

EDITORIALS.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE COMMISSION.

The following additional appointments of Judges of Election, to act in November, have been made:

BEAVER COUNTY.

Minesville Precinct—Poll No. 2, at the Cave Mine—D. B. Williams, Samuel Godbe, William B. Moss.

Grampion Precinct—Poll No. 2, at the Carbonate Mine—D. B. Hutton, John Kirby, Ben. Johnson.

Poll No. 3, at the Horn Silver Mine—George Hall, M. J. Charablain, H. Barnes.

Star Precinct—Poll 2, at Shaulm—William S. Martin, James Barrett, John Kemple.

GARFIELD COUNTY.

Panguitch Precinct—Charles Barnhart, Matthew McEwen, John M. Dunning.

Escalante Precinct—Josiah Barker, Edwin Twichell, James Schow.

Cannonville Precinct—Wm. J. Henderson, John H. Hatch, Edwin W. Littlefield.

Hillsdale Precinct—R. C. Pinney, D. J. Wilson, Geo. H. Wilson.

POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS IN IDAHO.

The assessment of candidates for office does not seem to take any better in Idaho than in Utah. That fifteen-dollars-a-head levy upon gubernatorial appointees has damped their ardor considerably, and many of them do not hanker so strongly after petty local offices as they did before the demand for cash.

In Idaho the managers have been trying to lay it on pretty thick, and the expectants seem to kick at the arrangement. The following from the *Halley Times* in reference to the Republican nominees tells the tale better than anything we have to relate on the subject:

The republican central committee of Alturas county have arranged to assess T. F. Singler, nominee for Congress \$5,000 and to make the other nominees pay something over \$3,000. Mr. Singler, being in Denver, he has not been heard from yet, but it is positively affirmed that the \$3,000 levied upon the nominees on the republican ticket was apportioned in the following ratio: Sheriff, \$750; recorder, \$750; assessor, \$350; and so on through the list. Not guessing what use the republican central committee had for so much filthy lucre, and considering that individually they would each necessarily expend as much more in smiling with the voters on the day of election, the nominees of the party held a council, and it was resolved to kick.

To-day a formal meeting was held at the office of Texas Angel, and the matter talked over. As the candidates seemed dissatisfied with the assessment levied upon them, the members of the county central committee requested them to relieve them (the committee) of further responsibility, and assume the sole management of the campaign. To this the candidates consented.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the county central committee made arrangements to have all the newspaper proprietors of Wood River notified that the committee would not be responsible for any printing bills contracted after this date. They then adjourned subject to call.

THE DECLINE OF "CHRISTIANITY."

The religious condition of New York has recently caused some discussion, especially in sectarian circles. It is charged that indifference to religious matters is greatly on the increase in Gotham, while skepticism abounds and much infidelity prevails, particularly among male members of every class of society. This has been denied by some of the preachers, but others give figures and cite facts which demonstrate the truth of the charge. Rev. Dr. Rylance, of the Episcopal Church, has been investigating the subject and he does not hesitate to say that "the condition of religion is very unsatisfactory—to a degree that is almost discouraging," and he agrees with Richard Grant White, that New York is like a mining camp, crowded with adventurers, "A reckless class full of dash and spirit and bent on gratifying every desire." And he adds:

"I am sorry to say that in nearly all church returns there is much dead wood. Often there are names on the books that can be duplicated from grave stones, especially in the

larger organizations. But this is nothing compared to the number who continue to figure on the roll and have dropped away through indifference or other causes. They have not left the church in form, but nevertheless have ceased to be members. Their faces are never seen in the churches, they contribute nothing, and cannot be counted as religious factors."

