

be retained by a proper partition of the Indian Territory.

The suggested arrangement and limit appear to be very good, provided there is not much increase in the area of the United States beyond its present prospect. But the possibilities in connection with Cuba, Canada and Central America that may arise within the next half century render it improbable that the government of the United States will agree to any uniform arrangement of states and stars which even by implication may be interpreted to mean that it has "fixed the bounds of its habitation."

### SALVATIONISTS WIN.

Miss Blanche Cox, the Salvationist army captain who was sent to jail at Colorado Springs for preaching and praying on the streets, has been set at liberty and given the privilege of holding street services at designated places in the town. At least that is the information which comes by wire from Denver. It is said a compromise has been effected between the faction which insisted that the army street service should be suppressed as a nuisance and those who maintained that the Salvationists had as much right as politicians and others to hold occasional meetings on the highways, with the result that the officers will not interfere with the army provided meetings are held only in certain localities. The victory is due to public sentiment against the manner in which the prosecution was conducted.

The Salvationist captain deserves commendation for her vigorous stand against the injustice sought to be perpetrated upon her. She was arrested on a charge of being an idle and dissolute person, when she was well known to be the very opposite of such a character, and was engaged in a sincere effort to persuade people from following idle and dissolute ways. Her release and the privilege of holding meetings which has been granted are a triumph over narrowmindedness and bigotry, and it is a mark of honor to the residents of Colorado Springs that their advocacy of a principle of liberty, even though they may wholly disagree with the Salvationists' views, was carried to a successful issue.

### UTAH AND THE COAST.

This paper has already had considerable to say in its news columns as well as editorially concerning the proposed railroad men's co-operative railway project from San Diego to this city. The idea of co-operation in the accomplishment of large enterprises has ever been a popular one with us and has always demanded our warmest commendation. The notion of a railroad from this city to a southern California seaport is also one to which we stand pledged, as the greatest present need in the commerce and industry of the community. There would seem to be, and is, much that looks inviting in the proposition that the San Diego promoters of the foregoing scheme have to present.

At the same time, there is no need for extreme haste in accepting the offers and guaranteeing the sums that

that proposition is coupled with. A good scheme never suffers from thorough examination and consideration. The building of several hundred miles of railroad is not an affair of a few days' scheming, or of economic experimenting. The raising of six thousand dollars as a starter, and the promise of other subscriptions to the stock of the corporation, is much easier than the remainder of the enterprise. In the enthusiasm of the moment, when a great want seems immediately possible of fulfillment, the wish for it is frequently father to the thought that it cannot fail, and zeal fairly runs away with discretion. Furthermore, in jumping at one offer that appears to be favorable, people are sometimes liable to overlook equally good if not better offers that are awaiting them. And everybody knows the blindness with which some folks aim at two or more easy-looking settees and yet alight between them on the hard, cruel floor.

So, dropping all metaphor, the NEWS suggests that the enterprise now being preached to laboring men and capitalists and others in this city by two gentlemen from San Diego is not the only one with a like purpose in view that deserves consideration. It cannot be unknown to our readers that for many weeks past there has been going on a consistent, thoughtful, thorough study and exploration and examination of the route and facilities of a proposed Salt Lake-Southern California railway. This work has not been done in the newspapers or by speeches, but it has been quietly and systematically prosecuted. Its great fundamental idea has been to make Salt Lake City and Utah the basis and beneficiary, not only commercially but also industrially and in the development of our matchless resources; and well-known Utah men are in and with it in every move thus far made, and Utah people are assured the control of it. We are not in a position to tell all that has been agreed upon, or all the prospects held out. But we violate no confidence in saying that too much has been done to justify hasty, ill-considered running away after any one new project until all that have been mooted and worked at shall have been examined and further heard from. The acknowledged prudence and conservatism of the business community will surely prevent at this time the folly and disaster that comes of leaping before looking, and of discarding without due thought any offer that is promising. We do not desire to quench proper enthusiasm, but we would like to prevent a conflagration in any direction until somebody knows and is able to tell where the hose cart is.

### A "MORMON" RELIC.

The NEWS has had a pleasant visit from Mr. A. H. Thatcher, formerly of Van Buren county, Iowa, but now of Rich Hill, Bates county, Missouri, who tells of the possession, and something of the history, of what he calls an old "Mormon" relic.

At the time of the exodus of the Latter-day Saints from Nauvoo, Mr. Thatcher, then a young man, was living near Keosauqua, Iowa, and distinctly remembers the presence and

encampment of the exiled people on the neighboring prairie. A Mr. Phillips, who lived somewhat nearer the town, and three or four miles from the Thatcher farm, allowed one of the Mormon families to camp in his yard. They remained there some time, and before leaving they gave or sold to Mr. Phillips an old anvil of antiquated shape and style, but something which they appeared to value highly and only at last disposed of because their wagon was heavily loaded and the muddy roads made desirable the lightening of their burden in every possible way. Their affection for and reluctance to part with the anvil will be understood from the fact that it was at that time over four hundred years old. Upon its side appears the date of its manufacture—1406; also its weight—81 pounds.

The age of the relic became gradually known in the vicinity—to Mr. Thatcher among others; this gentleman, besides being a blacksmith was also a lover of antiquities and he became the owner of it at the death of Mr. Phillips, when at an auction sale of effects he secured it after spirited bidding at a figure many times higher than the ruling price of anvils. Since then he has exhibited it at various county and state expositions and has won numerous premiums with it as being the oldest relic on exhibition. The most notable victory of this kind was in the centennial year, when the claims of a three-hundred-year-old Dutch oven, which seemed to have clear sailing for the first prize, were completely demolished by the four-hundred-and-seventy-year-old anvil. Its present weight is exactly thirty pounds, it having become somewhat lighter through losses by rust during its long and eventful career. But it is still in excellent condition and for certain kinds of blacksmithing is much more convenient than the ordinary clumsy and stubby implement of the same name.

When it is recalled that the article described was made more than eighty years before the discovery of America by Columbus, and was probably brought to the New World by one of its earliest colonists, the anxiety to learn something more of its history prior to Mr. Thatcher's acquisition of it will be easily understood. The NEWS therefore takes pleasure in instituting inquiries as to whether any reader knows the name of the family who camped with Mr. Phillips near Keosauqua, Iowa, after the terrible expulsion from Nauvoo; and if there are any living members of that family, whether they can tell anything about the anvil they disposed of to him just before starting their journey westward to the mountains.

### THE REAVIS-PERALTA FRAUD.

With the decision of the court that James Addison Peralta Reavis is a fraud, thousands of settlers in Dona Ana county, Arizona, have been set at ease as to the title to their lands, and this hold impostor will have to pay for the worry and expense caused by the long contest. Thirteen million acres, estimated at \$75,000,000, were involved.

The romantic story opens with