

Food is remarkably cheap, with the exception of meat, and in this respect the importation of American and colonial productions tends to keep down prices. Clothing is down to a minimum; and yet, in spite of all this, poverty is rampant everywhere, superinduced by an excessive use of intoxicating liquors. This consumption of "drink" goes on in spite of the great efforts of the numerous missions by the churches and temperance organizations. It goes without saying that this country possesses the elements of a comfortable existence for all classes, but they are neutralized by the demoralizing effects of the drink traffic. At a meeting held in Birmingham a short time ago it was gravely asserted that a large number of licensed liquor shops and alehouses were owned and controlled by city and county officials, and instances were given where the business was owned as a stock company, Christian ministers being among the shareholders! Under these conditions it is no wonder that the uneducated classes will indulge their propensity for liquor, thereby impoverishing their families, and in many cases being compelled to seek relief from the parochial authorities.

While in Manchester I visited some of the large cotton factories. As an example of the importance of the improved machinery introduced into the spinning departments of the cotton industry, it is calculated that, under the old method of single-wheel hand-spinning, one spinner, by working fifty-six hours, could spin five hanks of No. 32 twist. With the appliances now at command one man with the assistance of two boys can produce 55,098 hanks of the same description of twist in the same time. The enormous sum of £350,000,000 is represented as the monetary extent of Manchester's trading operations, 4,000,000,000 yards of cloth being sold annually. The rapid increase of the population is evidenced by the fact that whereas a few years ago the various towns and villages could be readily defused by the cluster of houses there, one can now travel in almost any direction from Manchester and find miles upon miles of streets, the lines of the respective towns being defined by poles placed in the ground.

I am enjoying my labors in the missionary field. There is but little inclination on the part of the masses to listen to the message we bear. Still we do not feel discouraged, but try in our humble way to disseminate the truths of the Gospel by bearing our testimony to the people, distributing tracts, etc. My traveling companion is Elder Charles R. Lyman, of Parowan. We are laboring in the Northampton district of the Birmingham Conference, among a good class of people.

My sympathies extend most heartily to the members of the People's party in Salt Lake, who are now struggling so manfully to hold their own against those who are seeking to ruin the prospects of our beautiful mountain city. God prosper His work in all lands.

W. G. BICKLEY.

BIRMINGHAM, England, Jan. 10, 1890.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

### Edmunds Law Prosecutions.

On February 3d, Brother David James was out again, after his long and severe illness. He appeared in the Third District Court and pleaded not guilty to the indictment charging him with unlawful cohabitation.

February 3d, Mr. H. W. Naisbitt, who was arrested on Feb. 1, on a charge of unlawful cohabitation, appeared before Commissioner Greenman, and pleaded guilty. He was released on giving \$1500 bonds. His plural wife was arrested at Coalville. She gave \$500 bail.

### Released From Prison.

Jan. 30, Brother Thomas Broadbent, of Elsinore, Sevier County, was released from the penitentiary. He has served three and a half months for unlawful cohabitation, and paid \$100 fine, \$77 costs, and \$2.65 marshal's "commission."

Brother John Frantzen, of Spring City, was released from the penitentiary January 28th, after serving a thirteen months' sentence on a conviction of adultery with his wives. Having received the full discount allowed by law for good behavior, his term only extended over a period of ten months and twenty-three days—a long enough time to cause him to fully appreciate the sweets of comparative liberty which he will now be permitted to enjoy. He has had good health during almost the entire term of his incarceration, and reports the brethren generally who were his fellow prisoners as being well. There are now sixty-one prisoners imprisoned in the penitentiary for violations of the Edmunds law.

### Prize Money Received.

Feb. 1st, Wm. Gibby, of Farmers' Ward, received from the publishers of the *American Agriculturist* the prize of \$500 awarded for the largest yield of wheat to the acre in the United States. This year the *Agriculturist* offers the same amount for the best yield of potatoes. Utah should stand a good chance for taking this premium, for there is no better soil in the country for potatoes than exists in this Territory.

### The Idaho Law.

The following dispatch was received from Washington, Feb. 3.—The Supreme Court of the United States to-day rendered an opinion affirming the constitutionality of the Idaho test oath, which is intended to prevent the "Mormons" from voting. The case came up on an application for a writ of *habeas corpus* made by Samuel D. Davis, who is in jail in Idaho, having been sentenced for unlawfully taking the prescribed test oath when he was a member of the "Mormon" Church. The court denies the application for a writ of *habeas corpus*, holding that polygamy is a crime, and that the constitutional provision guaranteeing

freedom of religion is not intended to prevent the punishment of any person who, in the name of religion, commits a crime in the eyes of the law. Davis was not a polygamist, but simply a member of the "Mormon" Church.

### More "Liberal" Tricks.

Several hundred members of the People's Party have been served with a notice signed by David Webb, of the "Liberal" committee, to appear on one of the three succeeding days, at Room 34, Wasatch Block, and show cause why their names should not be stricken from the registry list.

In a great many cases there are young men who have been served with this notice. These men have been born and reared in Salt Lake. They are challenged because they are "not naturalized."

In other cases men who have resided here 20 to 35 years, and are familiar figures to old residents, are challenged because of "non-residence."

Still others are challenged on the ground of "polygamy," though in some cases they are unmarried men.

The whole thing indicates that it is a scheme to make a big showing, and to operate as a trick to throw out People's votes, either by bulldozing or other frauds. But voters should see that they are not deprived of their rights through lack of diligence on their part.

### Perished from Cold.

Between one and two o'clock February 2nd, some parties were passing along in West Bountiful precinct, Davis county, about a mile east of Jordan River, when they came across a dead body. The deceased was a young man, apparently between 25 and 30 years of age; with light blue eyes and sandy mustache. He was about five feet seven inches in height.

Justice Wm. Page was notified and held an inquest, the jurors being Luther S. Burnham, Jr., Joseph Ellis and Adelbert Burnham. On examining the body, there was nothing found on it by which it could be identified. There were a few matches in one of his pockets. He was considerably cut and scratched, and on tracing the path which he had evidently traveled, the jury found that he had run into several wire fences, thus receiving the injuries. He had crossed the Jordau river, going eastward, and lost his way. After wandering around for a time he had become exhausted, and unable to proceed further. Upon this showing the jury came to a conclusion that the unfortunate man had perished from cold. He had evidently been dead four or five days.

The body was taken to George A. Lincoln's undertaking establishment in Bountiful, and held there for identification. One party who saw him stated that he was a young man who had resided in the Fifteenth Ward of this city, and had been working across the river. But as this identification was not positive the name is withheld.