This is an answer to the statistics which some ministers produce to show the numbers of their flocks. In regard to inquiries after the remedy for the indifference of the multitude, he says:

"My chief anxiety is a despairing one. The chief obstacles to a better state of things are in the churches themselves, in the maintenance of notions and forms that are not vital to true Christian religion, and only tend to place the church in a false position toward and out of harmony with the world. Some things we can do, and these should be done. My idea is to preach and practice the Christian ethics with a minimum of doctrine, laying particular stress upon man's brotherhood and God's fatherhood, and dismissing things in hundreds that have hitherto been insisted upon, especially in the way of more ecclesiasticism. I think such a course would be in the right direction. What we need is less dogma and a higher order of Christian or spiritual ethics."

The truth is that many of the notions and forms of the orthodox sects are man-made and foreign to the genius and order of the Church of Christ, and people who read and think for themselves perceive the failure of the modern churches to come up to anything like the scriptural standard. The pretensions of the modern hirelings, also, are valued at their true worth and the merchandise in human souls that is carried on, under claims of divine authority that cannot be substantiated, is seen and understood and placed by untrammelled minds in the same category as other kinds of business carried on for pecuniary profit.

Modern Christianity with its contradictions and vagaries, its lack of life and vain assumptions, its love of luxury and greed for gain, is a doomed institution and will soon pass away with other corruptions of "Mystery Babylon." But the Church of Jesus Christ, restored by divine revelation, though comparatively small and greatly despised, will ultimately and surely prevail, spreading forth the light of true doctrine and stimulating to the practice of true Christian ethics, till all the good and true of every land and clime shall unite in the knowledge of the Fatherhood of God and the deeds which show forth the brotherhood of man, while the systems men have made perish and pass away for ever. Speed the day!

[COMMUNICATED.]
EMIGRATION.

ONE of the beneficent institutions of Israel is the "Perpetual Emigration Fund." By its action thousands upon thousands have been redeemed from poverty and with the aid of their co-religionists have made this great inland Territory the synonym of industry, the attraction of the tourist and the intense "object of interest" to men of diverse thought as to its present and future influence as an integral part of the Republic.

However, none of these latter considerations claim our attention now a few thoughts may be timely in regard to the fund mentioned, inasmuch as the Semi-annual Conference is a good time for suggestions to reach the body of the people.

The "fund" as an expression of good will and brotherhood has never had justice done to it by those who have received of its bounty. Many of those who for years sought its aid when in the old world, have been negligent in meeting their obligations when they have been gathered to the new. Some who have been helped have apostatized, and they have left or remained in the Territory, without a thought of paying an honest debt. Others have died after years of residence here, and their negligence has deprived other waiting, faithful men and women of opportunities which they desired to enjoy. And children who were minors when gathered have repudiated, even when personally well-to-do, the obligation of father and mother who gave them through the fund all the chances they have ever had.

Many have made good homes and fine farms, and accumulated stock; and yet their names are on the debt or side of the P. E. Fund account. Others again have used for their own friends and kindred means no doubt fairly earned, in preference to paying the fund so that its officers might determine who should have the privilege of gathering because of good deeds and faithfulness in the latter-day work. In fact, many unattractive excuses, and much blamable neglect and some dishonesty has been exhibited by those to whom the fund was, has been, and is a blessing only too little appreciated.

For many, many years none have been asked to refund the amount they owed, and so have willingly concluded that the President and Directors cared but little whether it was paid at all. The consequence of these various lapses has been that there are still many who desire to gather, many who are fairly entitled to assistance which is denied, simply because the finances of the company will not justify appropriation therefor.

It would be pleasant, in this era of material prosperity, to see greater promptitude in repayment by new comers, and certainly all old beneficiaries should pay up, from many considerations, even apart from that of common honesty.

It would also appear as if in the multiplicity of calls that the claims of this fund had been overlooked by our wealthiest citizens. Yet this fund has largely made their enterprise possible, and emigration has certainly brought trade to them, enhanced the value of their real estate, doubled rents, and created taxable property. Yet donations from such have been very "few and far between," and that practice of making bequests to charitable institutions, which obtains much elsewhere, is in Utah probably almost unknown.

