

## EDITORIALS.

## SHORT AND SWEET.

PUBLIC documents in this country are generally so loaded with verbiage that it is a labor to pick out the points. Ancient history, the achievements of science, the progress of the century, the superiority of our institutions over anything else of the kind in any of the centuries, with a grand display of rhetoric and a perfect mint of new-coined words and phrases, are brought into requisition like a suffocating mass of swaddling clothes, to cover up the puny offspring of some gubernatorial or presidential proclamation, as the correct raiment in which to present his tiny mite of originality to a world weary of words without end.

The thanksgiving proclamation of Governor Vanzandt, of Rhode Island, issued yesterday, is a new departure, which shows at once his common sense and kindly disposition. It is really "short and sweet," and is as good for the people of all the other States, and the Territories also, as for the dwellers on the shores of Narraganset Bay. Following is a verbatim copy, received to-day by telegraph:

"I appoint Thursday, 29th, as thanksgiving day, and request the people of this State to assemble in their houses for public worship, and return thanks to God for his tender mercies and loving kindness, and may those who are blessed with abundance give liberally to the poor."

## AMEN!

THE response of Amen to a prayer or a discourse is an ancient custom and has the sanction of divine instruction as well as long usage. "And all the people shall say, Amen," was the word of the Lord to Ancient Israel, when the law was read and when certain blessings and cursings were pronounced. It is a sign of assent. It is *vox populi* in harmony with *Vox Dei*. It expresses in one word the sentence, "So may it be."

In the early days of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it was in frequent use both in the public congregation and in the family circle. When the truths of the gospel were portrayed under the influence of the Spirit of inspiration, the people's united voice said, Amen, at the close. And when the opening prayer was offered in the congregation, or the benediction was pronounced at the close of the services, when the sacramental emblems were blessed or a sick person received the administration of the ordinance of the Church, a hearty, Amen, endorsed the prayer and confirmed the blessing, and speaker and hearer united in spirit and in faith by the enunciation of the word. When the head of the household bowed in the family circle, in worship of the Giver of all Good, or invoked the divine benison on the family meal, all present reverently and audibly uttered, Amen!

The custom is not abolished, by any means. But still the response is now usually given so silently as scarcely to be heard. Why should this be so? No one should be ashamed of speaking aloud a sacred word which expresses the genuine feelings of the heart, even if others are near by who may not unite in the sentiment. There is power in the word, uttered by a congregation in unison with the preacher or the person acting as the mouth-piece in prayer for the multitude. It is encouraging also to a speaker to hear that his utterances are endorsed by his auditors. It is in accordance with the genius of the Gospel, and ought not to be allowed to drop into desuetude.

Let it be spoken freely, reverently, unitedly, without shame and without fear of ridicule. But it should be used in wisdom, not to cause interruption or confusion, nor in a boisterous or declamatory manner. The interjectional exclamations of the camp meeting and revival excitement, are unseemly and foreign to the order, peace and decorum that should prevail in all the churches of the

Saints. But at the proper time, and in the proper place, at the close of sermon, prayer, blessing or administration, if the words of the speaker find an echo in the souls of the hearers, then "let all the people say Amen," and say it heartily and freely, with the voice and lips as well as the spirit and the understanding.

## "MORMONISM" IN MINNESOTA.

THE following account of the successful labors of two of our missionaries is taken from the *Sherburne County (Minn.) Star*, of Oct. 12th—

"Two Mormon Elders have been at work for some time past in the eastern part of Baldwin, and are still at it, and have made a number of conversions, and their converts are now selling off their personal property preparatory to moving to Utah. We hear the names of Newell Judkin and wife, the widow Young of Baldwin, and G. R. Colburn, and Barnum, of the adjoining town of Spencer Brook, in Isanti county, mentioned as converts. Mr. Judkin is an old settler there, and one of the leading men of that part of the town, has a good farm and is in comfortable circumstances, and for years has been a leading member of the Freewill Baptist Church, and is a New Englander by birth and education. A married son and son-in-law, the latter a brother to H. B. Cowles of Princeton, became converts to Mormonism a year or two since, and removed to Utah. Colburn we hear has developed into quite a Mormon exponent, and the 'work' is said to be rapidly progressing, and obtaining its converts almost exclusively among members of Evangelical churches, and New Englanders.

