

party the votes of the "Mormon" citizens at the coming fall elections. It is certain, however, that they are not all of one party, and even if means could be devised whereby their right to vote was made secure, that they would cast their votes, not in a body but according to their individual political preferences.

#### COALVILLE HAS A NEWSPAPER.

We are glad to see that Coalville, that enterprising little town in Summit County, has a bright weekly paper. The *Chronicle* is not pretensions, but is wide awake and contains not only the local news of the city and county, but well gleaned items from other papers and crisp and pointed editorials. The publishers will have to do some energetic rustling to make it pay in a population of the numbers of that region, but if the public can appreciate the value of a journal devoted to their interests, and will manifest their appreciation by that financial support which is essential, we see no reason why the *Chronicle* should not flourish in Coalville and increase both in size and days of publishing as well as in circulation and interest. We wish the *Chronicle* success.

#### NOT PARTISAN.

THE demagogues who are playing for the labor vote, need not think they will curry favor by denouncing the Mayor for his veto of the so-called "eight hours ordinance," and praising the unions for framing a new ordinance. The measure introduced in the City Council on Monday evening makes the simple provision which the Mayor announced himself in favor of. The bill he vetoed was fatally defective. It legislated too much. It would not have stood the test of the courts if he had signed it. Neither he nor any one else that we have heard of opposes the eight hours limit as a day's labor on public works. Those who were against the former ordinance objected to the limits it placed on labor, and the penalties it imposed to prevent voluntary work for more than eight hours during the day, with no limit as to the time of work during the night. It is folly to try and make party capital out of this matter. It is not a party question, and the working people understand that it is not, and will only smile at efforts to deceive them in that respect. If an ordinance is passed declaring eight hours to be a legal day on all public city works, without tying up workmen and contractors so as to destroy the liberty of the laborer and cripple the enterprise of the employer, the trades will no doubt be satisfied, the suggestion of the Mayor will be carried out, and the general public will give their endorsement. And there will be nothing partisan in the movement nor any capital in it for prevaricating politicians.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Aug. 28.—A cable message announces the death on Friday in Jaffna, Ceylon, of Rev. William Ware Howland, for nearly fifty years a missionary of the American Board of that island.

#### THE TENNESSEE MINING TROUBLE.

LATE dispatches from the scene of the recent civil war in Tennessee state that quiet now prevails. The militia, however, are on the ground, and cannot be withdrawn for some time. There are over 1600 convicts in the State of Tennessee. A large percentage of these are leased to the Tennessee Coal and Iron company. The act under which the lease was entered into passed the State Legislature in 1889, and went into effect on January 1st, 1890, to run until January 1st, 1896. Dissatisfaction has for a long time been manifested against the leasing system. In 1889, owing to troubles then existing, the contractors surrendered their lease, and the matter was settled by a board of arbitration.

The question at issue in Tennessee is really the employment of convicts as competitors of free miners. The crisis which has been brought about so tragically will have the effect of bringing the true situation before the whole American people, and attempts at a solution will be the result.

The minimum task of a convict is said to be four tons of coal per day, and his cost for feeding and guarding 20 cents. The lessees pay little more than this cost, therefore at \$2.50 per ton the contractors make \$10 on an outlay of little more than 20 cents. From this it can be easily seen that in time prison contractors could own and operate all the coal mines in Tennessee. Competition on such terms is out of the question.

There is still another reprehensible feature about this convict business. There are contractors and sub-contractors, and a host of other middle men. They are all political heelers of some kind. Their interest is to keep as large a number of convicts as possible in the prisons. In fact, it was proved in open court a short time ago that a convict lessee had offered a bonus to several district attorneys for each conviction.

To the credit of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company, however, it must be stated that it offered to surrender its lease at the special session of the Legislature held last winter. It was not accepted. Without entering into party politics, it is a fact that the record shows that all the Republican members of the legislature voted for acceptance, while the Democrats voted the other way. As a consequence the contractors had to hold on to their lease, which does not expire, according to its terms, until 1896.

One year ago there was trouble at the mines. At that time the stockades were burned and the convicts set at liberty, as was the case a week ago.

#### CHOLERA INCREASING.

WE see no need for any longer attempting to disguise the fact that there is real danger of Asiatic cholera reaching the United States. The reason for the present effort to make the people believe that the advent to this country of the terrible scourge is not probable is to keep down popular anxiety on the subject. Seeing that the disease has not yet reached the

United States we do not think there is a likelihood of creating anything like a panicky feeling at this juncture. Apathy on the subject would be really worse than anxiety, because the former feeling produces indifference in relation to the establishment of sanitary measures and other precautions, which would be a great benefit to the country even if cholera should not visit the our Republic.

The plague is traveling westward, having broken out in Hamburg where there were 150 cases on Monday and a number of additional ones yesterday. The percentage of deaths was high, numbers of them occurring inside of an hour after the attack and none beyond six hours after the commencement of the illness. The malady has likewise appeared in Havre. If it keeps on its westward way the coming of the scourge to this country is only a question of time. The government, general and local, ought to be on the alert, and institute appropriate measures.

It has been demonstrated in plague periods, that mental conditions have much to do with the liability of people to attack. No operation of the mind has a stronger tendency in that direction than the fear of becoming a victim. Indeed such is the case with disease generally, the mind having a potent influence over the condition of the body. This fact doubtless causes the authorities of the country to be slow to create an impression to the effect that there is any great degree of probability of cholera making its appearance in this nation. There is a possibility of carrying this precaution too far and thus impeding the progress of necessary measures of sanitation.

#### POLITICS IN ENGLAND.

A MEMBER of the English Parliament writing to the San Francisco *Chronicle* from London under date of August 20th, gives the following synopsis of the situation in the British Islands:

"Politics will for a time be a blank, but a large contingent of the Radicals will never forget nor forgive the slights which have been cast upon them. As for Labouchere, he is quite able to revenge himself. Some Gladstonian organs are trying to divert his wrath from Gladstone to the Queen with the insinuation that her majesty declined absolutely to accept him as a minister. The fact is Gladstone did not submit his name and never had the least intention of doing so. 'Labby' had been a thorn in his side over and over again. Gladstone would sooner have asked the father of lies to join his ministry than the editor of *Truth*.

"There will be a hard fight for Morley's seat, and even should he be defeated Newcastle will have occasion to regret it, for another and safer constituency will be placed at his disposal. Two or three offers have been made to him already. The other Ministers are in no danger and they can have a comfortable six months with little work and high pay.

"Gladstone is said to have a new home-rule bill all ready, and Morley is the only other man who knows all about it. The story goes that it will satisfy all the Irish except the extreme Parnellites, but it is early in the day to believe that.