

has never, at this time of the year, for several years past, been better."

A smooth-faced and smooth-tongued youth of twenty is working San Francisco with a supply of confederate twenty-dollar bills. He goes to a house advertising rooms to let. He looks at a room and is easily pleased. His words of commendation win the landlady's heart. When he says he will take the room and tender his worthless bill in payment for the first week's rent she never even thinks of examining it. The change is at once forthcoming and the youth departs to return no more.

P. C. Bicknell, the well-known Arizona writer, has returned from the Verde river, where he has spent some months in camp, and says that the coyotes in that section are affected with hydrophobia to such an extent that it is dangerous to travel through the country and especially to camp at night. A few days ago one came to his camp and had it not been for his dog he would have been bitten. He succeeded in shooting it after it had severely bitten the dog which has since gone mad. Several of them have been killed by prospectors in that country.

The brother of Mrs. G. L. Gracht, Sr., of Brigham City, Louis J. Leuba, says the *Bugler*, who died here a few days ago, was one of the generals of the national guards of Paris during the Franco-German war of 1870. At the termination of the war he was a prominent figure among the freedom-loving communists. His comrades were slaughtered about him on the streets of Paris by hundreds, and he only escaped from the city by stealthily changing his garb for that of a dead private's of the besiegers and in this disguise escaped to Switzerland, where he had friends. He was 68 years of age at his death.

George Sontag has made a full confession of his crimes. He is serving a life sentence at Folsom state prison, California, and of his own volition notified Warden Aull that he desired to make a clean breast of all the train robberies in which he had been concerned. As a natural consequence of his confession he gave minute details of the role played by Murderer Chris Evans and the dead John Sontag. He told the story of five train robberies, of which three—those at Pixley, Geboen and Collins—were committed in California state, and two—those at Coseta and Western Union Junction—were perpetrated in Illinois. The confession was made in the presence of Detective J. B. Hume of Wells, Fargo & Co., J. B. Wright division superintendent of the Southern Pacific company and Warden Aull. Everything Sontag said was taken down by a stenographer, the questions of Detective Hume being also recorded.

An exchange says that a few days ago W. E. Redington, who resides on the bench about five miles south of Payette, Idaho, made a discovery that unquestionably points to one of those dark tragedies that made this portion of Idaho dangerous ground for the white man to traverse a few years ago. In the bank of a large gulch a short distance from his place Mr. Redington saw protruding from the sand what he took to be a human bone, and curiosity lead him to make an investiga-

tion. On removing the earth he found three skulls and portions of three human skeletons. They were all lying face downward, as if they had fallen forward while ascending the hillside from a spring near by, and had evidently been covered by the sand and soil which the wind had drifted over the bank year after year. Mr. Redington advanced the opinion that they are the skeletons of people who were killed by Indians in years gone glimmering, while at the spring after water. The positions occupied by the skeletons indicate that they may have been attacked at the spring and been massacred as they attempted to tun up the hillside. The bones, which the skulls prove beyond a doubt to be those of white people, believed to have been two males and one female, were buried by Mr. Redington and a headboard erected to mark their last resting place.

RELIGIOUS.

Sunday Services.

At the Tabernacle services yesterday, Sunday, October 1st, after the usual preliminary exercises,

ELDER BRIGHAM YOUNG,

of the Counsel of the Twelve, first addressed the congregation. Speaking of the condition of the Latter-day Saints, he said he could not understand why those should not be happy, who have the Spirit of God influencing them. We have received the Gospel and cannot be otherwise than happy. Even under adverse circumstances, such as formerly met the Saints, they felt to thank God for everything; much more under the present comparative prosperity. We have the confidence that this people shall never lack for bread, nor shall they be left without a man who shall have authority to say to them and to the world: "Thus saith the Lord," with reference to both personal and public matters.

It is said there is distress among us. If so, this is because we have served ourselves instead of God. We must free ourselves from seeking wealth and aggrandizement and fame, and turn to God. Everywhere the people are in debt. This is not in accordance with the will of God. Too much has been allowed to go to waste. People have run into debt to creditors who are both wilful and able to ruin them. This is against the counsel given from time to time.

The speaker would not be understood as wishing to unite church and state, although he would say that the Gospel of Jesus includes everything that pertains to man's happiness in this life and the life to come. If this is not so, who organized the earth and arranged everything for the benefit of the inhabitants thereof? God did, and not man. And our business is to use everything on earth with a view of learning all that is good and preparing ourselves for a higher state of existence hereafter. There is an infinitude of knowledge, and we should progress throughout all eternity. Nor is there any knowledge, except as it is revealed by God, in any field in which the human mind can be engaged. Hence those who are true Latter-day Saints, understanding the Gospel truly,

will be the best farmers, laborers, doctors, lawyers, etc.

The reason why we have been gathered together is that the Lord shall find a prepared people when He comes. What do we learn then with regard to keeping the commandments of God? We demand of our children to be obedient and to progress in learning. But as to ourselves we often are too slow. The speaker deplored that nominal members of the church sometimes were heard to use profane language, as well as doing other things equally bad. He would only say that such persons would have to make reparation some time. Profanation is flooding the country and the curse will reach us unless we be cautious. The Saints must rise up in their might and overcome the evil. If the people are united, the evil-minded adversaries will not be able to prevail in their nefarious plans and schemes. This is a day to pray and to watch. It is also a day of peace. Maintain it and keep the covenants you have made before God, angels and men.

ELDER JOHN HENRY SMITH,

of the Council of Twelve, quoted the words of James, which awakened in the heart of Joseph Smith a desire to learn what course to pursue in regard to the salvation of men. Those words, he said, should be read and studied by all. They apply to us in all positions of life, whether in consideration of spiritual or temporal well being. We should live so that we can learn, and in so doing we have to suffer more or less. As a people we have passed through a series of experiences. Lately we have been extensively engaged in acquiring wealth. Our pieces of ground suddenly became valuable, and we studied how to utilize this circumstance for our own benefit. Some have maintained their faith under all, while others have wandered away forgetting the object that brought us here, as if life were only for the purpose of accumulating wealth. Pride took hold of our hearts. It looked as if the world were before us and the race successful, and so we forgot the responsibilities resting upon us with regard to the human race. Our duty is to carry the Gospel to the world, and if we neglect that responsibility the blood of the world will rest upon us. In the excitement of the race for the accumulation of wealth some have become so entangled that they can no longer leave their places of business and go to preach the Gospel. It seems that our Father has brought before our minds the facts in regard to our condition. It would be well if the feeling of uncertainty that now exists in temporal matters would give us a foretaste of what will come, when men shall feel their hearts within them fall for fear of what shall come upon them. The speaker felt to rejoice that the Lord has given us a faith so firm, so sure that it need not be shaken, no matter what may come. Let us reflect on the experience of the past two years. Have we sought earthly means in order to be able to help build up the kingdom of God, or for some other purpose? The Gospel came from God, and on us rests the responsibility of proclaiming it. If we do not, we will lose that which is of more value than all earthly possessions.