

two 'Mormon' preachers were in the place. A mob was soon raised, and warning sent to us to leave immediately or we would be tarred and feathered, ridden on a rail and hanged. I soon saw where the serpents were. My companion wanted to leave; I told him no, I would stay and see my dream fulfilled.

"I was commanded of the Lord by the Holy Ghost to go and warn Mr. Akeman to repent of his wickedness. I did so, and each time he railed against me, and the last time he ordered me out of the house. When I went out he followed me and was very angry. When he came up to me, about eight rods from the house, he fell dead at my feet, turned black and swelled up, as I saw the serpents do in my dream.

"His family, as well as ourselves, felt it was the judgment of God upon him. I preached his funeral sermon."

Wherever President Woodruff is known, his word will be received quite as readily as anything Colonel Robertson might say. And after the numerous evidences afforded by the press, of the Commissioner's desire to misrepresent both "Mormonism" and the "Mormons," in Utah at least and among the people who are best acquainted with the parties, the value of any affirmation of the latter would count for nothing as against the simple statement of the former.

The dream which President Woodruff had and saw fulfilled was in Arkansas in 1834. So it is very easy to understand why none of the papers of recent times in Tennessee contained an account of the occurrence. If Commissioner Robertson desires to amuse cronies at an hotel with stories about the "Mormons" and their gullibility, he should be careful not to allow them to appear in print. It does not add to any one's permanent popularity to be caught in wilfully misrepresenting anybody. And the "Mormons" will not always be the victims of prejudice as they are today.

His estimate of the masses of the "Mormons" is that they are "an ignorant and fanatical set, begotten of worse fanatics." We will not publish our estimate of Commissioner Robertson. But from the several attempts he has evidently made to put Utah and its people in a false light before the eastern public, we regard him as several degrees lower than the most ignorant and fanatical of the 'Mormon' people, who value truth and honor as more precious than riches or position, and who would scorn to bear false witness against their neighbors.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF ABILITY IN THE UNITED STATES.

HENRY CABOT LODGE has an article in the current number of the *Century* magazine entitled "The Distribution of Ability in the United States." It is one that is attracting wide attention.

Mr. Lodge took the six volumes of Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography as the basis of his article. The 14,243 names in that work virtually include all the men and women who by publicly recognized ability have raised themselves above the common level. He classifies this list by States, races and nativities.

Classified by States the 14,243 had their birth as follows: Massachusetts, 2686; New York, 2605; Pennsylvania, 1827; Connecticut, 1196; Virginia, 1038; Maryland, 512; New Hampshire, 510; New Jersey, 474; Maine, 414; South Carolina, 398; Ohio, 364; Vermont, 359; Rhode Island, 291; Georgia, 202; Tennessee, 136; Delaware, 115; Indiana, 113; District of Columbia, 75; Louisiana, 68; Illinois, 59; Michigan, 44; Missouri, 39; Alabama, 34; Mississippi, 26; Florida, 12; Wisconsin, 12; California, 5; Iowa, 5; Arkansas, 3; Texas, 1. This list gives the actual place of birth, no matter where distinction has been achieved. Though Abraham Lincoln was virtually an Illinois man, yet he is credited to Kentucky.

The 14,243 names divided by occupations give 2150 statesmen, 1892 soldiers, 2164 clergy, 1500 lawyers, 859 physicians, 2051 literature, 462 art, 564 science, 586 educators, 482 navy, business 559, philanthropy 221, engineers 174, architects 48, musicians 82, actors 102.

Of the 14,243 names classified according to race, over 10,000 are of English descent, about 1500 of Scotch-Irish and Irish descent, 600 of German, and so on down to the Poles and Russians, who have one each.

There is also a list of 1271 immigrants who have places in the Cyclopaedia. According to countries, England comes first with 345, Germany second with 245, and Ireland third with 238. Scotland 151, Wales 16, France 63, Canada 60, and so on with other countries down to Spain and Portugal, which have one each.

There are in this list of immigrants 62 negroes, 25 of whom obtained distinction as clergymen.

#### A PROVINCE OF RUSSIA.

THE recent order from the Russian government sending 150,000 troops to Warsaw raises the regular guard placed over Poland to 500,000. The cause of this monstrous display of arms seems to be a general feeling among the land holders that an uprising is imminent among the peasantry. The gentry have for months been carrying pistols in their pockets and sleeping with guns under their pillows.

The province requiring this army of

half a million men to keep the peace is not much larger than an average State of the American Union. Conceive the entire army of the United States quartered in this county of Salt Lake with the sole business of preserving loyalty in the hearts of the citizens, and you have a fair miniature of the military discipline of Russian Poland today. What a spectacle of civilization for a freeman to contemplate!

#### PROPOSED JOINT PUBLIC BUILDING

It is expected that some final action in regard to the joint building matter will be taken tonight in the City Council. It is about time that the question was settled. It has been a subject of discussion ever since the "Liberals" seized the city government.

The former City Council decided that a building should be erected on the city property, and the County agreed to join, pay part of the expenses and occupy it conjointly with the city. But the new Council, which was partly bogus, threw over the plans of their predecessors, and after wasting \$11,000 for which nothing is to be seen but a hole in the ground, decided to place the joint building on the Eighth Ward square.

Excavations have been commenced, but nothing further has been accomplished except lots of squabbling until now. The project is still an open question. The Council is now composed of some different elements from those which entered into it on "Liberal" accession. The bogus Councilmen have retired, the legally elected officers have taken their places. The new incumbents ought to have something to say on this important subject.

It is alleged that the ground selected for the building is altogether unsuitable. It is springy, and water has already arisen in the excavation. It is urged that with further thought, the county would rather have a building of its own. But supposing these points are settled and that they had better not be raised again. Is this a good time to commence a building of the magnitude and importance of that proposed? Is it not too late in the season? Will not the winter, coming so soon upon the work, be likely to damage it materially?

There is another question—the most important of all: Where is the money coming from to pay for such an expensive piece of work? Will the state of the municipal finances justify this outlay at present, considering the doubt as to the remaining borrowing power of the city?

So much money has been expended