

wholly upon one to the rejection of the other are in about the same state of inconsistency, from the Gospel standpoint, as are those who would receive the ordinance either for the birth of the water or of the Spirit, but upon no consideration would consent to both.

The young people in Israel owe it to themselves to learn wisdom in the days of their youth; it is a sacred obligation resting on them as members of the Church of Christ. To wilfully reject opportunities for obtaining wisdom is to learn folly, which brings sorrow instead of blessing. When people have little chance to learn they are free from condemnation for not obtaining that which was beyond their reach. The man with the one talent, as related in the parable, was not adjudged to be under sin because he did not have five or ten talents, but because he had not put to its full and proper use the one which he was entrusted with.

In the advice given by the Prophet Alma is the rule of conduct for youthful Saints. It is the path in which Christ walked. In this age the Lord has revealed the laws and ordinances of the Gospel; its keys have been committed to the Saints. The power thus bestowed is for salvation. "Ye cannot serve God and mammon," said Jesus. There can be no rejection of fundamental principle, no neglect of one's duty in the hope that the Lord will do all the work, and at the same time be harmony with heaven's laws. When men receive the light that is placed within their reach, and continue in God, He will add to them greater light, which will grow brighter and brighter "unto the perfect day." This is a truth that cannot be too deeply impressed upon the minds of the youth in Israel.

A MISSIONARY EXPERIENCE.

A private letter from Elder Albert Schoenfeld, formerly of Z. C. M. I., now on a mission in Dresden, the capital of Saxony, Germany, gives an incident in his recent experience that is worthy of reproduction as going to show how the Lord can turn everything for the best. While distributing tracts on the 9th of December, Elder Schoenfeld and his companion, Elder Tobler, from Santa Clara, were informed on by some evil-disposed persons; and as there is a law in Germany against "proselyting," they were promptly arrested and taken to police headquarters. There they had to show their passports, and also had to give proof of their visible means of support. Having done all this to the official's satisfaction, they were released with a good "talking to" and a warning. The Elders went home, knelt down in prayer before the Lord, and here came to both the thought of going back to the chief of police, giving him a tract, and bearing their testimony to him. This they did, and they added, that inasmuch as they kept the laws and bore their own expenses, would not the authorities rather be glad to have the people informed concerning the things of God? The officer told them to call in two days. They did so and he wrote out a permit, stating that Albert Schoenfeld and W. Tobler were permitted to distribute tracts under the auspices of the

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in said city of Dresden.

The incident is interesting and valuable as showing that the Lord has His own peculiar ways of accomplishing His designs, and that these ways can be learned by humble prayer; furthermore, that it is wise and proper for our Elders to keep the laws of the lands wherein they sojourn, at the same time not compromising or yielding away the requirements of the Lord. In this line of conduct the Lord will invariably bear out His servants; and if their way is not opened up before them, they have at least acquitted themselves of responsibility.

ABOLISH IT.

The News is ready to vote with both hands in favor of the proposal that the most appropriate and sensible change in the Utah Commission would be its entire abolishment. Changes in the personnel of that extraordinary board have sometimes improved, sometimes injured it as regards the plain non-partisan mission it was instituted to perform. We shall not say, because at this writing we do not know, that the personal changes now proposed would have the first or the second of these effects; but we can say, with full confidence, that the notion will be endorsed by all classes and parties, that the most acceptable change of all would be the wiping out of the useless and expensive set of sinecures altogether.

Whatever duty may lie upon the Legislature in the bringing about of this happy consummation should be undertaken at once and without malice. That at previous sessions the people's representatives have shown this degree of patriotism in vain is no reason why the present Assembly should not also essay it. The whole thing is a standing insult to the intelligence and honesty of the greatest of western commonwealths; and while, if it must be endured, it were probably less obnoxious if composed of residents of the Territory, especially where these are not of the office-holding class and are of irreproachable integrity, it seems to have outlived the measure of any possible usefulness and to be now worthy of nothing but immediate and painless extinction.

THE COUNTY BOUNDARY CHANGE.

When the News two or three weeks ago alluded to the proposition to change the present boundary lines between Grand and San Juan counties in this Territory, and mentioned some of the arguments that were urged in favor of such change, we took the liberty of suggesting that there were doubtless arguments on the other side also, and these should be presented without delay, so that the Legislature if called upon to deal with the matter might be able to do so intelligently and with all the facts before it.

With commendable alacrity Judge F. A. Hammond of Bluff, San Juan county, accepts the invitation thus extended, and in another column adduces reasons why the change

should not be made. The main argument of the advocates of the change was, if we remember rightly, the great distance some of the citizens of San Juan, as at present bounded, had to travel in order to reach the county seat. This objection our present correspondent answers by giving assurance that a change in the location of the county seat will be made. Another point previously made—that in the belt proposed to be transferred there was little taxable property and it yielded little revenue—is met by the statement that the revenue from it is not inconsiderable, and that whether much or little, San Juan needs it.

The News' conclusions in the other article are still of force. Frequent changes in the lines of counties are not desirable under any circumstances, and should never be made except where public necessity and undisputed benefits all round make them imperative. Whether such conditions exist in the case of the two counties named, the Legislature will no doubt carefully ascertain before acting in the matter at all. We commend Judge Hammond's letter to all who are interested in the question, either on one side or the other.

FARMERS AND STOCKMEN.

A correspondent on another page of this paper somewhat sharply, and yet in all good-nature, takes the News to task for its answers to certain questions propounded to it a few weeks ago with reference to the respective rights of farmers and stockmen, and the injuries which the former are called upon to sustain from depredations by cattle and sheep running at large. He makes a strong, earnest presentation of his case, and we see nothing in his statement that we feel to take issue with.

On this great dispute there is abundance of room for calm and high-minded consideration. Agriculture is the great basis and bulwark of all our prosperity, and those who make it their pursuit are entitled to all the protection from marauders, either bipeds or quadrupeds, that the law can give. At the same time, cattle, horses and sheep are a necessity to every community; they are quite indispensable and as producers of money they take front rank among our resources. They and their owners are also entitled to every legitimate guaranty against onslaught, either legal or physical, that their opponents may attempt against them.

The importance of the two industries is the very reason why the line of demarcation between their respective rights and prerogatives is so difficult to draw. The diverse conditions prevailing in different parts of the country add to the difficulty. And yet it is not insurmountable, if the experience of Claremont county, Ohio, is correctly stated. The main trouble, we think, in previous attempts to secure suitable legislation in this Territory is that each party to the issue has tried to get advantage of the other; whereupon hasty and ill-considered compromises have followed, in which neither was benefited. The problem would not seem to be at all impossible of solution. Simply stated it is, that such regulations be made as to prevent either from infringing upon