

established fact that a more corrupt and dishonest force of men were never before marshalled under one leader. All forms of corrupt methods are common, including perjury, bribery and the exercise of authority to vent personal spite.

When Mose Gunst became a police commissioner he expressed much interest in the welfare and improvement of the local force, and it has always been his ambition since to some day see it one of the most efficient in the United States. He keeps well informed on all new ideas and methods adopted by other cities, and if he believes they could be applied and the department benefited by them, he has tried to have them introduced. It is due to him that the police department of San Francisco is conducted at present on truly metropolitan lines, for it is only since he became a member of the commission that anything like modern methods have been employed. It has been his yearly custom to visit European and eastern cities, and during his travels he observes and studies the regulations by which other police systems are governed, and the result of these researches is reflected in the local department. Consequently, when he returned a week or so ago from his last trip his mind was full of reforms for their improvement. Confident that his suggestions would find favor he presented them to his colleagues for consideration, but contrary to his expectations they were threatened with contempt, and his only reward was the information that there was no room for improvement, as the force was already the most efficient in the United States. In equipment possibly, yes. In discipline, decidedly, no.

The State insane asylums have been attracting a great deal of attention lately through an investigation that has revealed a very loose state of affairs. Detectives have been secretly working for months past and their reports show the manner in which employees have benefited themselves at the expense of the unfortunate inmates. Clothing and provisions intended for the comfort and support of the inmates have been appropriated by dishonest attendants, who have been doing a flourishing business disposing of state supplies to outside parties. The authorities have deemed dismissal sufficient punishment in these cases, and consequently many have lost fat jobs, but the wisdom of such lenient treatment has been questioned and caused much public indignation; and now wholesale criminal proceedings will probably be instituted.

The tramps and hobos confined in the city prison at San Rafael have gone on a strike because the food furnished them is not up to the standard of excellence as required for their epicurean tastes, and not according to the specification of an unwritten agreement between themselves and a certain constable who has been growing rich on the fees collected for services to the city in arresting these offenders. It has been customary for the tramps to submit quietly to arrest and plead guilty to a justice of the peace, in consideration that they were to be luxuriously provided for during the winter months at the expense of the county; but the enterprising constable has failed to keep faith with the obliging hobos, and consequently Dusty Rhodes, Recreation Richard, Weary Willie, etc., etc., have become dissatisfied with their bargain and are seeking to get satisfaction by exposing the little constable game.

The local medical fraternity is discussing the merits of a new cure for consumption that has been recently discovered by Dr. Hirschfelder, a physician of this city. The discoverer claims to have hit upon a remedy that will give permanent relief to the suf-

ferers of tuberculosis; but medical men in general are slow to accept his statements, claiming the discovery to be almost identical with that of Dr. Koch, which was tested some years ago. The remedy is called oxytuberculin and will receive a thorough test.

## FAVORED EPHRAIM

Ephraim, Sanpete, County,

November 2, 1897.

Ephraim City, like its name sake of old, is greatly favored and blessed—its fine residences, its general well-to-do appearance, and especially in the presence of so many fine looking young people, that were promenading its streets last Sunday afternoon, all bear evidence of this. While the young people were not all Ephraimites as pertaining to citizenship here, but gathered in from other cities of the county for the purpose of attending the Stake academy; still no doubt when considering the ancestral line they all are, in very deed.

The Stake academy has now an attendance of one hundred and forty students, with the prospects of a total enrollment of two hundred in a few weeks. A new building is in contemplation with a capacity for from six to seven hundred students. It is a matter worthy of note regarding the growth of the school population of our State, that notwithstanding the great number of large buildings for educational purposes already provided, and that in many instances are the most pretentious and notable buildings in our cities, they are yet insufficient to accommodate the children of the people. "Give us room that we may dwell Zion's children cry aloud."

And while our endeavor to provide them the facilities for education draws heavily upon our resources, in the expenditure of near upon one-third of the heavy tax paid by the property owners for schools and school purposes, with other material private aid extended in several of our cities, there is still more to be done in this direction before the children of Utah shall all be provided for in this line.

