

removal of Kesler as City Justice of the Peace and the substitution of another Justice to fill the place. But this went over for the written opinion of the City Attorney. There was no need for this delay, for that functionary admitted on the spot the power of the Council to make the change. Every member of the Council might understand this for himself by simply reading the following, in Section Four of Chapter xxiv, Laws of Utah 1892:

"Sec. 4. In all cases where cities of any class have heretofore elected more than one Justice of the Peace, the City Council of such city may, by resolution, designate one of such justices to act for such city at large, and such City Council may designate the place where such justice shall transact the business pertaining to his office; and any city of the first or second class may, by ordinance or resolution, fix a salary for such justice so designated, which such salary shall be in lieu of all fees and other charges."

This power to "designate" is conferred upon the City Council. The Mayor has no part or lot in the matter. He has a voice, however, in the passage of an ordinance or resolution involving the expenditure of money. But the question of salary is not connected with the resolution to designate a Justice to act in Kesler's place; therefore the right of the Council is clear. It can displace Kesler as the City or Police Justice, and he would then remain in the office of simple Justice of the Peace to which he was elected.

According to the resolution adopted by the Council, he is unfit to be retained by that body as Police Justice. When removed from that position the public can manifest their appreciation of his suitability by taking or refraining from taking cases before him.

Under the Amendments to the Charters of Incorporated Cities, of 1888, however, the City Council has the power to remove "all officers of the city for misconduct." If the resolution, adopted by the Council, means what it says, that body will show itself to be inconsistent if it does not take steps for the removal of this officer, for the misconduct reported by the Police Committee. The Council owes it to the public to exercise its powers for the public protection, and it will be a disgrace to that body if it refrains from discharging its whole duty in this matter.

We trust that no attempt at bulldozing on the part of the "Liberal" boss, whose gall equals, if it does not exceed, that of the censured Justice, will have the effect of so paralyzing the "Liberal" members of the Council, that they will either go back on their resolution of censure or render it abortive by retaining in office a person whom they have virtually branded as unfit. There should be no hedging and no delay.

THE SEWAGE QUESTION.

Nothing seems to have been done by the City Council on Tuesday evening in regard to the sewage question. The city solons were engaged in an equally unsavory subject, viewing it from a moral standpoint, and therefore perhaps could not reach this materially

nasty matter. There are other evenings in which they can attend to the sewer business, and perhaps they may be excused from handling it on the same evening when they took up the Kesler question.

The emptying of sewers into the river Jordan will not be permitted long without something more than a verbal protest from the public. Those who are more particularly interested will be apt to take the matter into the courts if some prompt action is not taken by the Council. This affects the whole city. It is an evil that affects it now in a sanitary way, and it may affect it if not remedied soon, in a financial way. An investigation is in order and it is wanted at once.

A WORD FROM NEW ZEALAND.

WE have been permitted to peruse a letter recently received from the President of the Australasian Mission. He states that friends in Utah occasionally send clothing to the Elders laboring in New Zealand, and the customs officers have begun to charge duty on articles of that kind. On the last package received a charge of 20 per cent. was placed. It is suggested that a more profitable way to aid the missionaries in that part of the world would be to send them remittances in money, clothing being as cheap in New Zealand as it is in Utah. It may be well to state here that it is a cause of great pleasure to the missionaries abroad to be substantially remembered by the friends they have left at home, not only because of such assistance being in many instances much needed, but also on account of the joy it gives to know that they are remembered at home.

The writer of the letter also speaks of the improvement in progress among Maori members of the Church. They are gradually adopting the manner of dress and other customs of white people. He describes them as self-reliant and industrious, and is hopeful in relation to their future.

RUSSIAN AGGRESSIVENESS.

THERE is no room for doubt that Russia has revived her aggressive policy. This means the re-opening of the "Eastern Question," which has already produced numbers of bloody wars. Doubtless encouraged by the success of Mr. Gladstone, whose foreign policy, when he is in power, is comparatively passive. The Russian "Bear" imagines he can tread on the tail of the British "Lion" with impunity. We have already alluded to the fact that the Czar has renewed his encroachments in the Pamir region, which is contiguous to British India. It was also published a few days ago that a conspiracy, in which the Russian government was flatly stated to be a party, had been disclosed. Its purpose was to assassinate Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria. At the close of the last Russo-Turkish war the Czar was forced, by the European powers, much against his will, to agree to the preservation of the freedom and neutrality of Bulgaria, which is a very important strategic point. One of

his aims is to control that country. This is not practicable while Prince Ferdinand is at the head of the Bulgarian government. Now comes the rebellion of the Hazaran tribes against the Ameer of Afghanistan. It was believed from the first that this insurrection was incited by Russian agents. This point is now placed beyond doubt by the capture, by the Ameer's troops, of five Russian's among the rebellious Hazaras. They were placed in irons and forwarded to Cabul, the capital of Afghanistan.

These almost simultaneous movements at three different strategic points are significant, and will without doubt lead to serious complications. If they had occurred while a conservative administration was in undisputed power in Great Britain, these encroachments would doubtless have been met by counter demonstrations on the part of England, as was the case when similar attempts were made by Russia a year ago.

ASTOUNDING FIGURES.

MR. SCOTT ANDERSON delivered a temperance lecture at Fort Douglas Tuesday night, in the course of which he presented to his audience the following astonishing calculations. We have not tested them in detail for the purpose of ascertaining whether they are correct, but assume them to be so, as Mr. Anderson is an expert in that line. These figures not only convey a lesson in temperance, but also one in social and domestic economy.

"The Hon. John P. St. John, says that \$1,507,000,000 is spent for intoxicating drinks in the United States every year. I understand that these figures are obtained from official sources and perfectly reliable.

"The sum is so vast that very few even begin to realize what it means.

"In silver dollars it would weigh 45,000 tons.

"In gold dollars it would weigh 2,800 tons.

"If it were in silver dollars and placed one on the other, allowing nine to an inch, it would reach over 2,700 miles in height, or laid flat it would go nearly twice around the world.

"If it were in five-dollar gold pieces and a man were instructed to fling one at a time out of a window or door every second, for ten hours a day, it would take him 22 years and five months to throw them all out.

"If an expert at counting money, had it in dollars, and could count four every second for ten hours a day, it would take 33 years to complete the task.

"The united population of the seven Western states, California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Colorado, Montana and Idaho, and three Territories, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, is 3,258,000. Allowing five persons to a family, that would amount to a little over 650,000 families. Uncle Sam's drink bill would give to each of these families \$300 to buy a nice lot and \$2,000 to build a handsome cottage and leave something to spare, but all this is swallowed and lost.

"There are about twenty millions of men in the United States. The money wasted in drink would buy each of them a suit of clothes costing \$25, and give every one of them a watch and chain costing \$50 besides.

"If the sum were in nickels and joined edge to edge, it would make a chain that would reach from the earth to the moon, and back again, or 450,000 miles.

"Let us suppose it to be in flour—fifty