Still more, there has been but little appeal to the masses of the Territory to help, by way of an occasional donation, so desirable a power for good. Yet there are no doubt thousands who are in sympathy with the gathering, who know something of the pressure to which labor is subject in the old world, and there are hundreds of missionaries all through Utah who are eminently qualified to speak with that force which would really command a hearing and create a more than transitory interest in the sustenance of the P. E. Fund.

The meetings of the Latter-day Saints have never been characterized by the collection plate, but there is quite an amount of latent feeling or sympathy which only needs suggestion or opportunity for expression to make itself felt in a good cause, and if at all our conferences, general and local, there was an invitation to contribute on going in or leaving the place of gathering, enough would be raised every year to bring quite a few of our earnest brethren and sisters from their native land to this land which they earnestly desire to enjoy.

I myself am a poor man, yet have tasted and seen the advantages of the P. E. Fund. I appreciate the bondage of circumstances which envelope many good men and women who with us are "partakers of the Gospel," and I would be glad to give my mite—\$5 each Semi-annual Conference (D. V.) and there are surely thousands with full hearts yet slender purse, who would give from this amount downward, as a free-will offering, a testimony of gratitude for temporal blessings so abundantly showered upon the people in these mountain valleys. Probably many would do much better than this, and from this and the succeeding general conferences, aided by a similar movement at all local conferences, many, next season, might participate with us in the blessings of Zion.

There is also one very important element in our society whose assistance and sympathy it is desirable to enlist—I refer to the youth and children of our Territory. To be sure, they may not realize as fully as the experienced the necessity and intensity of desire which belongs to the gathering, but all the institutions of Israel should have a share in their affections and command their sympathy, and be claimants upon their liberality. In Sabbath Schools, in Relief Societies, in Improvement Societies there can be found, or there should be created, a desire to aid in so great a work. A small nucleus could easily determine to send for one or two per annum, and the awakening interest would be an ever-present prompter to

those who are debtors to the fund, so that it would not again become a thing of the past, as some assume it to be since those lists were published reminding delinquents and inviting the co-operation of local officials in the collection of the same.

It is not improbable that some look upon this as one did some years ago, who "thanked the Lord that they had got through with the reformation." So in glancing over a settlement and making one application for settlement to those indebted, there is a cessation of effort and the Lord is thanked that they have got through with that. The P. E. Fund was organized in perpetuity, and its labors, its blessings will—must, be continued so long as in any land a believer in the Gospel shall receive the spirit and desire to gather to Zion.

A GOOD SELECTION.

THE *Washington Post* says that "the nomination of George M. Adams, the ex-Clerk of the House, for a seat in the next Congress by the Tenth Kentucky District insures his election. Mr. Adams has a national reputation for those qualities that fit one for useful public service." It is said that nothing is certain but death, but we hope that the confidence of the *Post* in the success of Mr. Adams is not misplaced. He is a square Democrat, an experienced politician, an active legislator and an able public man. The Kentuckians of the Tenth District will be well represented if they seat their candidate in Congress.

A BOGUS APPOINTMENT DECLINED.

We have received the following communication, which is plain and outspoken enough to make even a "Liberal" executive understand its meaning:

Editor *Deseret News*:

I see by the Salt Lake papers that I have been appointed by the Governor to fill the office of Probate Judge of Iron County. As I am not at present a candidate for office, I take this means to notify the people of this county that I have declined to accept the office.

My name was sent to Salt Lake without my knowledge or consent. I am not a Mormon, and this is probably the reason why I was so honored; but I could not feel right if I allowed myself to be placed in an official position where I could not have the hearty support of the majority of the community.

I think that all officers should be elected by the people, from the Governor down, so I could not consistently accept an appointment to any office.

L. S. LYMAN.
Parowan, Oct. 4, 1882.

It will be observed that the writer of the above ignores altogether the question of vacancies, and predicates his action upon the broad principle of popular rights. It does not matter to him whether there is or is not a vacancy in the office to which he has been "appointed" by the Governor. He considers it the right of the people to elect their own officers, and therefore he will not serve as the appointee of a one-man-power.

