

which have been rooted out by Congressional legislation; but I am here to say that from the testimony of Republicans and Democrats, of Gentiles and Mormons alike, it has been clearly established before the Committee on Territories that today there are no polygamous marriages being entered into in the Territory of Utah, and that there is no record of any having been contracted for several years past.

There is further proof of this assertion on record in the office of the Attorney-General of the United States in the form of a petition for amnesty, sent to the President, which was signed by every Republican official in the Territory of Utah, including every Republican Federal judge, declaring that the Mormons have abandoned the teaching and practice of that doctrine which alone has for so many years kept them out of touch with the civilization of the American people. Let us wipe out this stigma that rests upon them in the shape of an alien carpet-bag commission, and for the next two or three years, by way of experiment, if nothing more, intrust its duties to a Commission composed of citizens of the Territory.

The bill which was reported from the Committee on the Territories, and which was passed here yesterday, provided for a Commission, which in my judgment, was better than the one proposed in the appropriation bill, but only in this, that it did not in any way conflict the judiciary with the conduct of elections. However, speaking for the Committee on Territories, what I have said before I now repeat, that we are willing to accept this Commission temporarily, because we believe that the Legislature of the Territory of Utah at its next session will again pass a bill, and that the Governor will sign it, creating a nonpartisan commission, which will conduct the elections in the full spirit of the Edmunds law, and at a trifling cost to the people.

The provision of the appropriation bill now under consideration proposes to create a local commission to consist of the Governor, the Secretary of the Territory, and the Chief justice. These men are all Gentiles, as they are called out there. They have neither sympathy nor connection with the Mormon Church. They are all three appointees of the President, and, as it so happens, they are all Republicans. If you can trust a Commission of five nonresident Gentiles at a salary of \$5000 a year each, why can you not equally well trust a Commission of three Gentile residents who are more than all others interested in good local government, who are all Republicans (I am appealing to my friends on the other side), who can and will serve without additional compensation, to supervise and conduct elections and to enforce the Edmunds law?

I hope the House conferees will be instructed to stand by this item in the bill.

The discussion of these questions is doing good, and the conviction is growing in the public mind, and has almost matured in the congressional mind, that the proper way to settle all these questions about Utah is to admit her into the Union, on an equal footing with all the States composing the republic.

THE United States Senate now consists of 88 members, divided politically into 47 Republicans, 39 Democrats and 2 Farmers' Alliance men.

Labor asks that the World's Fair be open on Sunday. The labor organizations of the country are fast putting themselves on record to that effect.

PROPOSED CENSUS JOB.

THE Salt Lake Tribune is booming a scheme for a new census enumeration for Salt Lake City. It publishes, in this morning's issue, a list of opinions on the subject, alleged to have been expressed by various citizens.

It is significant that about half of the gentlemen quoted are real estate men, whose views are given with conspicuous fullness, compared to the space devoted to the expressions of others. This is an indication that the proposed census is in the interest of a real estate boom, which, as experience as well as observation teaches, is an ultimate injury to business.

One of the gentlemen quoted states that if the right kind of census takers can be appointed so that the population can be shown at 65,000 it would be a good thing. This is a very suggestive statement, and, to our mind, exhibits the purpose of the scheme—deception by the process of inflation.

Let the real estate dealers pay for their own advertising. It is not the business of the people to meet their bills in that line.

Some are credited with expressing themselves to the effect that justice was not done by the last census. It was not stated which census was referred to—there were two almost simultaneously taken in 1890. Was it the enumeration taken by the city officials or that by the general government that was unjust? We are at a loss to know how anyone can know exactly whether a census is correct or otherwise except by the figures obtained by minute enumeration.

Some of the opinions are on the fence. For instance: "If a new census would be a benefit, I am in favor of it." In the absence of an opinion as to the beneficial effect, expressions of that kind are so much air.

We do not believe the people want another census. There is no reason for it so soon after the two last in 1890. Its only purposes are to boom the business of real estate dealers and give employment to "Liberal" barnacles at the expense of the people.

If the people as a whole were asked their opinion, the result would be an emphatic "no."

THE ONYX DISCOVERY.

THERE has been occasional comment in the local papers in relation to the discovery, by Mr. Cederstrom, of an immense body of onyx in Utah County. We have examined a number of specimens of this stone, which is susceptible of the highest polish, and is of surpassing beauty. It has been mentioned as marble, but this is a mistake; it is ranked as a precious stone. Its chief beauty is given to it by its translucent quality, causing it to show a combination of depth, transparency and brilliancy. We regard Mr. Cederstrom's discovery as one of the most important and valuable yet made in these mountains. The variety in shade and combination of color are practically endless, as no one piece so closely resembles another that the difference cannot readily be discerned, while many of the distinctions are strongly marked.

George Frederick Kunz mentions the onyx in a work entitled "Gems and Precious Stones," published by the Scientific Publishing Co., of New York. Mr. Kunz is one of the highest authorities extant on the subject treated in his book. He is gem expert for Messrs. Tiffany & Co., N. Y.; special agent of the U. S. Geological Survey; member of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and is connected with a similar Society of St. Petersburg, Russia. In order to give the ordinary reader an idea of the nature of onyx, we make the following extract:

"Mexican onyx, so called, is really an aragonite. Prof. Mariano Barcena, of the Mexican Commission to the World's Fair held in Philadelphia during 1876, has recently published an account of its occurrence and chemical character. The principal deposits are located near the town of Tecali in the State of Puebla. It is essentially a carbonate of calcium, containing small quantities of the oxides of iron and manganese, to which are due the variegated colors for which the rock is so much admired. The specific gravity, 2.9, shows that it is aragonite. It was extensively used by the ancient Mexicans, specimens of whose handiwork we still have preserved in our museums in the form of masks, idols, and a variety of objects. The softness of the material (it can be readily carved with a knife) has tempted some of the modern residents of Mexico to imitate the ancient objects, to meet the demand of visitors in that country. This material is entirely stalaigmatic in its formation, and yellowish-brown and red oxides of iron have been deposited between the layers. It is generally cut across the layers, which gives it a beautiful veined appearance. When it is cut in the same direction as the disposition, the botryoidal structure is well shown, the mineral being so translucent that the markings resemble colored clouds. It is one of the most beautiful ornamental stones of any age, and has been used extensively for ornamental purposes in Europe as well as in the United States, where it was first introduced about 1876, when it brought about ten times its present price. The natives in the vicinity of Pueblo sell large quantities of this material, made into trays, crucifixes, reliquaries, inkstands, penholders, paper folders, and paperweights, in the form of single fruits or bunches of fruit, fish or other natural objects, which are copied, not only with regard to form, but often with remarkable skill in the utilization of the colors in the stone. So great is the variety of tints of color in which the material is found that there is scarcely a limit to its possibilities for such purposes."

Aside from the multifarious uses to which onyx can be put in the manufacture of smaller articles of a utilitarian and ornamental character, its effects, in combination with marbles of lighter tints, in the embellishment of the interior of buildings, would be inconceivably beautiful. As an instance of the striking loveliness of marble ornamentation, the interior of the municipal buildings of the city of Glasgow may be appropriately cited. The grand staircase, including steps, balusters, walls and ceiling are all in marble of exquisite design and variegated hues. Many of the corridors are similarly constructed, and the effect is positively enchanting. In the marbles in use in that structure there is nothing approaching in richness and brilliancy the onyx stone recently discovered in Utah county, judging from the specimens we have seen.

As to the value of the deposit in