

called "the Bayou," or would the name be used of any such thing?

4. Has the term been long in use in the locality?

5. What is the usual pronunciation of the word? (a) Does the first syllable rhyme with "bay" or "by"? (b) Does the second rhyme with "oh" or "you"? (c) What syllable has the accent?

6. Is there any other pronunciation in use? (a) If so, what? (b) Is either pronunciation considered more "correct" or "elegant"? (What the dictionary has to say about it is immaterial in the present inquiry.) (c) Which is the older?

7. Was there any French settlement in the neighborhood? If so, when was it made?

We do not think this part of the country can supply any information on the subject that will be of value. If any answers to the foregoing questions can be given, however, they may be sent for publication to this office.

LOOKING AFTER THE SOLONS.

To a good many who are posted on political history, the recort which Mayor Baskin is making will, in a smaller sphere of course, bear a striking resemblance to that of Andrew Jackson as President of the United States. Both will appear as well gifted in the matter of vertebral inelasticity; the Mayor, like the President, is not afraid to use the veto power without stint when dealing with a law-making body where in his opinion it departs from the path of wisdom or strict uprightnes, and he has the courage to "set down" on an unworthy official or point out wrongdoing and demand immediate and unconditional discontinuance of the same. This takes caliber, brains, nerve and discrimination, and happy is the community likely to be whose chief executive officer is in full possession of all these.

Mr. Baskin sent in two vetoes to the regular session of the Council last evening. He also sent a communication which created something of a sensation if nothing more. All these will be found in their proper places in our news columns and will be read with interest. In the communication, the Mayor makes plain some principles of municipal polity which should have been known and acted on without his having to interfere in the matter. While dealing to some extent in the general principles of law and the rules prevailing, he makes special mention of the president of the Council, who is said to be acting as attorney for certain parties engaged in transactions with the city. Upon the Mayor's suggestion an investigation committee was appointed and the matter will be thoroughly sifted.

Whether Mayor Baskin was misinformed regarding the affair or not, we cannot but endorse his action in the premises. When he receives information of that character from what seems to be authentic sources, there is nothing else left for a man who has the welfare of the community at heart to do. If President Loofbeur is not found to have been guilty of impropriety, good will have resulted anyway, because of relieving him from such a suspicion and because of the wholesome check which the

action may have upon others who may be disposed to be careless or indifferent; if he has done as charged, he should no longer occupy the responsible place he holds. In either event the people are entitled to know all about it. The movement is in the right direction; let there be no impediments.

A CRITICISM ANSWERED.

Editor *Deseret News*:

I wish to apologize for intruding again for a place in your columns, but there are two items I have read in your paper that I cannot altogether pass without protesting a little against certain expressions:

First—On the French, by the editor, because they made war on Behanzin, and he, the editor, asks the French to count the cost! I will reply for them—first, that the French did not begin it, but it was Behanzin; and, second, that by driving him and his bloody devils Amazons, they rendered the world at large a lasting good by stopping these annual bloody rites they were guilty of; the horrors of which equaled if they did not surpass the most atrocious bloody scenes the world ever beheld. Besides, the natives of Dahomey and surrounding countries will be a hundred fold more benefited by the benign and beneficent ruling of the French than they were before by their bloody rulers.

The second expression I complain of is in the article on Columbus by Ruby Lamont. Although a very good article in itself, yet the author spoils it by asking Emilio Castellar what he had to say about the treatment Columbus got at the hand of a few wretches of the court of Ferdinand and Isabella. Now, Emilio Castellar is not more responsible for these villainies than your contributor is for the murder of Joan of Arc in the fifteenth century by the English, or the driving and murdering of the Acadians hardly over 150 years ago. I know Mr. Castellar for a very liberal-minded man, in fact one of the best men in Europe. And it should be understood that it is very poor policy to blame children for the faults committed by their forefathers.

H. EDUARD DESAULES.

It will be seen that our correspondent offers an apology before fulminating his criticisms. The *News* will not be outdone in politeness; it is hereby accepted and ours in return is tendered before replying to him.

First—We decline to withdraw the advice to the French to count the cost of their operations in Dahomey; on the contrary, such advice is always well-timed, particularly when, as in the case in point, the expenditure of blood and treasure threatens to outweigh infinitely the benefits to be derived by either invaders or natives. To justify the former by the assertion that the latter began the war, appears to us to be childish. We assume that Behanzin could not have begun it if the French had not been there; or is this too rash a view to take? Besides, we fail to see that in order to uphold the national dignity it was necessary for a civilized nation like France to enter upon a career of conquest, if not extermination, against a lot of barbarians. Our correspondent will please observe that the question of cost again intrudes itself—it will not down. His second conclusion—that a lasting good will be rendered the world by driving the savage king and "his bloody devils

Amazons"—admits of question at least. We are somewhat used to that argument in this country, but haven't learned to like it nevertheless. It finds expression in the doctrine that "the only good Indian is a dead Indian." If "the benign and beneficent rule of the French" exhibits itself in sending all these warriors of Dahomey to the happy hunting grounds or whatsoever Paradise is anticipated by expiring Amazons, wherein are the latter "a hundred-fold more benefited?" We ask for information, and not in a spirit of captiousness.

Second—A careful reading of Ruby Lamont's reference to Emilio Castellar will show our correspondent that his strictures are hypercritical and his defense premature. In her article on Columbus, published in this paper of the 10th ult., she mentions the Spanish statesman and writer in one sentence only. We quote it.

It stands Spaniards in hand to endeavor to throw off their own ingratitude by accusing Columbus of inefficiency in government. Let Americans or the world challenge Emilio Castellar to disprove our counter charges of Spanish perfidy, intrigue and ingratitude!

Now we fancy that it would take a more subtle perception than even a high-spirited Spaniard possesses to discover in this quotation an imputation against Senor Castellar's liberal-mindedness or goodness, a charge against him of personal responsibility for the conduct of the Spanish court nearly four hundred years ago, or an attempt to blame him for faults committed by his ancestors. Ruby Lamont if given the opportunity would doubtless renew the challenge, and at any rate the *News* does renew it: Let Senor Castellar disprove the counter charges of Spanish perfidy, intrigue and ingratitude. And it occurs to us that the only way in which that eminent man, with all his liberal-mindedness and goodness, can be made a sharer in the odium with which Americans regard Spanish conduct at that time is by justifying it instead of attempting to disprove it. To jump up and down to petulance and hurl redomontades against one who ventures a different opinion, is not the Spanish or the courtly way of accepting a respectful challenge to debate.

AN EX-EDITOR'S SATURDAY TALK.

The trials through which the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have passed within the past few years have had the effect to make each one better acquainted with his or her own character than they were before they entered upon these trials. They have had the effect, also, to make friends and neighbors better known to each other by bringing to light many noble traits and showing the fidelity of many people. That which has occurred has reflected great credit particularly upon the women of the Church. They have, as a sex, displayed a faithfulness and heroism that has been exceedingly praiseworthy. There have been some results, however, which have not exhibited human nature in the best