

EDITORIALS.

FRUIT A PROFITABLE CROP.

CALIFORNIA is just now greatly agitated over the question of transportation for its fruit crop. The greater part of the state is almost wholly dependent upon the Southern Pacific Railroad for shipping facilities, and the San Francisco Chronicle urges that corporation to provide ample rolling stock for the crop, and to make rates which will allow the fruit-grower a living profit.

Viewing the fruit question from a California standpoint—will quickly convince an intelligent person that fruit is a crop which can be cultivated in this Territory with great profit, if proper methods are pursued. There is a large demand at or near home, which could be supplied without paying heavy tariffs for transportation; yet notwithstanding the facilities Utah has for producing such fruits as grapes, plums, peaches, etc., this Territory consumes immense quantities of them, imported from California.

Labor, industry and intelligence, rather than large capital, or extensive tracts of lands, are the main requisites for success in the raising of fruits. Though in some parts of this Territory frosts have been known to interfere with the fruit crops, such a thing rarely happens to a serious extent; certainly not to a degree which should discourage the industry. On the other hand, when good crops are raised and handled with tact and good judgment, they are very profitable.

Utah should certainly produce enough fruit to supply the home demand for the kinds that will grow in this climate.

[COMMUNICATED.]

DESECRATION OF THE SABBATH.

THE tendency of the age is to break loose from those restraints which a true religion imposes upon us. As a result all kinds of excesses are indulged in, in the eager pursuit of pleasure and enjoyment which always follows when a restraining religious influence no longer exists.

We maintain that a healthy, moral equilibrium can only be preserved when the influences of a pure and undefiled religion are paramount. They keep in check unnatural desires and supply that want which those who devote themselves to pleasure alone are entirely ignorant of.

In some of the countries of Europe; also in Mexico and many of the republics of South America the Sabbath is their day of days for indulging in every kind of out door sport as well as games of all descriptions, the masses devoting the day to pleasure and enjoyment. In many of the cities of the United States as well as in the country settlements there is a growing tendency in the same direction. And, strange as it may appear, Utah is fast vying with her neighboring Territories and States in the matter of pleasure-seeking on the Sabbath Day; especially during the summer months.

The shores of America's "Dead Sea" as well as the Lake itself and other places besides are being defiled by Sabbath desecrations from no other cause, and that too by many who profess to be followers of the meek and lowly Jesus—those who are under covenant to keep the Sabbath Day holy. We must remember that this land has been consecrated to God; including its mountains, its waters and everything that pertains to it and it certainly is the duty of all Latter-day Saints to preserve sacred that consecration.

We are not writing just now for the wicked and ungodly, for anything we might say to them in this connection would only be a waste of words; but with the Latter-day Saints we feel it is otherwise. We expect to lift the voice and wield a pen as long as God gives us strength in denouncing every infringement upon the positive commands of our Father, prominent among which is one contained in that immortal decalogue, "Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day."

The clerk who writes at the desk or waits behind the counter, the professional man, the artist, the mechanic, those of literary pursuits, the school teacher as well as the common laborer, and the gentleman of leisure offer their excuses in vain for a wilful desecration of God's Holy Day. There is no circumstance or condition that will palliate this wrong.

We do not desire at this time to offer any particular arguments upon this plainly understood subject. The law was thundered from Mount Sinai ages ago. Whenever, wherever and to whomever God has revealed himself since that time, he has always incorporated this in his revelations to the people and enjoined its observance as a sacred duty; a most solemn obligation.

Last of all He has told the Latter-day Saints that the Sabbath is the "Lord's day," a day to offer up our sacrifices to the Most High. He calls it in the revelations which He gave in the early rise of the Church, "My holy day." (See Doctrine and Covenants, sec. 59).

Can we, shall we, in view of His positive command, desecrate that day that is made holy by God's appointment? The example for us is also set by the Gods after their six days (or epochs) of labor in creating this earth, and the seventh day of the earth's existence will also be devoted to the service of the Most High, and is called in sacred writ the millennium; a day when the glorified ones of the past, including the Redeemer himself, will mingle with and minister to those who have kept God's law, and partake with them upon that holy day of bread and wine, as He did with His Disciples both before and after His resurrection, which day will last one thousand of our years.

Then will be revealed the purposes of the great Eloheim as pertaining to the past, the present and the future, and the beautiful harmony of the great plan of redemption, reaching back as it does into the past, comprehending the present, and making plain the future, thus uniting all these in one complete redemption, restoration, glory and exaltation. This will be the Millennium or Sabbath upon which we are about to enter. I ask what better preparation for that glorious period can we make than by meeting on the seventh day of the week and partaking of the holy Sacrament as God has commanded, and enjoy that sweet spirit of communion, inspiration, instruction, intelligence, light and truth which belongs thereto, and of which the violator of the Sabbath day is altogether ignorant, although his professions as a Saint may be ever so pronounced.

