

SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS.

Notice is hereby given to the members of the School of the Prophets, that, instead of meeting next Friday, January 10th,--the time to which it was adjourned at the last meeting--the School will meet at the usual hour, on Monday, January 20th, at the room where the meetings up to the present have been held.

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

COMMERCIAL REACTION.—OUR CONDITION AS A PEOPLE.

We hear of tight times in the East; not only suffering among the whites and blacks in the South, for the want of the common necessities of life, but in the eastern cities and states. We are informed that two dry goods houses alone—Stewart's and Claffin's—have recently discharged four hundred clerks. If these wealthy and popular firms have been compelled to discharge so many of their hands, other houses of less note have doubtless been under the necessity of following their example, and have had to lessen their staffs of employes. Everything that we hear respecting business in the East goes to show that merchants and others there are beginning to feel the pressure of hard times.

It is not surprising that it should be so. Indeed, the only cause for surprise is that these financial difficulties have not come sooner. Every man who has had his attention drawn to the manner in which business has been conducted of late—the abundance of money, the general extravagance and the recklessness which has characterized business dealings—and has reflected upon the subject, must have had the conviction forced home upon him that such a condition of things could not last. The business world has been in a feverish, unnatural state. A prostration equally as much below the healthy standard as such a state is above, must follow as a natural consequence. This is the reaction now being felt, and it will, without doubt, be attended with disastrous consequences to the business world.

Even in this country, though so remote from the present great business centres, the past abundance of money, etc., is being followed by closer times than we have had for years. Still, we are not affected by such changes as other people are. Those who are in business, and have not taken warning from the signs of the times in season, feel the change more sensibly than the mass of the people do. The people of this Territory have the necessities of life in greater profusion, and can more readily obtain them, than any other people of their class in the Union. The staff of life is not in the hands of capitalists, and when close times come, the people at large do not suffer because speculators wish to make money out of their wants.

No greater pains could have been taken to teach people the true policy of life than have been bestowed upon the people of this Territory. Since the beginning of the settlement here, this subject has formed the chief topic of the principal portion of the public discourses of the leading men of the community. And, when it is remembered, how many thousands have emigrated to this land who were utterly ignorant of sustaining themselves in a new country, it must be acknowledged, in view of the thrift and plenty which prevail, that such teachings have been attended with excellent results. If there should be a scarcity of any of the essentials of life at any time in this country, the people

will have nobody to blame but themselves; for they have had no lack of good counsel. To-day they might, had they been so minded, have been independent of the financial changes which occur so frequently in the business world, and have suffered but little from the panics which affect and disturb it.

As it is, however, we have great cause to be thankful. Our people are well sheltered, well clothed, well fed and well warmed. Beggars are unknown in our Territory. The cries of the widow and orphan do not ascend to the Lord from this land, complaining of their lack of the necessities of life and of the oppressions which they endure; and we trust they never will. The recent measures which have been taken to feed the poor cannot fail to be attended with the happiest effects. Thus far they have worked admirably, and they will so long as the novelty lasts. But, when the first burst of zeal is exhausted, people are apt to get careless and forgetful. This should not be the case in the present instance. The work of providing for the poor should be attended to with quiet and persistent earnestness, not for this month alone, but always, or as long as there are any poor to be cared for.

Punctuality and honesty in our business dealings with one another, promptness in meeting our obligations and promises, and a liberal treatment of the destitute, will go very far towards mitigating the hardness of the times of which many are beginning to complain.

THE FEMALE SUFFRAGE QUESTION.

The New York Times says:—

"Female suffrage might perhaps be tried with novel effect in the Territory of Utah—the State of Deseret. There the 'better half' of humanity is in such strong numerical majority that even if all the other half should vote the other way they would carry the election. Perhaps it would result in casting out polygamy and Mormonism in general. And to prevent woman voters from being under the control of their husbands, they should be allowed to employ 'sealed' ballots. Here would be a capital field for woman suffrage to make a start, and we presume nobody would object to the experiment. Why will not Messrs. Train, Anthony, Stone, and other gentlemen engaged in the cause, turn their attention to this promising field?"

The people of Utah are not afraid of the consequences of giving the women of the Territory the right to vote. In an ecclesiastical capacity they have, from the first organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, had the right. Semi-annually they, with the male members of the Church, vote in General Conference upon all questions which come before the members of the Church for their action. At each Conference the principal authorities of the Church are presented to the people, males and females, for them to vote for or not as they please. In this manner women have for years exercised the right of suffrage in this Territory.