It will be seen from the foregoing that this is not a case of proselytizing among ignorant and uninformed people. We earnestly invite to it the attention of our clergy and religious people, generally. It was only last spring that one of these Mormon preachers was admitted into good society, and very nearly, if not quite, made converts right here in this place. Is Mormonism the coming religion?

## SCOTCHING THE SNAKE.

Fifteen hundred Mormon emigrants have arrived from Europe in the past year. The prospect of material prosperity has undoubtedly induced many of them to embrace the new doctrine. The growth of Mormonism is not rapid enough to excite alarm. But it might be well to "scotch" the snake before it becomes too lively.

We clip the above from the *San Francisco Chronicle*. We are pleased to see that the sensational journal of the coast is not alarmed at the growth of "Mormonism," although it reports an addition to Utah this season of fifteen hundred emigrants from abroad. The *Chronicle* does not take into account the home immigration—the influx from the States and the family increase, the last mentioned being by no means the least important.

Supposing many of the newcomers from Europe have made Utah their home for the purpose of "improving their material prosperity." Is there anything remarkable about that? Do not people remove to various parts of the world for the same object? And have they not a perfect right to do so if they please? We notice that the emigrant trains on the C. P. railroad are frequently crowded with people, flocking to California for the sole purpose of bettering their condition. And we also notice that a great number of the poor creatures have to tramp all the way back again, having been deceived by heartless speculators and land owners, who induce credulous people to leave their homes in the East and move to California, for the sake of cheapening an already overcrowded labor market and thus enriching the rascals who live by the toil of others.

As to "scotching the snake," the *Chronicle* will find that a more difficult task than writing about it. Desperate efforts have been made to this end for more than forty years. But the "snake," since that is the figure used, is just as lively

as ever. It doesn't "scotch" worth a cent. In fact the scotchers have had a far worse time of it than the object of their wrath. There is not much about "Mormonism" which justifies the *Chronicle* in likening it to a snake. Still, the serpent, in olden time was the emblem of wisdom, and, with its tail in its mouth, the symbol of eternity. In these respects perhaps the *Chronicle's* simile may be correct. Divine wisdom is incorporated in the system called "Mormonism," and it is designed for perpetuity. It will remain and endure for ever. If it is cut into pieces each remnant will live and the parts will reunite as before, and no amount of "scotching" will accomplish its dissolution. Yet there is nothing in all this to cause any alarm. For "Mormonism" aims at nothing but what will benefit and elevate the whole human race and bring salvation to all. And in its mission as "an establishment of religion" it has as much right to the protection of the Government from "scotchers" and all other bigoted persons and publications, as any church or sect or party under the aegis of the Stars and Stripes.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is estimated that 1,033,000 acres of the finest land in India is devoted to the cultivation of the poppy. No wonder that the nation is sleepy and starving.

Nine deaths from Asiatic cholera occurred in Yokohama, Japan, during two days in September. Fears were entertained of its spread, as no quarantine had been established.

This is a poor year for Egypt. The Nile is low, and the overflow of that river, it is well known, is the source of fertility to the lands adjacent. The intimation that Stanley's visit is the cause of the Nile's depression is nothing but a senile suggestion.

There is or was a "Shaker" community at Pleasant Hill, Ky. But with the opportunities for marriage the success of the concern became more and more in danger. A young couple eloped. Then an elderly twain became one flesh. Nine more marriages ensued, and the community is almost broken up. Nature is at war with Shakerism, and its forces never tire.

