

torrent, or the whirr and twitter of the passing bird. A desolation of centuries, where earth seems heaven-forsaken, where hermit Nature, watching, waiting, weeps, and worships God amid eternal solitudes."

One of the most striking features of this beautiful volume is the care with which selections have been made of subjects for portraits. In the histories of some States and Territories wealth and present influence have largely governed in the choice. In pleasing contrast with this, strict regard has been had to prominent connection with historic events, and no portraits are given but of those whose record makes the honor of a place in this volume proper and commendable.

Of the excellence of the likenesses and the high character of the artistic work displayed there will be no dispute. Most of them are as near perfection as modern engraving has attained. Of course all of Utah's celebrities could not be included in one volume; others will appear as the work progresses. And when it is complete, we think everybody will be satisfied with it as a comprehensive, truthful and impartial history, giving all parties, societies and classes their due credit in the building up of this commonwealth and in the progress of Utah toward the high destiny that awaits her.

The work is published by Cannon and Sons of this city, who will share with the talented author the credit of its production, for it is a handsome contribution not only to Utah literature but to the evidences of skill in home industry, and is fit to occupy a prominent place in any private or public library in the world.

### PROVIDENCE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

It gives both a historic and romantic interest to the great steel bridge recently opened for traffic across the Mississippi to know that it is located on the exact spot where DeSoto crossed the river in 1541. During the work of excavating for the piers on the Tennessee side, war weapons resembling halberds were found, and they are supposed to be some of those used by the companions of the famous explorer.

This vast structure was built by the Kansas City, Memphis and Birmingham Railroad company. It is the third largest truss bridge in the world, one in Scotland and another in India being larger. It has the largest span of any bridge in the United States. The bridge proper is 2597 feet, there is an iron viaduct west of it 2300 feet, and west of that a timber trestle 3100 feet, making the total length of the bridge nearly 8000 feet, or over one mile and a half. The material in the main bridge is Pennsylvania steel. The posts are eighty feet high and weigh twenty-eight tons each. The main pin of the cantilever truss is fourteen inches in diameter, and weighs 2200 pounds.

At the opening ceremonies, on the 12th inst, the speech of the occasion was made by Senator Voorhees. He alluded to the Louisiana purchase of 1803 which gave to the United States a territory extending from the mouths

of the Mississippi to the Straits of Fuca, and from St. Louis to the Pacific, and now embracing fifteen populous and prosperous commonwealths. He referred to the fact that Spain possessed California for 300 years, yet its vast wealth remained hidden from the avaricious and cruel Spaniard.

The eloquent Senator said:

"Had the Spaniard discovered the gold of California, the face of the world would have been changed and the American republic of today would have been an impossibility. As controlling factors of commerce and civilization and for the elevation and prosperity of the laboring millions on the farms and workshops of the world, the gold beds and the silver lodes of the Pacific States and Territories have been given in trust to the American people, whose sacred duty it is to see that they are coined and put into circulation as money, and on terms of absolute equality and in strict accordance with the Constitution as framed by the fathers of the Republic.

He then dilated on what the discovery of gold has done for the nation at large, and for the American continent as a whole. In glowing terms he pictured completed canals in Nicaragua and Panama, an American chain of railways extending from icy Alaska to cheerless gloomy Patagonia, and dominating all the influence, doctrine and patriotism of Jefferson.

Was this gold discovery then a mere accident? Was it a question of chance that the greedy, rapacious Spaniard rode over it for 300 years without finding it? Was it also a matter of incident, accident or fortune that the "Mormon" pioneers of the West were identified with this wonderful discovery that so altered the destinies of men and nations? "There is a divinity that shapes our ends," and who is behind all these grand developments.

### WATER WANTED.

A CORRESPONDENT asks why water has not been put into the ditches, as usual, this season. He complains, with truth, that many of the shade and fruit trees are languishing for lack of the necessary moisture in the soil.

This is entirely unnecessary at this time of the year, when the heat is melting the snow, making tributaries that are swelling every stream.

We presume that one of the chief reasons for the situation complained of by our correspondent is that in a large area of the city the ditches have not been cleaned and put in proper condition. This labor devolves upon the city government.

This suggests another interrogation, as to the reason for this part of the irrigation programme having been neglected. In view of the great force of workmen engaged in the watermaster's department, the answer to this query would be a poser.

However, a force of laborers is, we understand, at work preparing the ditches to receive the streams, but when they will be ready is beyond our ability to state. We suggest that irrigation water be supplied to the people as soon as practicable; otherwise the citizens will suffer loss, and the beauty of the city be marred.

### TRAPPERS OF YOUNG WOMEN.

THERE has been received at this office an anonymous letter from a town in one of the Western States, with a monetary enclosure. The remittance was to pay for an advertisement, of which the following is a copy, minus the address:

"Two young men wishes to correspond with a couple of young ladies. Object—what may follow."

It is needless, perhaps to say that the money was returned with a statement to the senders to the effect that this paper does not take advertisements of such a questionable class as that to which theirs appeared, on its face, to belong.

We regard these "two young men" as belonging to one of two classes—they are either fools or villains. As a consequence we regard newspapers who publish such inducements for light-headed young women to step into traps that would destroy them, as being in the moral gutter of journalism, and *particeps criminis* in relation to evils that may result.

We have in mind now a most complicated and distressing situation that was brought about by just such means as these young fellows—if they be young—have sought to use through the medium of this paper. Associations of the sexes brought about in this way must necessarily be not only dangerous, but almost in every instance disastrous. No young lady who has a spark of self-respect would respond to such solicitations for correspondence. To do so is revolting to every sense of propriety.

### A BAR TO IMPROVEMENTS.

THE contracted, excessively and contemptibly partisan course pursued by the present "Liberal" city government is likely to interfere with the making of some extensive contemplated street improvements. It is well known that only workmen of "Liberal" affinities—those who will vote the "liberal" ticket at elections—are employed. If there are any exceptions to this rule they are so insignificant, as to be not worth considering. The situation is simply a boycott against all non-"Liberals." In some localities where improvements are making and contemplated, the property holders belong almost exclusively to the latter class, and they object to this contracted and contemptible policy pursued by the city government. Some of them are so incensed that they declare they will take steps to oppose the making of the proposed improvements on this ground alone. They deem it a gross injustice to be compelled to pay for improvements contiguous to their property by special taxation, and at the same time for them and their friends to be boycotted from participation in the work. The feeling is working up, and bids fair to reach a culminating point.

Those who protest against an injustice so manifest and inexcusable have ample cause for feelings as they do. It is a wonder the sentiment has not found practical expression long since.

The selfish partisanship, in its detailed meanness, of the "Liberal" government has, in respect to the subject referred to, no parallel in this country.