(Special to the Deseret Evening News.)

By Telegraph.

Congressional!

BRADBURN, THE COMPOSER, DEAD!

THE SUPREME COURT WILL DECIDE THE RECONSTRUCTION ACT UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

PENDLETON'S NOMINATION ENDORSED!

A FENIAN EDITOR ARRESTED IN DUBLIN!

The Freedom of Speech Resolutions carried in Berlin!

THE EMPEROR OF CHINA WANTS EUROPEAN AID!

London, 8.—Nearly all the journals comment on the resolution recently adopted by the House of Commons, on the question of citizenship; and an abatement of British claims, in accordance with the American view, as expressed in the President's Message, is urged with singular unanimity.

Washington, 8.—The President sent a message to the House to-day, in answer to the resolution relating to the alleged interference by a Russian man of war with American vessels in the Okotak Sea. Seward addressed a note to the Russian Minister on the subject,

on Dec. 23, who promised to lay the matter before the Russian government immediately.

Senate.—Trumbull, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a bill amending the bankruptcy act and recommended its indefinite postponement.

A resolution was adopted directing the Finance Committee to inquire into the expediency of fixing the penalty for any officer of Government who expends money for any purpose not previously authorized by Congress.

The Senate took up the House bill directing the payment into the Treasury of the proceeds of captured or abandoned rebel property.

Trumbull charged the Secretary of the Treasury with having paid over \$2,000,000 to disloyal claimants. Even after the adverse opinion of the Attorney General he had paid hundreds of thousands of dollars. The debate was continued by Edwards, Conness, Howe, and others, and the subject was formally dropped.

A resolution was adopted asking the President whether the District of Columbia Civil Rights bill had become a law.

The Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

Washington, 8.—The President has nominated Thomas N. Tillwell, of Indiana, Minister.

Orth, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a joint resolution requesting the President to intercede for the release of Rev. John McMahon, a citizen of Indiana. The resolution was debated until the expiration of the morning hour, and went over.

The Senate amendments to the bill repealing the cotton tax, were referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The Committee on Elections reported in favor of Van Horn, the sitting Member, for the sixth District of Missouri, which, after debate, was agreed to.

Broomall offered a resolution looking to a repeal of the tax on the manufacture of Woolen, Iron and Steel; also, a resolution declaring the recent vote on impeachment not to be construed into affirmation of the minority in the Judiciary Committee. Objection was made and the resolution was not received.

Harrisburg, 8.—The nine bolting Republicans signed an agreement binding themselves not to vote for Davis, the caucus nominee, as speaker. Davis' friends are equally unyielding. The Democratic Central Committee have decided not to interfere, and there is some probability that a Democratic speaker will be elected.

Boston, 8.—Wm. B. Bradbury, the well known music composer, died yesterday.

New York, 8.—The Herald's Washington special has the best authority for the statement that the decision of the majority of the Supreme Court, in the cases from Mississippi and Georgia, testing the Constitutionality of the reconstruction act, will be adverse thereto. It is likely the minority of the Court will be smaller than was supposed. It is even hinted that the Chief Justice may not care to place his dissenting opinion on record. Such a decision will strike down all the reconstruction work thus far done, and leave the decision of the next presidential election in the hands of the north.

The Herald's special mentions a case of conflict between the Judicial and Military authority in Raleigh. The matter is laid before the President.

Chicago, 9.—The Ohio Democratic convention yesterday nominated candidates for State officers; Thomas W. Hubbard heading the ticket for secretary of State, George H. Pendleton was endorsed for President. He came forward and made a brief speech amid the wildest enthusiasm.

The Indiana convention also endorsed Pendleton, and nominated Hendricks for Governor, and Alfred Edgerton for Lieutenant Governor, and full ticket for State officers. Both Conventions sustain Johnson's plan of reconstruction, though the resolutions were not very enthusiastic. The platforms of both Conventions are similar and are in favor of the payment of the public debt in greenbacks, and demand the abolition of national banks and declare in favor of the protection of naturalized citizens in all rights at home and abroad.

The Illinois central Democratic committee met at Springfield in the character of a mass meeting. They adopted resolutions very similar to those of Ohio and Indiana, though they expressed no preference for a presidential candidate. They made no mention of Johnson or his policy. The State convention is called to meet on April fifteenth.

The Democratic banquet at Washington in honor of the battle of Orleans was

an enthusiastic affair. The President was heartily greeted upon entering. Letters were received from Pendleton, Pierce and others, giving their political views. West Virginia Democratic convention was also held yesterday.