NOT AN ADEQUATE REMEDY.

THE *Railway News* contains some striking statements in relation to the labor question. It presents the situation clearly, but prescribes an utopian remedy.

Putting its declarations in a thimble, they are about as follows: Strikes are a demonstrated failure, and only serve to increase the power of capital. This important fact shows that there is more labor than the demand requires. The consequence of this is inevitable; that there will be a reduction of wages all round, in every industry. It is intimated, upon this view of the question, that workmen should devote their energies to the preservation of what they now possess rather than to obtaining new concessions.

The journal we have named holds that this diminution will soon be inaugurated and will amount to from 20 to 25 per cent. This estimate may be high, but it probably does not fall far short of the mark.

The same periodical advises the workmen to strike at the ballot box, and to use the boycott against politicians of every class, irrespective of party, and concludes with the following paragraph:

"The modern demon of all justice and equity is concentration, and machinery has been its greatest ally. As capital daily becomes more concentrated in fewer individuals, corporations or trusts, so inversely do the laborers get more divided and less powerful. Their only chance is to unite at the polls, where capital is still only individual, and strike for legislation protecting their lives, homes and happiness."

While the picture drawn of the position is evidently correct, the "only chance" for remedy presented has scarcely the merit of a "forlorn hope." It does not require great depth of investigation to reach a similar conclusion upon the political phase of the labor question to that arrived at in relation to the struggles in which the efforts of workmen have been impotent in the attainment of their aims—that concentrated capital must be victor. If the latter is potent in labor struggles pure and simple, it must be equally so in politics, which are controlled by wealth.

The legislative halls of the nation are filled to a large extent by men whose interests lean to the wielders of the God of this world. Pure statesmanship and unadulterated patriotism are not strewn about in refreshingfulness. And by what process is the position to be reversed? The very situation depicted by the periodical whose views are considered, presents a formidable barrier. If concentration of wealth, and the increase of machinery have lessened the demand for and the influence of labor, the same power can be exercised at the polls. The very condition of the worker, who is liable to be placed at a disadvantage at the option of his employer, will lead him to act in politics with an eye to the retention of his personal interests. That employers have, all over the country influenced the political action of their employees is a matter of such notoriety that it would be absurd to attempt to deny the fact. In this light the political remedy resolves into thin air.

Unfortunately for the masses they are not as a rule intellectually proof against the political demagogue, who for the purpose of attaining ulterior objects, fills the air around the stump with denunciation of bloated capitalists and eulogiums of the workingman whose cause he professes to espouse. The labor question as it stands presents a fair and fruitful field for such scoundrels as have the cause of the poor on their lips and the utmost indifference to it in their hearts. It is difficult for the people to distinguish between the politician and the patriot,

and if they cannot always perceive him how can they act on the suggestion to boycott him?

We regard the approaching phase of the labor question as one fraught with danger. If the anticipated universal reduction of wages takes place, it will not be on the ground, as a rule, that industries are not yielding handsomely to investors. The basis will be simply the cold law of demand and supply. There will be no recognition of the principle that justice suggests—that a laborer is entitled to a fair proportion of the financial results of the business, which would place his efforts in the light of an investment—a factor in the production of success.

The reason why we are inclined to see danger in the approaching situation is that there must be doubts about the workmen accepting it. But what shall they do in that event, seeing that the strike is a demonstrated failure? The dernier resort is force, the result of desperation. It is to be hoped it will not be used, but if the masses are crowded beyond a certain limit it will. Then would be introduced a species of terrorism unparalleled in our history.

Most people are inclined to treat such an idea as ridiculous. Wait and see.

HIGHWAYS CANNOT BE CLOSED.

OVER the signature of "A Subscriber," a correspondent writes from Providence, Cache County, stating the following case: For twenty-five years the people of that town have used a highway leading to the only cañon from which they procure firewood, etc. In the mouth of the cañon lies a tract of land over which the highway passes, and which, it appears, belongs to a railroad corporation. A short time ago an agent of the latter came to Providence and offered the land for sale. The correspondent asks if the person who may purchase it, or the present owner, can close up the highway, or make a charge for the privilege of using it.

The answer is, no. Neither the present owner, nor the future purchaser of the tract referred to, can close up or make a toll road of the highway traversing it. A thoroughfare dedicated to public use for five years, becomes a public highway, under the control of public officers—in this instance the county court. The people of Providence need have no uneasiness about the closing up of their cañon road.

