

any other amount, will prove successful. And if it did and these orders were suppressed, it would not affect the "Mormon" Church one iota, but only retard business and work a temporary injury to some firms and a great many individuals. But the proposition is just of such a character as the "Liberal" organ would be likely to take delight in. Therefore its publication and hence its misleading headlines. Fudge!

#### MANUFACTURING MUNICIPAL SINECURES.

THOSE who perused the minutes of Tuesday night's session of the City Council would observe that the board of public works had submitted a peculiar notification. It was to the effect that they (the board) had appointed Percy H. Ramsden inspector of retaining walls in course of erection on State Street, at a salary of \$100 a month; also that they had appointed James Austin inspector of sidewalks for the seventh and eighth paving districts, at a similar salary.

Fortunately, Councilman Moran sprang the question of the advisability of these appointments. He questioned their necessity, as he inclined to the opinion that the work should be attended to by the supervisor of streets; he therefore moved that the subject be referred to the committee on streets for investigation. The reference was made.

There are several good reasons behind the position taken by Mr. Moran, and a number of points that ought to be considered by the committee. They ought to ascertain whether or not the office of inspector of retaining walls, or that of district inspector of sidewalks, has any existence. We do not believe there are any such offices. If we are correct in this the board of public works have been guilty of usurpation, as well as of a glaring breach of economy. It would be proper also to inquire whether or not this arm of the Council has resolved itself into a committee of awards to compensate, at the expense of the people, persons who have been conspicuous in performing "Liberal" political partisan service.

The retaining wall appointment has a significant appearance on its face. The work referred to is the construction of some retention walls in front of the premises of about half a dozen residents on State Street confined within a distance of one block—from South Temple to First South Street. It is a comparatively small matter, but it is made the basis for a creation of a sinecure.

The other appointment—that of inspector of sidewalks in the seventh and eighth paving districts—has the same aspect. And if each two of the districts established are to have an inspector, the political award business will be exceedingly expensive to the people.

May we not expect, if this action of the board of public works should carry, to witness the appointment of inspector of muskrat excavations on the Jordan and Salt Lake Canal, with a salary of \$100 a month attached to it?

In 1881 the Chinese numbered 4,383 in Canada, and they are now estimated at 25,000; Indians 108,547.

#### THE KILLING OF CHAMPION AND RAY

Two men, Jones and Walker, were witnesses to the killing of Champion and Ray by the cattlemen who invaded Northwestern Wyoming for the purpose of cleaning out the rustlers. These two men had been taken in charge by the regulators and for the time being were placed in the barn at the ranch where the tragedy occurred. From there they saw the killing. Walker has been interviewed by a representative of the *Denver News*, to whom he made a statement to the following effect:

"As stated by Nate Champion in his diary upon that fateful day, old man Jones went out after a bucket of water about daylight, and did not return. Shortly after another man (Walker) went out, and he did not return. They were unarmed and were quietly pounced upon by the Wolcott-Irvine murderers, seized and lodged in the barn. From the barn they both witnessed the killing of Nick Ray, and saw the man who fired the shot.

"Ray stepped to the door, as stated in Champion's diary, when a very young, beardless youth, whom Walker believed to be one of the imported thugs, raised his rifle, took aim and fired the fatal shot.

"Ray fell, but was crawling slowly into the house when he was shot in the back. He saw Champion rush out and pick the wounded man up and carry him into the cabin.

"The cattlemen besieged Champion in his house until noon without success, at which time they removed Jones and Walker from the barn to their camp, which was some distance from and out of sight of the house, so that Jones and Walker did not see what transpired in the afternoon.

"They were detained by the invaders until the fight at the K. C. ranch was over, which was not until late in the evening, when the ranch had been fired and Champion shot as he was trying to escape from the burning building. Old man Jones had left his coat in the ranch. He asked his captors for one and was told to take Champion's.

"This he refused to do and was given a coat by one of the leaders of the party. After the ranch was fired and Champion killed, the regulators turned them loose, warning them not to talk. The men started for Casper, reaching there several days ago, but fearing to come into town."

#### THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY CONFERENCE.

THE silver question begins to assume a shape that if developed to maturity will probably exclude it from campaign issues in the presidential election. From present indications an international bimetallic conference at no very distant day is almost an assured certainty. Mr. Goschen, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, and Secretary of the Treasury Foster, have held correspondence on the subject. It is said that England accedes to the request for a conference, but that her idea is the extension of silver as a money metal. Even with this specification the question of bimetalism could not very well be shut off in the discussion of a conference called for the consideration of a currency problem.

The National Silver Committee at

Washington is displaying activity in the matter. Among other schemes for the accomplishment of its purpose it is considering the propriety of holding a national silver convention in advance of the national political conventions, with the idea, probably, of forcing party platforms to take pronounced issue on the silver question. But this is a matter that will be given deliberate consideration before final adoption, and it appears from the action of the conservative element in the silver party that the idea will be entirely abandoned.

Mr. Springer, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, in the House of Representatives has recently introduced a bill for providing for the holding of an international monetary conference at Chicago in the August of 1898. The bill specifies for the representation of the United States twenty-one delegates to be appointed, in equal proportions, by the President, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. The Secretary of State and the Director of the Mint are named as additional delegates. The President is authorized to invite foreign nations to send representatives, the number of whom is to be determined by each government, but in the conference to have one vote only. Systems of a uniform character relating to coinage, weights and measures will be formulated and submitted for adoption to the governments represented at the congress. The question of ratio value between gold and silver is to be considered, and, if possible, a rate determined that can be maintained by international agreement. Uniformity in weights and fineness of gold and silver pieces, and the adoption of coins that would be current in all countries will be considered. In fact the bill is essentially the same as detailed in Mr. Springer's magazine article on this question some months ago.

In establishing the ratio between the gold and the silver dollar a proposition voiced by the *Salt Lake Tribune* will be worth considering. It is in substance that a law be enacted "changing the ratio between gold and silver by declaring an ounce of fine silver worth \$1.10, and making the smallest coinage of gold the five-dollar piece; reduce the weight of the five, ten and twenty-dollar gold pieces, so that it would correspond with the silver dollar, reckoning silver at \$1.10 an ounce; and to make that new money a legal tender of all debts hereafter to be contracted, and establishing a parity between gold and silver."

It would in our opinion be better to settle this question by international agreement before the United States act upon it by law. It is a matter that affects all civilized countries and reciprocity is needed in settling the silver question.

It is said that the correspondence between England and the United States on the conference question will soon be published by the Administration. And as the former country is in harmony with the project, there is but little fear that France, Germany or other nations will hold back. So the international monetary conference seems in a fair way to become a reality, and silver may for the present be eliminated from party politics.