

60 in Ohio. In Maine 44 pounds make a bushel of apples, while 57 are required in Wisconsin. A bushel of salt weighs but 50 pounds in Virginia and several of the states, but reaches 70 in Massachusetts, and brings down the scales at 80 in Colorado.

In view of these and numerous other equally contradictory tables, the objection that the uniform and exact metric system would be inconvenient and troublesome would seem to be thoroughly unsatisfactory and puerile.

LAST LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Several members of the State House of Representatives have joined in the following request:

The ninetieth day of this session of the Legislature comes on Sunday, April 5, and we would like the opinion of the NEWS as to whether the Saturday sitting can be extended over Sunday. Would you kindly favor us by giving expression to your views on this matter?

The Saturday sitting, that is, the eighty-ninth day, cannot be extended over the ninetieth day. Its session can be prolonged full up to the time of commencing the ninetieth legislative day—which hour it is in the discretion of the Legislature to fix, so long as it comes within April 5th, or the ninetieth day prescribed by the Constitution. In other words, the session of the eighty-ninth day can actually merge into the ninetieth, though the Journal would have to show that the one ended and the other began.

The question, we understand, is based partially on the idea that the Legislature cannot hold a session on the ninetieth day, because it is Sunday. This idea is not correct. Sunday is included as a legislative day, and the Legislature can hold a session on that day if it desires to do so. The eighty-ninth day cannot be extended over the ninetieth, but the session of the latter can be held on Sunday—in fact will have to be, if it is held at all; and its duration is not necessarily limited to midnight on that day. There are instances in legislative proceedings in Utah where the final session has been prolonged over several days, no adjournment having interposed to bring the legislative day to a close. It is a legislative fiction which, while legal enough, ought not to be resorted to save in extreme cases—it is a custom more honored in the breach than the observance.

ANOTHER PIONEER GONE.

Today, March 24, the venerable Pioneer and Patriarch, Jacob Weller, of the Third ward of this city, departed this life at an advanced age, and with a record of good deeds that will cause his name to be held in honorable remembrance from generation to generation. Jacob Weller was one of Utah's Pioneers—one of the first to enter the Great Salt Lake valley in July, 1847. He was a member of the fourth ten of the Pioneer band. From early life he has been an indefatigable worker, and this characteristic was a marked feature of his labors in a Church capacity. For nearly forty years he presided over the Third ward of this city—hav-

ing been called to the office of Bishop in 1858—and was deeply beloved by his flock. Not long since, owing to his advanced years, the ward received another Bishop, while Elder Weller was ordained to the office of Patriarch. He goes down to the grave full of years and good works, and with the love of his associates and the esteem of all who knew him. His going is the departure of another of those noble souls who composed Utah's Pioneer band, and whose numbers are now thinned to a very few indeed that we still have the privilege of gazing upon.

GLOOMY FOR SILVER.

Western Republicans imagine they have much to complain of in the ambiguity, or more plainly "the straddle," of the Ohio state convention on the silver question. But there is reason to believe it is far less antagonistic to their views than the platform at St. Louis will be; and they ought to be very well pleased if the nominee of the party's national convention is as willing to "straddle" as much in practice as Major McKinley is accused of doing in theory.

As to the Democratic platform and nominee, if there is any reason to anticipate a friendly attitude toward silver, it must be because the said nominee has no expectation of election, and may think it good politics to play this time for popularity in a stout and growing section where his party has lately been losing ground.

It is hardly likely that either the convention at St. Louis or that at Chicago will declare for free silver or anything that really looks like it. The conclusion is unpleasant, but it is irrefutable. Neither of the great parties is converted to the white metal in the centers of strength and population where both are yet dominated. Its cause is just, but it is not to be successful this year.

GOOD TIMES COMING.

The story of Thomas A. Edison's first check is a very entertaining one, and it loses none of its interest by being true. He hoped for \$5,000, but would insist upon \$2,500 anyway for the invention which he first offered for sale, but in the confusion of the moment told the man he was dealing with to make an offer, which the latter promised to do next day. On calling at that time the "wizard" was almost upset by the offer of \$40,000! He nervously signed the agreement, took his check and went away like one in a dream. To be changed from obscurity and poverty to prominence and prosperity in the twinkling of an eye is a performance which everybody could not undergo and be as soon after as before; but Edison stood it as he does everything that befalls him, with a little outward seeming but nothing more. He is a truly great man.

It would not be very surprising if the career upon which it seems we of this State are about to enter resulted in some such manifestations before it wanes. From every side, but more particularly from the west and

south, comes a daily report of the new discoveries in the mineral field, some already accessible, others waiting for the railway to reach them and bring their products into the open markets of the world. And the work is but just begun. As the season advances great strides forward will be made, which are sure to mean immediate wealth to a few and a general improvement in the condition of nearly all. It is not, however, the mines alone to which we look for this happy consummation, powerful as their contribution to and influence upon the situation must be; it is to be brought about in part by the opening of new fields of industry, by enlarged communication with other communities, and by the increased demand with improved prices for labor of all kinds, skilled and unskilled. These great assistants to prosperity operating conjunctively and continuously for some time are sure to bring such a change in temporal affairs hereabout as is previously spoken of.

We have passed our darkest hour, we firmly believe, and the dawn which it precedes is at hand. That we may make the most of it and establish not ephemeral but enduring and profitable prosperity should be the desire and the aim of all our people.

THE RESTORATION.

There will be but one feeling in Utah and among fairminded people throughout the world generally, in relation to the measure which has now passed the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, restoring to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints all the property escheated to the government under the laws of Congress. That feeling will be one of entire satisfaction and pride; there can be no question of the justice of the action taken or of its necessity, in order to clear away the last lingering remnant of the hostility of sentiment which formerly existed.

Utah's Senators and Representative in Congress have had a much more grateful and pleasant task in securing the prompt passage of this bill of restoration than fell to our Delegate and his friends in opposing the bills which made this one necessary; and the incident shows plainly the extraordinary change of feeling with reference to the Mormon people which has come over the hearts of men. That people have none the less reason, however, to be grateful for kindness shown and benefits rendered; and in their behalf we express thanks to those who framed, fought for and triumphantly carried the measure through its legislative stages. That it will receive executive approval is hardly susceptible of doubt.

THE REV. ANNA H. SHAW is lecturing in California on "the new man." In closing her address at Palo Alto on Sunday she remarked that "the only difference between men that accomplish something and those who do not is that the former have visions, while the others have none." It is evident that Miss Shaw believes, to some extent, with St. Paul, that success in life devolves on being "obedient to the heavenly vision."