Under the decision of Judge Zane in the case of the Promontory Stock Company against certain settlers of Box Elder County, rendered a short time ago, the purchasers of large tracts of government lands are required to allow the public reasonable right of way over the same, to pass from one portion of the public domain to another, even where no particular roadway has ever been marked out or used. The points in this case were fully stated in the News at the time, and it furnishes a precedent which still further strengthens the rights of the people of Providence in the matter spoken of by our correspondent.

PENITENTIARY LIBRARY.

MISS C. S. BURNETT, President W. C. T. U., sends the following, with a request to publish:

"For a year the Woman's Christian Temperance Union has been making efforts to place a library in the penitentiary. Today there are but about two hundred books. This is a beginning, but it does not meet the requirements of the place. The prisoners have done nobly in the way of contribution, and in many ways testify to the good being done.

"There are special reasons why this penitentiary should be supplied with reading matter, since the prisoners are not kept at work and have so much leisure. Every other State and Territory has a good library with one exception.

We do not believe our people are not interested in the work, but no direct appeal has been made to them for books or money to procure books. Cannot each school district in the Territory give at least a half dozen books? Send them to the United States Marshal's office, or to 41 E. Third South.

Some may prefer contributing money; if so it will be judiciously spent. It is our duty to do all we can to improve the morals of those who will return to us as citizens in a short period of time. Think of this and let us help."

It need scarcely be said that we are in hearty sympathy with the object of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, as relating to the accumulation of a library for the use and benefit of the inmates of the penitentiary. We believe that there are many people in Utah who only require their attention to be called to the subject to cause them to contribute to it. It will serve an excellent purpose in instructing and amusing an unfortunate class, and aid in passing more easily the time of their incarceration.

The school which has been in existence in the prison since the fall of 1885 has done a great deal toward mitigating the condition of the prisoners and enabling them to spend a portion of their time in a way that results in future profit. A library of suitable dimensions, as regards the quality and number of books, will be a valuable

auxiliary to the school. We hope the needed contributions will be forthcoming.

ENERVATING SOCIAL CUSTOMS.

JAMES ANTHONY FROUDE, in his account of the life and times of Julius Caesar, gives a portrayal of social customs and the luxurious indulgencies of the wealthy, which immediately preceded and were the direct or indirect cause of the fall of the Roman empire. A description of society in the United States today, if complete and accurate, would bear striking resemblances to the picture drawn by Froude. Undoubtedly the wealthy classes of this country are indulging in customs which unfit them for the work of rearing a strong race, and consequently of maintaining a free government; for the latter requires the continued support of a strong race, or it cannot long exist.

The following detailed but in its way graphic account of the manner in which American society is exterminating itself, by making it impossible for American women to become mothers of a morally and physically healthy progeny, is taken from an eastern exchange; the article bears the caption "Daughters of the Rich."

"The daughters of rich New York women are very frequently put at the beginning of the season in the hands of a trained nurse, who is responsible for their good condition during the season, and whose duties are very nearly as onerous as are as those of the trainer of some champion of the prize ring. When the nurse thinks its time the bud was up she wakens her, wraps her in a soft wool bath robe, and carries her into the dressing room, where she invests her with two garments of stout jersey cloth, and makes her either swing a pair of light Indian clubs for twenty minutes or takes the same time in exercise on a gymnastic bar."

When the debutante is in full glow she is wrapped again in the bath robe, and carried to the bath room, where a white porcelain tub has been filled with warm water. Into this has been flung, before she comes, a French bran bag, the contents of which are bran, shavings of the finest olive oil soap, emollient pastes andorris root. This is used like a sponge in bathing, and on being squeezed emits a soft, creamy, perfumed lather, which leaves the skin smelling slightly of violets and as soft as velvet. After the bath the young woman is thoroughly rubbed down with towels of a damask which is as soft as satin, for any rough substance injures the texture of the skin. If the weather is cold a little cold cream is rubbed in carefully with the hand to prevent chapping and redness. The hair is smartly brushed for twenty minutes, the nails manicured, and while this luxurious young person is attending to the rest of her toilet, the nurse sees that the proper breakfast is prepared. This is simple—a bit of dry toast, a cup of chocolate, an egg and a bit of rare steak, because she is obliged to eat so much trash at balls and dinners that this is the time when she absorbs her real nourishment. Then the attendant leaves her to her own devices until she comes to dress for the evening."

Another bath and a cup of hot fresh tea prepare her for the night's work, and when she retires, jaded and exhausted, at 3 in the morning, the nurse is on hand to undress her, give her a little soothing brush to her hair, feed to her a cup of steaming bouillon, and, after putting her to bed, rub her gently and smoothly in the massage fashion until all aches and weariness are gone, and she sinks off into eight hours of dreamless slumber. It is astonishing what fatigue, what an endless wearing course of dissipation a girl can go through, and come out of it as fresh as she went in, when some one stands ready in this manner to repair all breaches made upon her youth and loveliness. Girls who have this care last ten years longer than those who are left to shift for themselves, and the money spent in this way generally proves in the end to be advantageously invested.—*Pittsburg Bulletin*.