An exchange says: "With the back counties all heard from there are 1,836,288 single women in the United States." And yet there are lots of pseudo philosophers, philanthropists and statesmen, that would like to exterminate men who have soul enough to extend the blessings of matrimony to those who pine in solitary singleness, by assuming the cares and expenses of plural families.

The unprecedented number of eight hundred and fifty bills were introduced into Congress yesterday, if our dispatches are to be relied on. The main object of calling the extra session, that is, the appropriations for the army and navy, does not seem to interest our legislators at present. However, they appear to be cutting out lots of work. Whether they will be able to complete it is extremely improbable.

By letter from Brother and Sister Joseph Bull, of this city, now on their way to England, we learn that on the 27th inst. a plot was defeated to rob the U. P. train at the same point where the late daring attack took place. The news was first received at Cheyenne, from which place a telegram was dispatched to the railroad officials at Omaha, who sent out a band-car with a number of armed men to meet the incoming train, give warning of the plot and guard the passengers and property. D. O. Mills, president of the Bank of California, and his wife, were on board. There were three Palace cars and a considerable amount of money and valuables on the train. Two suspicious looking passengers got aboard at a point east of Sidney, supposed to be an advance guard, or spies of the robbers. The train moved along very slowly in a snow storm past the point of expected attack, when the two men left and the speed was quickened, the train reaching Omaha, all right, four hours behind time. It was supposed that the robbers, receiving no sign from the two men on the train, abandoned their intended raid. Brother and Sister Bull left for Chicago on the evening of the 29th inst.

The military register of the German empire shows a list of one million and fifty-five thousand men.

The tunnel through Mt. St. Gothard will be finished one year sooner than the time allowed and expected. It will be open in 1881—if nothing unforeseen happens to prevent.

It was reported that the carcass of a mammoth, complete, had been discovered at Siberia. But on investigation it turns out that only a portion of the flesh, with the skin and hair adhering, was found.

Nice has tried the eucalyptus tree and proven it to have anti-usuril virtues. The malarial fevers fatal in that city have been thereby prevented. Pity our Utah climate is too severe for the "blue gum."

The House suspended the rules to-day, and passed Bland's bill for the coinage of silver dollars, to be legal tender for all debts and dues, public and private, except where otherwise provided for by contract.

California is ahead on the smoking and drinking list. During the past ten months the Internal Revenue receipts for the San Francisco district, for cigars, tobacco and beer, reached the sum of \$1,800,000.

Public executions have been abolished in Sweden. They are to take place in prison interiors, in presence only of a few functionaries and of a dozen citizens, chosen by the people of the district where the execution may take place.

The Western Union Company have now two submarine cables across the bay of San Francisco. One from Oakland to Market Street landing, San Francisco, and the other across the Golden Gate, from Fort Point to Lime Point.

According to the astronomer of the Royal Observatory in Scotland, a "cold wave" is due at the end of the year, which about that time will bring severe and intense frost. Now is the time to prepare for the "wave," and to help the poor do ditto.

The *Gallia* is to be the name of a new steamer of 5,000 tons now building by the Cunard Company, to run between New York and Liverpool. It will be divided into eight watertight sections, with bulkhead so constructed that safety is almost assured in case of disaster.

The Democratic House of Representatives would not adjourn on the occasion of the funeral of the Republican Senator Morton. Party spite is always mean, but in this it was paltry and small, and high-minded statesmen should be above such littleness.

Sudden death from grief is not very common, but from joy it is much rarer. Yet an Irishwoman who arrived last week at Fall River to spend her last days with her daughters, who had sent the money for her passage, on seeing her daughters and their children, was so overjoyed that she sank in a chair and died before any aid could be rendered.

Judge John R. Dagers of New Jersey, while sitting on the bench, a few days ago, with his associate, Judge Dixon, had to listen to an indictment framed against himself for defalcation, as Director of a loan and trust company. Next day he appeared in the same court to plead to the indictment. This is a remarkable illustration of the ups and downs of life and the rapid changes in modern society.