President George Q. Cannon addressed the students at the Stake academy early on Monday morning, and in the evening Sister Susa Young Gates of Provo spoke to the conjoint meeting of the Mutual Improvement association at the Tabernacle here, which was crowded on the occasion by the members of the M. I. A., their parents and friends. Sister Gates held the close attention of the young people throughout the sixty minutes she occupied. Her strong motherly counsels and instructions to the girls were appreciated by all; and when she turned her attention to the young men, her appeal for their help in the defense of their sisters' virtue and purity, and of their own, was so eloquent and touching that every eye was riveted upon the speaker. Sister Gates was followed by Stake President Peterson, Henry Beal and other Elders, who strongly urged the young people to put in practice in their daily lives the wise and pointed instructions of the speakers of the evening.

The new opera house, the project of Messrs. Thorpe and Madson, two enterprising young men of Ephraim, is nearing completion. The dimensions are 86x50—24 feet to the square—with stage 50x25. An electric plant is in contemplation for its illumination. The building gives evidence of the push and energy of these young men. When finished, it will be an addition to the town, that its citizens may well be proud of.

Election day here—but so quietly is it proceeding that were it not for the flags floating on the public buildings,

one would scarcely know it. At 10:30 a.m. at one of the places appointed, only thirty-four votes were cast. A challenger or watcher there expresses himself as somewhat annoyed at the lack of interest on the part of his constituents. Later on in the day the people attended to this duty in greater numbers, quietly going and returning from the polls. No powder was burned, no brass band, and the people were left to calmly deliberate on the merits of the two tickets, and cast their votes unimpeded by the excitement and turmoil that has accompanied elections generally for a few years past.

ALBERT JONES.

## SOUTH WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

The Southwest Virginia conference was held in the Sycamore school house at Lawson, Raleigh county, W. Va., Oct. 9 and 10, 1897.

There were present the twelve Elders of the conference and Elder A. P. Kesler, president of the Eastern States mission, and many local Saints and friends. Long before the appointed hour for meeting the Elders and friends began to assemble. The faces of all were beaming with love and thanksgiving to God for the privilege of again meeting in conference.

On entering the threshold of the school house we found that loving hands had been busy in decorating the hall with fir, hemlock and the famous holley branch. To us these evergreens were very beautiful but to the people here they are quite common. Upon the blackboard, encircled with flowers, were inscribed the words, "Welcome, Welcome." Upon the stand were two vases of beautiful flowers.

At 11 o'clock a. m. conference was called to order by Elder O. Hyde, and services began by singing and prayer. Elder O. Hyde then introduced Elder A. P. Kesler to the congregation. Elder Kesler responded by a few appropriate remarks and then called on Elder J. W. Hanson, president of the conference, who spoke on faith. Elder Ben Fullmer followed, bearing a faithful testimony, as did also Elders F. F. Moses and J. C. Wagstaff. Elder H. C. Hanson was the last speaker.

At 3 o'clock p. m. meeting was called to order by Elder J. W. Hansen. Elder W. A. Roberts was the first speaker. He portrayed the effects flowing from faith. Elder R. A. Green followed. Elder L. C. Olsen spoke upon the principle of repentance. The congregation then sang a hymn and Elder A. P. Kesler set forth some lessons from nature.

At 10 o'clock a. m. on Sunday we met in Sabbath school, conducted by Brother Cyrus Thompson, which was interesting and instructive. At 11 o'clock a. m. conference was again called to order by Elder J. W. Hanson. After singing and prayer Elder J. W. Hanson made a few opening remarks, stating the object of the conference. Elder H. L. Baker followed, speaking upon the principle of baptism. Elder A. P. Kesler spoke on the characteristics of the true Church of Christ contrasting it with the man-made doctrines of modern Christendom.

The meeting closed, a wonderful demonstration of the generous hospitality, so characteristic of the West Virginians, followed in the shape of a basket dinner, which was served on the meeting grounds. There were many of those bounties of life which go to make the inner man rejoice. Fully two hundred and fifty people participated in the repast, all feeling it was good to be there.

At 3 o'clock p. m. meeting was again called to order by Elder J. W. Lanson. Elder T. R. Reeve was the first speaker. His subject was the Kingdom of God. Elder J. I. Hardy followed making remarks on baptism and the