This is a position consistent with the principles professed by those who declare they are for liberty and republicanism. But unfortunately in Utah, those who make the greatest pretensions as champions of freedom for the people, are engaged in attempts to break down what little liberty and powers of citizenship are left to the people. While making highfalutin speeches and spread-eagle declamations about "independence," "manhood," and "casting off restraint," they are seeking to force upon the Territory the iron rule of one individual who derives no authority whatever from the people whom he seeks to bring into abject servitude.

What a noble cause for "Liberals" to be engaged in, is it not? The people have only the power to elect men of their choice to fill a few local offices for the conduct of their own local affairs, and this meagre right is attacked by men called "Liberals" who wish to aid an imported Governor in the exercise of arbitrary, irresponsible and autocratic domination. "Liberals" with a vengeance!

The law under which this usurpation is attempted merely authorizes the Governor to fill vacancies

that "may be caused" by a specified contingency. No official with any real regard for the principles of true republicanism would take advantage of the wording of such an enactment to force upon the people a set of officers totally unacceptable to them, and against their known desires.

If the law were capable of two interpretations, any true votary of American freedom, any one but a despot at heart, would have taken the interpretation most in accord with the principle of popular rights. In that case a very few places would have been filled by gubernatorial appointment, and the local laws which authorize the incumbents to hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified would have been recognized in its proper force. Thus the Governor would have shown some regard for laws which he has sworn to sustain and execute, and for his own commissions which those incumbents have and which declare their right to hold over according to the local statutes. But in the anti-republican and unjustifiable raid which he has attempted upon the people's elected officers, he has not only spurned the laws of the Territory, but trampled upon the commissions signed with his own hand and sealed with the territorial seal.

The gentleman who declines the office of Probate Judge for Iron County has done well, and his example, we have no doubt, will be followed by others on similar grounds, even though they may not proclaim their determination in the same bold and public manner. The idea of occupying the position of a servant of the people in any capacity contrary to the wishes of the people, must be repugnant to every man with the least self-respect and regard for consistency. The people of Iron County, among whom Mr. Lyman lives, whatever may be his sentiments on other matters must certainly honor him for those expressed in the above communication.

DEMOCRATIC GAINS IN OHIO.

FROM the returns which have come in as reported by telegraph, it appears that the Democrats have made important gains in Ohio. It appears that the Republicans had too many candidates in the field and the liquor men went against them, thus playing into the hands of the Democrats.

The temperance question is cutting quite a figure in the politics of 1882, and the Republican party is toadying to its advocates in many places. This gives their opponents the strength of the brewers, distillers and liquor dealers as well as the advocates of full freedom in reference to diet and drink, making together quite a formidable element against the support of the temperance men.

It is men a victory for the Democrats to succeed in Ohio, and the probability is that when all the returns are officially counted the gains will not be quite so extensive as claimed.

THE OGDEN MANDAMUS.

ANSWER OF JUDGE F. D. RICHARDS, ALSO THE DEMURRER.

FOLLOWING are the answer and demurrer of Judge F. D. Richards in the Mandamus case before Judge P. H. Emerson, at Ogden, on the 10th inst:

ANSWER.

In the District Court in and for the First Judicial District of the Territory of Utah, County of Weber.

James N. Kimball, Plaintiff,
vs.
Franklin D. Richards, Defendant.

The defendant answers herein, and on his information and belief denies that on the sixteenth day of September, A. D., 1882, or at any other time, Eli H. Murray, Governor of the Territory of Utah, duly or legally appointed the Plaintiff to the office of Probate Judge in and for the County of Weber, Territory of Utah, for the term of eight months, or for any term, or that said office was then or is now vacant.

And the Defendant on information and belief alleges that said Plaintiff has not at any time qualified as required by law for said office, that he has not at any time