

DOLORES NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT RICO, OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO. By JOHN R. CURRY.

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DOLORES NEWS.

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(Mormon Exposure continued.)

After we had seated ourselves, Jehova told Adam and Eve that they could eat of every tree in the Garden, except of this particular apple tree, for on that day that they ate of that they surely would die.

He then took his departure, and immediately after in came a very lively gentleman, dressed in a plain black, morning suit, with a little apron on, a most fiendish expression on his face and joyfully rubbing his hands. This gentleman was supposed to be "the Devil."

Certainly his appearance made the supposition quite easy, (by the bye, I have since seen that same gentleman administering the Sacrament in the Tabernacle, on Sundays). He went up to Eve and remarked that it was a very beautiful place, and that the fruit was so nice, would she like to taste one of those apples. She demurred a little, and said she was told not to, and therefore, musn't.

But he pretended to pluck one of the painted apples and give it to her, and she pretended to eat it. He then told her to ask Adam to have some, and she did. Adam objected strongly to testing, knowing the penalty, but Eve eventually overcame his scruples, saying:

"Oh, my dear, they're so nice, you haven't any idea, and that nice old gentleman here (pointing to the Devil) says you need be afraid of what Jehova says."

Adam consented, and immediately, after he said: "Oh, what have I done, and how foolish I was to listen to you."

He then said that he could see himself, and that they had no clothes on, and they must sew some fig leaves together. Everyone then made a dive for his apron, out of the little bundles. This apron is a square half-yard of green silk with nine fig leaves worked on it in brown sewing silk. A voice was then heard calling for Adam, who pretended to hide, when in came Jehova. He gave Adam a good scolding, but finally told him that he would give him certain instructions, whereby he could have a chance to regain the presence of his Father and God after he was driven out into the world.

These instructions consisted of grips &c., and the garments he wore would protect him from all evil. (Mormons say of these garments, that the pattern was revealed direct from heaven to Joseph Smith, and are the same as were originally worn by Adam.)

They then put on their caps and moccasins, the women's caps being made of Swiss muslin; it is one yard square, rounded at one corner so as to fit the head, and there are strings on it which tie under the chin. The moccasins are made of linen or calico. The men's are made exactly like those of pastry cooks, with a bow on the right side. I should here mention before I go further, that Bathsheba Smith and one of the priests enacted the parts of Adam and Eve, and so stood sponsors for the rest of us, who were individually supposed to be Adams and Eves.

THE ENDOWMENT OATHS. They then proceeded to give us the first grip of the Aaronic or Lesser Priesthood, which consists in putting the thumb on the knuckle of the index finger, and clasping the hands round. We were then made to swear "To obey the laws of the Mormon Church and all they enjoin, in preference to those of the United States." The penalty for revealing the grip and oath, is that, you have your throat torn from ear to ear, and your tongue torn from your mouth, and the sign of the penalty is drawing the hand with the thumb pointing towards the throat sharply across and bringing the arm to the level of the square, and with the hand upraised to Heaven, swearing to abide the same.

MORE TOMFOOLERY. We were then driven out of this into the room called the World, where there were three men, standing at a small altar, on the east side of the room, who were supposed to represent Peter, James and John, Peter standing in the center. He was supposed to have the keys of Heaven. Men representing (or trying to) the different religious sects then came in and presented their views, and said they wanted to try and save those fallen children. In doing this they could not refrain from exaggerating and coarsely satirizing the different sects they represented. Previous to their coming in, however, Peter had presented to us the gospel of Christ—at least he told us that Christ had come to die for the original sin, but that we had got to work out our own salvation, and that in the last days a prophet should be raised up to save all those that would believe in his divine mission; consequently these different representatives were told that there doctrines did not suit the people and that there was something wanting in their faith, and so they could go. Then the Devil came in

and tried to allure the people, and bustling up to the altar, Peter said to him: "Hallo, Mr. Devil, how do you do to-day! its a very fine day isn't it? What have you come after?" The devil replied that he didn't seem to take to any of these so-called Christian religions, why didn't they quit bothering after anything of the kind and live a life of pleasure, etc. However he was told to go and that quickly.

POLYGAMY ENJOINED. Peter then gave the second grip of the Aaronic or Lesser Priesthood, which consists of putting the thumb between the knuckles of the index and second fingers, and clasping the hand around. The penalty for revealing this, is to be sawn asunder, and our members cast into the sea. The sign of the penalty was drawing the hand sharply across the middle of the body. To receive that grip we had to put on our robes, which consisted of a long straight piece of cloth, reaching to our feet, doubled over and gathered very full on the shoulder and round the waist. There was also a long narrow piece of cloth, tied around the waist, called "the sash." It was placed on the right shoulder to receive this grip. The people wear their aprons over it. The men then took the oath of chastity, and the women the same; they don't consider polygamy at all unchaste, but said that it was as Heaven ordained law, and that a man to be exalted in the world to come must have more than one wife. The women then took the oath of obedience to their husbands, having to look up to them as their gods. It is not possible for a woman to go to Christ, except through her husband.

Then a man came in and said that the Gospel (which during those few minutes' intervals had lain dormant for 1,800 years had been again restored to earth, and that an angel had revealed it to a young boy named Joseph Smith, and that all the gifts, blessings and prophecies of old had been restored with it, and this last revelation was to be called the Latter Day Dispensation. The priests pretended joyfully to accept this, and said it was the very thing they were in search of, nothing else having had the power to satisfy them.

