

sionaries if the Saints in Utah would send them the names and addresses of their relatives and acquaintances in the old country, that they might visit them.

We have several times in the past directed attention to this subject, and the communication from Elder Riddle suggests the necessity of again alluding to its importance. The missionaries are in need of all the assistance in their labors that can possibly be accorded them, as the "pruning of the vineyard" is nearing a close, this being the evening of the times of the Gentiles, which will soon be fulfilled. We hope that the Saints who have gathered from abroad will not fail to communicate with the friends they left behind.

OVERDOING THE THING.

THE Canadian government recently passed an extradition bill, having special reference to fugitives from the United States. Naturally, it placed the "American colony" in the Dominion in a state of trepidation if not dismay, and their efforts to block or hinder the measure while it was under consideration were ceaseless and powerful. Failing in this, they were led to believe that the home government would eventually veto the bill because of its retroactive features if for nothing else. The British constitution is practically identical with ours in forbidding *ex post facto* legislation, and it would seem that the hope of the "escapes" was not without some foundation. There can be no question that the Dominion Parliament was carried beyond reasonable ground in its zeal by reason of the constantly increasing accessions to the ranks of American criminals who flocked across the border to escape punishment; regarding it as a disgrace to a civilized and progressive government to be a secure harbor whose hospitality amounted to an inducement, the stimulus of excited determination carried her as far beyond the line of legal comity as she had previously been short of it. One member of the government, and of course a conspicuous citizen, declared that all extradition laws were of necessity retroactive, which shows that there are other walks of life in which that gentleman might shine more brightly than in the domain of statesmanship. Wherever there is civilization and progress, there will be found a sentiment antagonistic to

making the crimes of the people fit the laws, instead of *vice versa*, and this feeling is sure to find its way into the national charter sooner or later. It is not stating the case too strongly to say that if the new Canadian law provides for the extradition of criminals whose refuge was obtained before the law was passed, its passage was an empty formality, as it is unconstitutional and void; and if the law be correct, all apprehensions of "suspects" or others who sought Canadian protection prior to the law's existence, by officers of the Dominion or others, are so many trespasses upon personal liberty if not actually criminal assaults.

THE TREATY OF BERLIN.

ON THE 24th of June the steamer *Fulda* hove into port at New York bearing as a conspicuous passenger William Walter Phelps, one of the representatives of the United States to the Samoan conference at Berlin. Mr. Phelps' secretary carried with him, as he strode along the gang plank, a little yellow bag in which was contained the American copy of the treaty made and entered into at the German capital—a document which secures the peace previously agreed upon and points out specifically the line of policy which this country, England and Germany are bound to observe in the future. Of course, he was the lion of the hour for some time, and when the paper was presented and filed at headquarters and President Harrison handed him a commission as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Germany as the reward of his well doing, undoubtedly he became something more. Fêtes, receptions, dinners, etc., are the order of the day, and few there be, if any, who will say that our representative is not entitled to it all, for he not only succeeded, but maintained the dignity of his country and exhibited unquestionable ability during the whole of the proceedings.

Of course the treaty is not yet a binding chapter of international law, except morally. It is not yet ratified, although properly signed, sealed and delivered to each of the three powers by their respective representatives. It will "lie in state," so to speak, here until the next meeting of Congress, when it will be presented in the Senate for action; it requires a two-thirds vote of that body in the affirmative to ratify the agreement, but there is

no doubt of this being obtained at once, not only because it disposes of a vexed question but largely on account of the fact that all the points but one are in our favor. In like manner it will also have to receive the approval of England and Germany, the law of each of these nations being doubtless similar to ours in that respect and requiring the concurrence of the legislative department to conclude a treaty; at least, the commissioners agreed by vote to maintain secrecy regarding the terms of the protocol until its submission to Congress, Parliament and the Reichstag for action.

So the Samoan question may be regarded as practically settled. It will strike some people who reason closely and in accordance with strict lines of philanthropy, that the settling of a nation's status by others that have no ownership or interest in it beyond what is granted, is a peculiar not to say anomalous proceeding. The three greatest powers of the earth have only to "lay their heads together" and arrive at a conclusion regarding helpless inland or insular governments to settle the latter's station conclusively until there is a falling out between the triumvirate. The islands can have their own sovereign and make their own laws, of course—but these must in every instance be subject to the approval of the powers that be elsewhere. This is one of the ways of the world, the greater includes the less, the powerful embraces the weak—the "embrace" in this instance being not infrequently like that of a grizzly bear in possession of a victim.

DEATH OF SIMON CAMERON.

AFTER a short illness and a very long and conspicuous career, General Simon Cameron, the Pennsylvania veteran statesman, yesterday disappeared from this stage of action. He was born on the 8th of March, 1799, and was therefore ninety years and a little over three months old. The immediate cause of death is not given, but the general cause was undoubtedly the giving way of the system on account of the long and active strain it had received in contact with men and the things of this life.

Gen. Cameron was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and at an early age entered a printing office as apprentice. After becoming a journeyman he worked for some time in the government