

CURRENT COMMENTS.

Yesterday at Bradford, Idaho, a house belonging to T. Hamblin and Robert Harvey was burned to the ground. It was the work of an incendiary.

It will soon be in order for magazines to offer prizes for holiday stories and essays. How would it do to offer a premium for the best literary production on the rapid development of snobbery in Salt Lake City?

The pistol as a means of suicide seems to be in special favor at present. Provo furnishes the latest local case of self-destruction. The growth of the suicidal mania means the commensurate development of moral and, to some extent, physical cowardice.

In alluding to the arrest, on the 12th inst., of Brother J. U. Stuoki, at Paris, Bear Lake County, Idaho, we ventured the conjecture that the case was an old one, involving a charge of unlawful cohabitation under the Edmunds law. This view is, it appears, correct. The case is one of six years standing.

Preparations for Thanksgiving are unusually extensive this season. The police state that reports made to them of cases of chicken stealing which have occurred quite recently, show an aggregate of fowls purloined amounting to one thousand. If the unreported cases be considered, the figure would doubtless be at least doubled.

Last evening (Sunday) the Latter-day Saints' Chapel of the Eighteenth ward was crowded to its utmost capacity, in anticipation of President Joseph F. Smith being the preacher. Brother Smith had been called away from the city, however, and was therefore unable to attend, much to the disappointment of the large number of people who gathered to listen to him.

A story comes from Rossville, on the Union Pacific, nineteen miles from Topeka, to the effect that rain poured down copiously upon the orchard of Mr. H. Klein, of that place, for nineteen consecutive days. The orchards of Mr. Klein's neighbors were, during that time, parched for lack of moisture. This may be said to be a case of atmospheric discrimination.

If it be true that Sheriff Burt has offered, providing he be given twenty men of his own selection, to rid the city of vagrants, sure-thing men and vagrants, there is reason to believe he could accomplish the feat. He inherits a good deal of the courage and sagacity of his father, who was one of the bravest and best officers that ever acted in a western city.

The "Liberal" apologists for "lawless saloon keepers" still hammer away at the action of the U. S. Marshal and his deputies, but while shouting at the DESERET NEWS for taking the side of law and order, utterly fail to touch the marrow of the question or to show why it was right for those officers to make arrests in Ogden but wrong to do so in Salt Lake City.

A young man named Frank Brown, of Spring Creek, Logan County, Id.

ho, undertook to ride an unbroken horse at that place, the other day. The brute found it could not throw him, and leaped straight up from all fours, coming down on its side with the young man under it. The animal rolled over his prostrate form twice. Brown is not expected to recover from his injuries.

The Indians at Fort Hall (Idaho) Reservation are feeling ugly toward a half-breed, who acted as butcher at the agency. He engaged in an altercation with an Indian and struck the latter a blow upon the head, which will, in all likelihood, result fatally. Mr. Case, chief clerk at the agency, smuggled the half-breed away and took him to Pocatello. Had he not done so, the butcher would have been killed.

An exchange says: Parents, don't teach your boy to smoke, and the best way to keep him from it is to set him the example. And you, father, who with a cigar between your teeth or a quid of tobacco in your mouth, tell your son that it is injurious and warn him against it should not feel hurt if he is forced to the conclusion that you are a living exemplification of inconsistency.

A boycott war has begun in Montana, with special reference to Butte, Missoula and Great Falls, against the employment of Chinamen. The labor unions lead the movement. All business people who patronize Chinese labor in any shape are to be subjected to the boycott. As there are 2000 Chinese in Montana—1600 of them in Butte alone—the crusade must be somewhat extensive.

Yesterday afternoon there was a decided fall in the temperature. The comparatively mild weather which has prevailed here up to date was superseded by a biting wind, which was sufficiently keen to cheer the hearts of coal merchants and dealers in overcoats and blankets. Still the weather is not at all cold for the time of the year, but only bracing. A snow-fall would be acceptable, because it would encourage the hope of a plentiful harvest for 1892.

The two Sams have now got their heads together. We mean Sam Jones, the evangelist, and Sam Small, the reverend alleged appropriator of other people's money. Not long since the latter was knocked down, in a barber shop, by an Atlanta, Ga., saloon keeper, named Minor, who kicked one of his front teeth out and broke his eyeglasses. Small now sues his assailant for \$15,000 damages, and Jones has agreed to act as his attorney during the trial. Before the latter turned preacher he was a supposed lawyer.

After Almy, who murdered his sweetheart, had been sentenced to death, at Plymouth, N. H., he was conveyed to Concord. A mob gathered around him at the latter place. If he had not been surrounded by a strong force of deputy sheriffs and policemen, he would probably have been lynched. The plea that the law is not enforced by the courts could not be applied in this case, seeing that the assassin was under sentence to be hanged. The mob were

simply inspired by a vengeful and law-breaking spirit.

What is De Giers, Russian minister of foreign affairs, doing in Paris? I has been stated that his mission is to form a war alliance between Russia and France. Russia has, in a semi-official way, denied this, and asserted that his errand is to secure peace. This is peculiar, seeing that Russia is in no danger of France going to war with her. If not for the purpose of perfecting a war alliance, the object must at least be to warm up the recent understanding between the two countries, which had begun to cool off on the part of France.

Omaha has taken steps to capture, if possible, the Republican National Convention. The following have gone to Washington to work in the interest of the movement: Senator C. F. Manderson, Senator A. S. Paddock, John M. Thurston, C. J. Green, E. Rosewater, G. W. E. Dorsey, T. L. Kimball, George F. Bemis, S. D. Mercer, C. R. Scott, Church Howe, A. Saunders, G. H. Boggs, T. S. Clarkson, John L. Webster, W. M. Robertson, Cadet Taylor, A. L. Strong, Governor T. J. Majors, E. P. Rogger, Charles A. Coe.

It is getting very common in connection with accounts of charity and other balls, to publish long lists of descriptions of luxurious and costly dresses, "cut bias," etc., worn by ladies selected for special mention. What is the effect on people of moderate means? To bias them against exhibiting their benevolence in that way, in case they might be regarded as dressed too conspicuously plain for such society. That would certainly be a more healthy conclusion than to run themselves into financial straits by attempting to vie with their more wealthy neighbors.

The Jews are being probed from every side. A few days since a motion was made in the French Chamber of Deputies for the expulsion of all Jewish bankers from France. Now the financial panic in Austria, incited by the warlike utterances of the Emperor Francis Joseph, has been charged to the "International Jewish Clique." The latter are said to have been recently engaged in inciting a war feeling against Russia. This allegation was doubtless based on the fact that there is no ground for the belief that the Jewish feeling toward Russia is amiable.

There ought to be laws in the States and Territories against fasting tests and exhibitions, on the ground that self-torture is barbarous and hurtful to society as well as to the individual who subjects himself to it. George Henry Stratton, a dime museum fester, in New York, recently broke down and will probably die. He abstained from all food or stimulants for thirty-seven days, one hour and two minutes. At the end of that time and until a period of forty-one days, eighteen hours and thirty minutes had been covered, he drank small quantities of champagne, but collapsed before fully accomplishing the feat he had undertaken.

Detective E. A. Franks suggests a