BLACK AND WHITE.

MANY intelligent men in the Southern States have expressed convictions in well digested papers that have appeared in periodicals, that a war of races in that section is almost inevitable. Every now and again outbreaks between the white and the colored population give color to such a probability. The bloody affair detailed in the dispatches is an instance in point. The negroes in Lowndes County, Ala., have been threatening vengeance because of the recent lynching of a colored man by a white mob. A sheriff and posse who had arrested fifteen of the more turbulent of the negroes were waylaid and a bloody fight ensued, resulting in the killing of a number of the assaulting party and the wounding of two members of the posse. The feeling has become so savage and the situation so dangerous that the governor of the state has been called upon to furnish troops, and he has responded.

There are thirteen counties of Alabama, beginning at a point near Mont-

gomery and extending over a hundred miles southward, known as the "black belt," in which the negro element largely predominates. The situation in that region is becoming more and more strained and threatening, for the reason that the more respectable class of white people have, on account of the condition of things, migrated to other parts. Added to this is the fact that the colored people are much more prolific than the whites. The former are therefore losing ground.

Writers who are thoroughly familiar with these circumstances make the basis of their conclusion that a war of races sooner or later must ensue, as the white man will never admit to be dominated by the colored people. When the latter gain the ascendancy they are unbearably arrogant, which would make their domination all the more repugnant to those who claim to belong to the superior race. The outbreak in Lowndes County may not mean much apart from the general state of public sentiment in that section and the region contiguous to it, but such bloody affrays have the appearance of danger signals, indicative of future possibilities, involving much trouble and bloodshed.

INCONSISTENT DEMOCRACY.

ALL old residents of this Territory know perfectly well that until quite recently there has been no permanent organization of either the Republican or Democratic party here. There has never been formulated, at any time in Utah, either a Republican or a Democratic ticket. Other lines than these two great national parties, have separated the citizens of this Territory at the polls. With the first drawing of party lines in this Territory, the political body which was in the majority assumed the name "People's Party," embraced the masses of the pioneer classes, and indeed a great majority of all the suffragists in the Territory.

The minority called itself the "Liberal Party," and embraced mostly a floating class who had come to the mountains to seek their fortunes, engaged in mining enterprises, speculators, individuals whose adherence and friendship for the majority was had, from any cause, terminated. In fact, the Liberal Party of Utah embraced a variety of elements, as antagonistic and discordant as was otherwise. Republicans, Democrats, Prohibitionists, Anti-prohibitionists, Greenbackers, Goldbugs, Silver Protectionists and Free-traders were a few of the many political elements which have marched more or less harmoniously under the banner of the Liberal Party.

It is well to state here that the very name of the party was chosen for the purpose of indicating one of the main traits of its character as a whole, and of the principal objects of its existence. The name "Liberal" was intended to suggest what it does in English politics, but rather what it does in polemics, opposition to religion, especially the system of worship prevailing in Utah. The party has risen simultaneously with a revival of spiritualism and infidelity.

All this relates to old times in Utah. A new condition, a new era, is sought to be introduced. A departure from old methods and the burial of old issues is being urged. If public sentiment has been correctly voiced in certain meetings which have been held in this city recently, by prominent and influential gentlemen who have addressed them, and who represent various classes of the community, the desire to abolish old conditions is very general. Apparently in pursuance of this purpose, the Liberal Party is, or seems to be, dissolving, its principal constituent elements arraying themselves in new local organizations of the two great national parties. Men who, a few years ago, were leaders in the Liberal Party, and candidates upon its ticket, now appear as organizers of the Democratic and Republican clubs and bodies, etc.

There has always been a marked similarity between the political principles of the People's Party and those of the national Democracy; and with the change being sought to be introduced into the Territory, the breaking up of old organizations which is being urged, and the abandonment of old issues which is being advocated, it is not necessary a matter of surprise, looking at it from a political standpoint, to see the People's Party seek affiliation with that national party with which its sympathies and political principles are nearly accord.

Hence the inconsistency—to use a stronger term—of the majority of the Territorial Democratic convention, held at Ogden on Saturday last. There were very few if any members present who had not, up to a late date, been members of or workers for some other party than the Democratic; and yet, in an arbitrary and mobocratic manner, the majority refused seats to over a third of the duly accredited members of the convention, on the ground of past party membership. Viewed from the standpoint of the average political leader, such action bordered on the idiotic. Whoever before heard of a political body refusing the proffered strength of a kindred organization, which no reward nor concession of any kind was asked? Who before heard of a political party, sought to prevent accessions to its