

Canada does not offer such an inviting field as the great west proved to be. Yet even those northern latitudes possess a wealth in development. What will bring it forth more rapidly and perfectly than American enterprise? The annexationists have a broad foundation for their arguments, especially in view of their aims for a peaceful transfer. The Dominion is under foreign control. True, in most respects a tender, nursing hand has held the reins; otherwise the relations would have long since changed. But the destiny of all America is to be free from monarchical rule; that republican principles and institutions shall prevail from pole to pole, from eastern to western sea. The question is whether Canada will reach this plane under the protecting ægis of the Union flag, or be left to her own development as a distinct republic.

HIGH-PRICED SCHOOLING.

The yearly report of the Chicago board of education shows that superintendents and teachers for the public schools cost the city \$1,620,000, while \$308,650 was paid out for new buildings and sites. It is furthermore shown that the total revenue for the year was \$8,000,000, all of which was expended. Where the remainder of the vast fund went to is thus explained by the *News Record*:

If figures are truthful it is obvious that only about one-half the school revenues were expended in providing for the teaching and for new school buildings. The rest of the revenue went for side expenses. For example: Engineers and janitors cost \$225,000; official salaries, \$42,000; incidentals, \$40,000; general repairs, \$190,000; annexation, \$80,000. Thus apparently it requires half a dollar for operating expenses to get each half-dollar's worth of education.

Salt Lake is not as old as Chicago and it has not quite so many people; but our school system is as good if not better and our financial arrangements are infinitely superior.

A CORRECTION.

The *News* recently contained an article suggesting that a department of industrial training be established in connection with the University of Utah. To this the *Chronicle*—the journalistic exponent of that institution—demurs and claims that that is not one of their needs at all. It then goes on to say:

"Many of the students here are young men who work every day of the summer vacation in order to get means to pay their expenses during their course here. Such young men as these are not going to spend their hard-earned dollars learning how to handle a saw and jack-plane; indeed many of them have already had too much of such work, poorly paid, as it usually is. Industrial training is very good in its place, but its place is not a state university. What ought to be done for us is this: The preparatory school and all its adjuncts should be separated from the university. Then the patrons of industrial training could introduce that feature into the preparatory school as soon as they like."

At the same time, we will simply

remark that there are many worse callings in life than handling a saw or jack-plane, and none any more honorable. It is not necessary that all should be carpenters, blacksmiths or painters, nor does it follow that all can or should be professors, doctors or lawyers. Each one to his inclining, of course, but an education in the coarse arts is sometimes a "very handy thing to have in the house."

A RETROSPECTION.

The dispatches bring the information that Michael Shaffer, who occupied the position of Chief Justice of Utah during the Hayes administration, is dead, a heart trouble being the immediate cause. The dispatch also credits Judge Shaffer with being the author of the celebrated "Ann Eliza" opinion, which is a mistake; this particular piece of judicial workmanship was designed and executed up to a certain point by the late Judge McKean, ably seconded by General Maxwell, who acted until the collapse of the case as the plaintiff's *prochein ami* as it is called in law. Judge Shaffer subsequently gave a decision which overturned the original. He had a rather tempestuous time of it in Utah. The bar has rarely arrayed itself so bitterly and determinedly against any one as it did in his case; petitions for removal were not only drawn, signed and forwarded, but a representation of the legal fraternity went to Washington and personally brought such influence as they might to bear upon the President, but it did not prevail. Finally Ogden was made one of the sitting places of the First district court by legislative enactment and thither the objectionable jurist was dispatched. He served for quite a long time after going there, seeming to have been fortunate enough not to annoy the bar of the junction city, at least not to the same extent he had that of this place.

The selection of Judge William Lindsay for United States senator by the Democrats of the Kentucky legislature uncovers another face familiar to Utah people, that of the late Judge Rufus K. Williams. He had served a term as chief justice of the Kentucky court of appeals, and Judge Lindsay was nominated by the Democratic convention to succeed him, whereupon Judge Williams ran as an independent candidate for re-election and was defeated. He then came to Utah and established an office first here, then at Ogden in company with Hon. F. S. Richards, and succeeded in building up quite a large practice. He died few years ago.

This Territory's judicial and legal history is a peculiar one and would make interesting reading if put together in a volume by some one capable of doing it properly and who would give it all just as it was. We have had some strange rulings, some peculiar procedure, and have furnished the world with more points of precedent and new lines of practice than any other community of similar age in the country. "The Supreme Court of the United States for the Territory of Utah" and "The United States vs. a Certain Piece of Property" are only instances wherein we have contribut-

ed to the prevailing practice of the law, and the amendments to and changes from previously recognized philosophy are too numerous to be mentioned. Truly, Utah has a varied and far-reaching experience, viewing it in whatever light we may.

THE ZANTE EARTHQUAKES.

We all understand that the earth is not a solid globe by any means; those who have ever been in very deep mines will believe without argument that its interior is a molten mass, at least that the heat is something incomparable and the exudation of gases and vapors could not come from other than fluids of greater or less consistency; but there are few if any who really know where and to what extent the subterranean regions are caverned and honeycombed. We know there are outward openings to some of the cells and these we call caves; we also know that these are generally labyrinthian and sometimes practically unathomable, but that is about all. That there are many of these which do not have such outer openings is a matter of course; and when the downward pressure of the exterior through constant attraction from the center becomes too powerful for the crust to maintain its position there is a subsidence or a disturbance, sometimes slight and again violent in accordance with the nether situation, and this we call an earthquake. A visitation of this kind has just befallen the island of Zante.

Zante is one of the Ionian group in the Mediterranean sea. Its eastern border is about twelve miles westerly from the most northwesterly point of Greece on which the town of Gastoni is situated, all of said islands belonging to Greece. It is twenty-four miles in length by about half that in width and contains a population of some 40,000. The principal town bears the same name as the island and is situated on the harbor on the eastern coast; it contains more than half the entire population. The principal feature of the island is its pitch wells, the accounts of which extend away into antiquity, as far, in fact, as the days of Herodotus. We all know what Zante currants are, and these are the chief product, the yield and export being very great. It is not a stranger to earthquakes, having had them from its earliest history, but the ones through which it has just passed seem to have been considerably more severe than any of late years, perhaps during this century.

The afflictions of the people and the destitution prevailing are appalling. It is creditable in the highest degree to the Grecian government that it has taken prompt and effective steps to relieve the distress as much as possible.

FIRST BOOK OF NATURE.

"First Book of Nature," by Dr. James E. Talmage, in its second and revised edition, has been published by George Q. Cannon & Sons Co., this city. The interesting little work was from its first appearance received with great favor and, having been