The report that Stillwell was nominated minister to Austria is corrected; he is nominated to Venezuela.

Dublin.—Piggott, editor of the Dublin Irishman, has been arrested for publishing a seditious article.

Florence.—Menabrea claims that the new cabinet will be supported by a working majority of thirty-six members in the House of Deputies.

Berlin.—In the Chamber of Deputies a series of resolutions, taking strong grounds in favor of freedom of speech and the inviolability of the members of the Diet, were adopted by a majority of thirty.

Lisbon.—The regular mail steamer from South America has arrived, but makes no mention of the loss of the British mail steamer Saturn, with 400 people. The report of the disaster is generally discredited.

Last reports from the allied armies state that extensive preparations are being made to storm the Paraguayan fortifications at Humalla.

London.—It is reported that in consequence of the recent successes of the rebels, the Imperialists are reduced to extremities. The Emperor of China has asked the European Powers' assistance to defend his throne.

Boston.—Samuel Nicolson, inventor of the Nicolson pavement, is dead.

LOCAL ITEMS.

THEATRICAL.—This evening the beautiful and poetic play of "Richelleu" will be performed. There is a change in some parts of the cast, as well as in the role of the Cardinal. Mr. Graham appears as the King, Mr. Margetts as De Berlinghen, Mr. Hardie as Joseph, and Mr. Merrill as Hugnet. Messrs. McKenzie, Lindsay, Thompson, Malben, Miss Adams, Miss Colebrook and Miss Alexander retain the roles in which they formerly appeared. Mr. Stark bears the reputation of being a most excellent Richelleu, and in his impersonation of the character we look for genuine enjoyment for all who may attend, who appreciate chaste and classical acting. The "Double-bedded Room" is the farce, in which Mr. Margetts and Miss Alexander keep the mirth a-moving.

LEAP YEAR.—This is Leap Year, that auspicious season for the fair sex, by old Anglo-Saxon law and custom, when each spinster could "ask and claim" a husband. Here in Utah the ladies have had the privilege all the time which they should have everywhere, of expressing their choice when so inclined; but in other places where, in theory, they are placed on a pinnacle to be worshipped while in reality they are but the toys of men's passions and lusts, tyrant custom denies them the privilege of manifesting a predilection for one of the opposite sex, on pain of forfeiting their claims to maidenly reserve and modesty. Leap Year, therefore, does not make so much difference here with regard to choosing, for the gentlemen love the ladies, that they do, and do not object to the choosing process at any time.

Talking of spinsters reminds us that, in most cases, the term is sadly inapplicable. Our maternal ancestors, could, would, and did spin, and were not deemed eligible for the marital relationship until they had spun and made enough linen and other kinds of cloth to meet domestic uses for some years. They were entitled to be called spinsters; and the young ladies of the present day, in emulating them, would follow a good example. But few young men would hesitate to be the choice of a charming, intelligent, good house-wife, such as they made; and, were they to do so, there would be less hesitancy on the part of many men to assume the responsibilities of husbands, and but little heard of the cry "nothing to wear," uttered by many "poor" ladies weighed down with the weight of chests-full of clothes.

COMMITTED.—H. M. Densmore, to whom we referred on Tuesday, as being on trial before Justice Clinton, was yesterday committed to appear before the Probate Court, the trial having been continued from Tuesday afternoon until yesterday morning. He was being locked up, as our reporter left, not having furnished security. The details are unfit for publication.

CONVALESCENT.—We were pleased to see Bishop Sheets out yesterday for the first time since his sickness commenced. He was taking a look at the improvement in East Temple St., which has progressed considerably during his illness, under the management of Councillor Groo.

ANOTHER CHANGE.—The keen frost of the past two days and nights is yielding to an atmospheric change. A slight thaw makes itself felt, and the sky this afternoon is overcast with gathering clouds, indicating another fall of snow.

Wife.

In Catherine, Tioga County, N. Y., on the 7th of July, 1867, Hannah Dennis, wife of the late John Young, and stepmother to President Brigham Young, aged 87 years.

The deceased was baptized and became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the year 1831, and lived and died in the faith, and in the hopes of a glorious resurrection. [Com.]

At Neph City, Juab Co., Dec. 9th, Wm. Farner, aged 33 years, 6 months and 22 days.

Bro. Farner was a native of Bread, Sussex, England. He was baptized by Elder Eastwood, August 6th, 1851, and emigrated in the Hand