as will strengthen Bismarck's position.

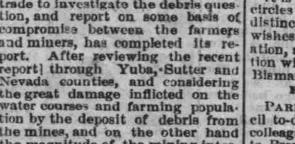
### Resignations-Gambetts.

PARIS, 10.—In the cabinet coun-cil to-day, Premier Ferry and his colleagues handed their resignations to President Grevy who accepted them. The ministers remain in them. The industers remain in charge of their respective depart-ments panding the appointment of their succe ors. President Grevy decided to sammon Gamt etts, with whom he will have an interview this afternoon.

## Gladatone's Decision.

LONDON, 10.-Gladstone, in his peech at Guildhall last night, de-lared that the law should be enforced with firmness and decision in Ireland. Its enforcement has been entrusted to these agents who have already earned a title to the grati-tude of their countrymen by their courage and exemplary patience with which they perform their du-ties. WASHINGTON, 10,-In the crimi-

The Times says: This empiration statement may serve as a warning to these tenants who are being tempted to yield even temporarily to the "no rent" policy. We under-stand the practical difficulty in en-gaging in a conflict with the large body of the Irish tenantry to be met if the occasion arise by taking one by one, the counties in which resist-ance to rent may be organized, and by the use of force if necessary, the enforcement of the law, by the whole power of the executive.





LANCUACES

Taught scoording to the most approved system, by