

also with the opening up to the world of western America. One is the fact that Henry W. Bigler was a member of the Mormon Battalion, whose memorable work holds an important place in the history of the people of Utah. The other is that Elder Bigler was the first to record the great discovery of gold in California. As a member of the Mormon Battalion he was in that section of the country and with others obtained work from Sutter and Marshall at Sutter's Fort, near Sacramento. James W. Marshall and a number of others—of whom Elder Bigler and Azariah Smith, of Manti, are the only ones now alive and residing in Utah—went to Coloma, forty-five miles distant, and built a sawmill. In January, 1848, the water was turned into the mill race to carry away some loose dirt and gravel. After it was turned off Mr. Marshall went into the race to ascertain the extent of some slight damage, when he discovered some particles of yellow metal, and picked up several which he thought to be gold. Henry W. Bigler thus records this event in his diary:

Monday, 24th. This day some kind of metal was found in the tail race that looks like gold.

The yellow particles were sent to the assayer and tested, the result being thus recorded by Mr. Bigler on Sunday, January 30, 1848, six days after the discovery was made:

Clear, and has been all the last week. Our metal has been tried and proves to be gold. It is thought to be rich. We have picked up more than a hundred dollars' worth last week.

There is no doubt that Elder Bigler's experience in connection with these two incidents only would make an interesting chapter. So also would that of scores of others, in relation to other important events, who are now numbered with a generation almost passed away. They should be written and preserved as the valuable details of history that bring the readers in touch with participants in notable events.

#### MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

To Governor Waite of Colorado during his short term of official life has come more notoriety than usually falls to the lot of the ordinary executive of any of the states of this great Union. Everybody remembers the famous "blood to the brides" speech in defense of silver, and of still more recent memory is his extra legislative session for the purpose of discussing a monetary union with Mexico. And now, following these has come the Denver police war, in which the gentleman has played the conspicuous part and which for a time has threatened to result in real and sanguinary slaughter.

The causes that led up to the latter difficulty are that the governor ousted several members of the fire and police board, it is said for political reasons. In June of last year George H. Phelps was removed because he neglected Governor Waite maintains, to prosecute an alleged gambler. This case went to the supreme court, which decided that no removals could be effected for political purposes. When a short time ago the governor removed Jackson Orr and

D. J. Martin, who were accused of protecting the gambling hells, these, having obtained an injunction from the district court restraining him from using force, remained in possession of their offices, arming the entire police force and swearing in deputies with orders to resist the militia if necessary. The national guard was called out and the governor even applied for the aid of the Federal troops. The militia planted their guns on the sidewalks near the city hall and the streets were cleared for action. The citizens gathered round the prospective battle-field and refused to be driven away. It is thought there were in the crowd enough sympathizers with the ousted commissioners to disarm the troops and take the whole outfit prisoners.

No bloodshed ensued, however; and at last reports the governor has agreed to submit the case to the supreme court and abide by its decision. He thinks his cause is just, and he expects to win in the legal arena the victory which the state troops were unable to gain for the new commissioners by a show of force. In the meantime Denver is blessed with two sets of chiefs in these departments and suffers from the confusion resulting from such a state of affairs.

It is idle to dwell upon the wisdom or the folly of the course pursued by the governor in this matter. His motives may have been the very best, but his means were those of a clown. Such high-handed interference in a purely local and trivial affair entitles him to ridicule. Even if he has not transgressed the laws of the state, he has written his own unfitness in huge and glaring phrase. His sort of men ought never to have the use or ordering or control of bayonets and gunpowder. It is bad enough when mobs resort to violence for a trifling cause. How infinitely worse when the dogs of war are let slip by those whose high oath is, and whose chief concern should be, to preserve the peace and protect human lives!

#### FRESH TREATMENT FOR ANARCHISTS.

Of much significance is the attitude of the socialists in the French Chamber of Deputies in opposing the bill forbidding the publication of reports of trials of anarchists. Their position, thinly disguised as a championship of the freedom of the press, lends strong emphasis to the belief that with the majority of these insane wreckers of society, the love of notoriety, the pedestal of a martyr, and the meed of a hero are important if not the chief incentives to their diabolical work. Weak minds were ever susceptible to the glamor that attaches to prominence; and morbid dreamers over real or fancied wrongs have always been willing to accept such prominence even as the reward of a conspicuously atrocious crime. When such a crime can be distorted by equally abnormal minds as an incident in the cause of reform, and its perpetrator be able to pose publicly as a sufferer in the cause of humanity, the penalty is shorn of much of its terror and even with complacency the victim is not infrequently ready to

bare his neck for the headsman's ax. The policy of catering to, or even permitting, the gratification of this maudlin sentiment, in either the accused or the masses, is fraught with danger—it merely offers a temptation to others of feeble or fanatical mould to tread the same path to ignominious glory. Especially would this seem to be the case among a people so thoughtless and volatile as the French; and there is little doubt that the dramatic trial and execution of Ravachol, the first of the recent assassins, has prompted or stimulated most of his later imitators. There is something hopeful, therefore, in the passage of the bill above referred to—for it did pass notwithstanding the strong and active opposition of the socialist deputies. It proposes to reduce the possibility of notoriety for such criminals to a minimum, by hurrying the arrested anarchist off to prison, and examining, trying and (if guilty) executing him in secret. We think the proposition a sound one. Let the infamous gentry once be made to understand that punishment will be swift and sure, that their fate, like their plots, will be determined in secret, and that their colleagues and sympathizers will be left, like so many vagrant rats, without opportunity to encourage, gaze upon or even hear of their captured comrade—let this course be followed, and the red demon of anarchy will have received a serious hurt, and the world will have less exhibitions of his hideous head.

#### WOMEN AT WAR.

The charitably inclined ladies of Alameda, California, are having a controversy that is just as interesting to them as is Governor Waite's military circus to the people of Denver, though there is not so much display of force or talk of bloodshed. The trouble all grew out of the question as to how the poor people in Alameda could be best provided for, and now the poor go cold and hungry while those who were to have given relief are in a state of incandescent wrath.

When the matter of aiding the needy in the town became a momentous question, the Alameda Woman's Relief society was organized, with Mrs. Susan Carpenter as manager. A dispute arose as to the manner of conducting business, and Mrs. Carpenter arrayed herself on one side in the row. The other side incorporated and obtained a decree for the possession of land which the organization had leased, and on which it had erected a house, but the court said nothing of the building. Then the Carpenter faction proceeded in the night time to move the house to another lot. They got the building into the street before being discovered. The society started in and arrested the workmen, who were released on bail, and in turn those who caused the arrest were taken in custody on a charge of false imprisonment, and were bailed out. Arrests and counter arrests continued, until each party had a big list of charges against them and were under a series of bail bonds amounting to thousands of dollars. The parties went into court, where the attorney for Mrs. Carpenter got into an altercation with the judge, who ordered him to leave the court room. He didn't go,