Although the Russian wheat harvest is a comparative failure in the middle and southern districts of Russia, Siberia, in the north, has raised an immense grain crop. Trade has been opened from the mouth of the Yenesei to the port of London. But the immense distance from the Arctic Ocean to the Black Sea, renders the transportation of grain to the site of the war impracticable.

The New York *Herald*, in noticing the arrival of the last company of emigrants, refrains, for a wonder, from any ill-natured comments. It describes the emigrants as "a very good-looking class of working people, with quite a sprinkling of small farmers among them," speaks commendably of the discipline observed in the company, and fairly represents the appearance and conversation of the returning missionaries.

A compass has lately been invented, which is insensible to local magnetism. Errors arising from variations induced by local attraction, have misled mariners on many occasions, and sometimes caused disasters of a serious character. This compass can be used without deviation on a vessel loaded with iron, and even a six pound magnet placed in near proximity to it fails to deflect the needle. It is the invention of Mr. Stephen Longfellow of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is of great value to navigation.

A new method of preserving the bodies of the dead has been devised by Dr. Lowell, of Brooklyn, N. Y., which dispenses with the ice-box and other expensive and cumbersome arrangements. A solution of chloride of zinc is injected into the body, by either vein or artery. The Dr. prefers the brachial artery above the elbow. It takes a considerable quantity of the fluid to fill the cadaver. Experiments with the process have succeeded admirably; discolorations disappear and subjects have been transported long distances without decay or disfigurement.

In Holland, the paper of all the banks is equal to gold, and there has not been a bank failure during the last forty years. Neither has there been a collapse of a fire insurance company during that time. Insurance, rates at only half of one per cent., but the companies pay good regular dividends. America is a country away ahead of all others—in talk, but the "smartest people on earth" might take a lesson from the Dutch in honesty, industry, and economy; and this "broad land" would not be hurt by a leaf out of the book of four millions of souls who live well on 20,000 square miles, much of which is below the level of the ocean.

## Local and Other Matters

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 6.

From Nephi.—To-day we met with Mr. John Hague, of Nephi. He reports everything prosperous in that part of Utah.

Not So Well.—The wounded arm of Brother John Q. Cannon has been so painful to-day as to cause him to be confined to the house.

Around Again.—Bishop John Sharp has nearly recovered from the injury he received in being tipped out of his buggy on Saturday. He is able to be around as usual.

District Court.—Tuesday, November 6th.

John Broom vs. V. E. Boesel; verdict for the plaintiff \$25 and costs.

Talmage Brett vs. William Brown; trial by jury in progress.

Wet.—Nothing but wet; over-head, underfoot, and all around is wet.

If this kind of weather continues it will be likely to interfere with fall plowing. The ground was damp enough for it before this last rainfall.

Explosion.—There was an accidental explosion of giant powder in the Flagstaff mine, Little Cottonwood Cañon, on Sunday afternoon. The hoisting engine and engine room were wrecked. In consequence of the occurrence the work in the mine will be suspended for several days, until the necessary repairs are made.

Going To-morrow.—To-morrow morning Bishop R. T. Burton and Mr. John R. Winder leave on a business trip to the east. Both gentlemen go in the interests of Utah manufactures, the last named in connection with the tannery.

We wish them a pleasant and prosperous trip, and hope they will have abundant success in accomplishing its object which involves to a considerable extent the material prosperity of Utah.

The Shooting Case.—Yesterday afternoon Hans N. Chlarson and Heber Chlarson, father and son, were arrested on a charge of shooting John Q. Cannon on Friday night. They were brought to the city and held in custody. This afternoon, at two o'clock, they were taken before Justice Pyper and plead not guilty to the complaint. Owing to the inability of the prosecuting witness to be present, the examination was continued till five o'clock this evening.