

residing in the state of Iowa. He was the last surviving brother of the martyred Prophets, Joseph and Hyrum.

A PROPER THING.

The City Council of Ogden performed a graceful act at last evening's session in rescinding the ordinance laying claim to the Tabernacle square in that city. Of course the claim was unjust and illegal, as was thoroughly understood by the public when the ordinance passed, and the attempt to deprive the Church organization in Weber Stake of its grounds in Ogden for Church buildings did no credit to either the heads or the hearts of the municipal administration which attempted the seizure.

The act of the Junction city solons last evening was one of simple justice, both to the municipality and to the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Weber Stake. It concedes to the latter their lawful property rights to the square in question, and replaces the city of Ogden in an attitude of fairness toward the religious organizations in the county. The affair is now closed up by the repeal of the ordinance. It will occupy its place among the by-gones and be succeeded by the better feeling which accompanies an equitable status between the parties.

A WOMAN SUFFRAGE PETITION.

The Northampton *Mercury* for August 11, 1882, contains an account of the proceedings in the house of commons on the 3rd of that month, which shows that the demand for the rights of women dates somewhat further back than is generally supposed, and also that it is not entirely an outgrowth of the peculiarities of American civilization. The paper mentioned says:

Mr. Hunt presented a petition from a lady of fortune and family, who is also a single lady, praying that she might be admitted to a share of the representation. Her name was Mary Smith, of Stanmore in York. She said that females were only kept in thralldom among barbarians and heathen nations, but in this country, which had risen to so high a pitch of civilization, such restrictions should be abolished. She complained that females were amenable to the laws and liable to be punished for their crimes, while they were tried by judges and juries of the opposite sex; they should, therefore, be allowed to sit upon juries. In short, she prayed that unmarried females of mature age should be put on a footing of equality with the male sex.

Mr. Hunt read the petition amid shouts of laughter from all sides of the House.

SWEATING COIN.

Among the numerous crimes under which modern society suffers is one known as "the sweating of coin," which is said to be very profitable and perhaps practiced by more than one on whom no suspicion has ever fallen.

A San Francisco paper tells of the arrest of one Goodrich in that city. Recently he rented a cellar, telling the owner of the house that he was a jeweler and needed a quiet place in

which to conduct some experiments. After some time the neighbors were treated to the rather strong perfumes of certain acids used by the pretended jeweler, and their curiosity was aroused. By some means they got an opportunity to peep into the cellar and were astonished to see Goodrich at work with an abundance of gold coin on his table. The circumstance was reported to the police and the arrest followed.

A bottle was found with a mixture of acids, the only solution known that will dissolve gold. When the sweater is at work he pours a quantity of these acids into a glass and keeps the coin in it until a small portion has dropped away. From \$1 to \$1.50 is thus obtained from every \$20 piece. The "sweated" coins are polished and then sent out in the market. Even experts may easily be deceived by such a piece of money as only the weight of it reveals its having passed through the hands of criminals.

A BRIGHT IDEA.

True philanthropy is always awake to the exigencies of the times, and charity seizes upon new methods of contribution and application. One, of the most unique and thoughtful character, is presented in our columns of today; one which commends itself as being eminently reasonable, praiseworthy, practical and beneficial.

Our allusion is to the agreement entered into by several firms of this city to dispense for this season with a custom which has been for years pretty general, if not universal. "It has been usual for those in the grocery business to tender to their patrons at Christmas time, by way of compliment, a package of candy, or nuts, or both. This has not been looked upon as of great importance or value, but as an expression of good will and friendly feeling at the close of a year of business association and patronage." The monetary consideration was lost sight of from this point of view, and while to the recipient the spirit of it was understood, to the store itself it amounted to considerable.

It was a kind heart which suggested that in consideration of the circumstance, most of those recipients would willingly forego this almost "vested right" in favor of the poor of this city, who, at the present time, are unusually numerous and unusually needy. The reasons for this are not far to seek. It may only be said that neither the laborer nor his family is in any way to blame for this condition; work could not be had, money seemed exceedingly scarce; everyone has been stretched to the utmost to meet taxes and other obligations honorably; building and manufactures have been partially suspended; and while flour is not high and modified weather has lightened the debt and for coal in a home, there is yet considerable deprivation and possibly some suffering as well.

It is not presumed that in a community like this any one can perish of want. Even in the direst time of famine for bread there was no loss of life by starvation. Those who had, divided and subdivided, until a benedict Providence said it was enough. And if we now divide, if we forego

claimants to confer substantial for a little season, we shall in no wise lose our reward.

Some of the dealers may feel as if their customers would receive offense if their portion of candy is not received; that as a consequence they would lose their trade, or that it would be a great disappointment to the children if the "sweets" were not forthcoming. Surely none would frame an excuse so paltry as the former, and there is more soul among our children than to murmur if there be explained to them the reason for a sacrifice which is momentary at best.

The suggestion and promise is this, that the amount usually bestowed in candy-gifts by the stores indicated, (as we understand it, about \$500 from Z. C. M. I., and others in proportion) shall, on behalf of their customers, be placed in the hands of the officers of the several charitable organizations for this special purpose, and necessarily this will be in staple and useful goods, such as is needed in winter, and in places where that help is most important for the present emergency.

Much is being done now by different organizations. Calls upon the people are almost continuous, and if a long winter comes there will in all probability increase for a time. Yet if we "bear each others' burdens, we fulfill the law of Christ," and it is said "he that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord, who will repay him again." The reverend but eccentric Dean Swift once took this text as the foundation for a "charity sermon," and in urging it, he said: "Brethren, we have the poor, you have heard the condition; if you like the security, down with the cash!"

MEDICAL CONGRESSES.

A dental congress for the West is to be convened in June next, and the arrangements therefor are being perfected. It is expected that the congress will extend over four days and that not less than six hundred tooth experts will be in attendance. The program outlined includes addresses by some of the leading lights of the profession throughout the country; and as the range of subjects takes a wide scope, the high standing and character of those who are to furnish papers warrant the anticipation that the information to be gained will be in line with the best knowledge of the profession. Incidental to the proceedings at the congress, which is to be held at San Francisco, there is to be at the Midwinter Fair a large exhibit of the dental appliances which were at the World's Fair.

A feature that will add interest to the dentists' meeting is the fact that it will be in session about the same time and in the same city as the congress of the American Medical Association. The sessions of this latter organization are to embrace an extended program of oral discussion. Its meetings have never been held in the West before.

This bringing into New America congresses of the kind referred to is an innovation portentous of great changes and development. At present they are attracted hither largely out of curiosity to behold the wonderful progress that has marked the Great