MORE SIGNS AND GRIPS. They then proceeded to give us the first grip of the Melchizedek or Higher Priesthood, which is said to be the same that Christ held. The thumb is placed on the knuckle of the index finger, and the index finger is placed straight along the palm of the hand, while the lower part of the hand is clasped with the remaining fingers. The robe for this grip was changed from the right to the left shoulder. We were then made to swear to avenge the death of Joseph Smith, the martyr, together with that of his brother Hyrum, on this American nation, and that we would teach our children and children's children to do so. The penalty for this grip and oath was disembowelment.

We were then marched into the north-east room (the men of course, always going first) designated the prayer circle room. We were here made to take an oath of obedience to the Mormon Priesthood.

Any how the highest or grand grip of the Melchizedek priesthood was given. We clasped each other round the hand with the point of the index finger resting on the wrist, and little fingers firmly linked together. The place on the wrist where the index finger points, is supposed to be the place where Christ was nailed to the cross, but they tore out and he had to be nailed again, and so you place your second finger beside the index, on the wrist; it is called the sure sign of the nail, and if the grip is properly given, it is very hard to pull apart. The robe was changed from the right to the left shoulder to receive this grip.

The men then formed a circle round the altar, linking their arms straight across and placed their hands on one another's shoulders. The priest knelt at the altar and took hold of one of the men's hands and prayed. He told us that the electric current of prayer passed through that circle, and that was the most efficacious kind of prayer. The women stood outside the circle, with their veils covering their faces, the only time throughout the ceremony that they did so.

The prayer over, they all trooped up the staircase on the north side of the house, into the room called the Instruction Room, where the people sat down on the west side of the room. Facing them about midway, between floor and ceiling was a wooden beam, that went across the room from north to south, and from which was suspended a dirty looking piece of what was once white calico. This was called "the Vail," and is supposed to be in imitation of the one in Solomon's Temple. On this vail are marks like those on the garments, together with extra holes for putting the arms through,

Correspondents. We want a correspondent in every live town, or mining camp in Southwestern Colorado. To insure the publication of any correspondence, it must be received at the News office on Thursday of the week to be published, or such correspondence may be held over, and probably not published.

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and a hole at the top to speak through. But before going through the vail, we received a general outline of the instructions we had received down stairs. This over the priest took a man to the vail to one of the openings (marked 1) where he knocked with a small wooden mallet that hung on the wooden support.

(Continued.) Sorry that want of space necessitates continuation.

MAIL MATTERS. From newspaper advices, it would clearly appear that one Brewster, a d-d fraud,—who has the contract for carrying the mail over the range to Silverton, has failed in nearly all respects, to comply with his contract with the government. This abortive attempt at a mail contractor is in the habit of dumping the San Juan mails in an old cabin, on the other side of the range, east of Silverton, without any protection for the mail, whatever. At the same time he fails to deliver the U. S. mail at Silverton, as per contract, he is transporting express matter across the range, to Silverton. He makes a good tariff by freighting, and then he expects to draw his regular payments from the government, for performance or non-performance of mail service on his route, as he has previously.

Now, is it not about the right time of the year to look after such government mail contractors, as Brewster? Can a man do as he pleases, in the matter of a government mail contract, and defy the U. S. government, or the action of the postoffice department to investigate such fraudulency in mail matters?

Rico Mining Notes. QUITE a number of mining sales during the past week.

PUZZLE EXTENSION.—This property now has a tunnel of 50 feet, with a vein of carbonates and sulphurets, four feet in width.

LITTLE GIANT.—This property, situated in Horse Gulch, has a tunnel run 45 feet, and a vein of five feet in thickness, at the breast of the tunnel.

PUZZLE.—This famous mine was covered with a snow-slide a few days, but Sup't. Lane has managed to remove the snow, so as to resume work upon the mine, and he is again taking out the carbonates.

THE Cross Lode on Nigger Baby Hill is still working a force of men on a day shift. Mr. J. J. Shall is superintending the work. The tunnel is now in 120 feet from the surface. The pay-streak holds out in size and quality as well as at any time during the season. All the work that has been done upon this property up to the present, has been development or dead work and by spring plenty of stopping-ground will be obtained. Tunneling and shafting, we believe, is termed as dead work, by miners.

BONA HENSEL says that the people of Denver remind him of a drove of hogs. It is left for those who know Bona, to decide—is he cheery or not? Bona is a captain.

We are unable to learn anything of importance as regards the Utes, farther than that the Commission is about a failure, and that although "the Utes must go" they probably will not go.

THE Animas City South-west, edited by Eugene Engley, courteously publishes a considerable amount of Rico mining news and gives credit to the source from whence it came. That is journalism, properly. Thank you.

"Be-hell, he's having his letters sent in care of Bell." Now, don't send any more letters in care of Bell. It was, of course in accordance with the request of Eugene, but he did not wish to give publicity to the fact. Also reports times lively at Animas City.

"We are almost crazed to hear from Agent Stanley. He was a particular friend of ours. So are Douglass and Jack."—Solid Muldoon. T-a-h, t-a-h,—hush-a-bye, we understand that the Navajoes and Mormons are circulating a petition to have him re-instated. Carlos and Ouray certainly will not "tie the grass."

Open the Pinkerton trail.—Dolores News. "Why didn't you keep it open?" Animas City South-west. Now, we would ask our co-temporary if the keeping of that trail open is not as important to the welfare of Animas City, as that of Rico, and if it is not the duty of the people on the outside as well as those in this district, to aid in keeping the trail passable. If you will send the many enroute for Rico, via said trail, we will have an open trail by which to send the few going out of the District. Here's our 22¢ on it.

