

## EDITORIALS.

## ST. GEORGE.

THE *Utah Pomologist* gives the following particulars concerning the situation, climate, and resources of St. George, a point of considerable importance—

St. George is located near the junction of the Rio Virgen and Santa Clara rivers, about 120 miles north of where the waters empty into the Colorado, 350 miles south of Salt Lake City, and on a line nearly directly west from Cairo, at the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, just south of the rim of the great Salt Lake Basin and at an altitude some thousands of feet less than Salt Lake City.

It was founded twelve years ago, by a colony from the north part of Utah, and is near the southern line of Utah Territory, and has a population of about 3,000. The climate is hot and dry, little snow or rain falling and all crops have to be raised by irrigation.

The formation is volcanic, red sand stone and granite with some lime and gypsum. The face of the country rough, barren, almost treeless and forbidding.

Our summers give a range of thermometer from 85 to 110 deg. In winter seldom any snow, or ground frozen more than an inch or two. Most kinds of grain, vegetables and fruit produce abundantly when ground is fertilized and well watered.

Exotic grapes, figs, pomegranates, almonds, rice, cotton and sweet potatoes, mature finely in the open air.

Our wood is hauled ten to fifteen miles, and our lumber thirty or forty—range for stock is poor near by, but short distances away in any direction, give good range that will produce good beef all winter.

Of minerals we have iron, copper, lead, silver, plumbago, asphalt, salt and coal in this region.

St. George is capital, or principal city of Southern Utah, with twenty or thirty settlements and towns around it. It is noted for its expensive and commodious public buildings, fine dwellings, beautiful and fruitful gardens, its great abundance and excellence of fruit, and its pure and wholesome wines. Our sky is nearly cloudless, our winters warm and delightful, and our summers a festival of richest fruits.

A pleasant description, except the thermometer at 110 (in the shade), the nearly cloudless sky, and, sometimes, the sirocco from the Colorado desert.

THE N. P. AT THE YELLOWSTONE.—The Helena, Montana, *Gazette* says the N. P. R. R. has been located to Glendine Creek, on the Yellowstone, 205 miles from Bismark, and 300 from Helena; that the Yellowstone crossing is just forty-nine stiles from the mouth of Powder river; that the distance between the central part of Montana and Bismark, when surveyed, will be found much less than the usual estimated distance; that the 205 miles to the Yellowstone crossing, for which proposals at the earliest moment practicable were invited, the company already have the money on hand for, and it will certainly be finished; that they desire to have it done early, so that it may exercise a beneficial influence on the legislation of Congress next winter; that an army of contractors, with men, tools, wagons, etc., were waiting at Bismark, so that the completion of that distance could be accomplished in a few months; and that probably the contracts are already let and work commenced.

The *Gazette* advises that steps be taken without delay to open up communication with the Yellowstone crossing, as that will be the nearest railroad point for Helena.

## ONE CURRENCY.

NOT a few look forward to the unification of the human race so far as to anticipate the use of one language all over the earth. Others are satisfied in their ambition for unity, at present, by advocating the adoption of a uniform currency, at least so far as coinage is concerned, gold coin being the standard of commercial value throughout the civilized world, and the representative of all material values.

It has been proposed to hold a private conference for an international coinage at Vienna in the course of next September, to consider more particularly the following points—

1. The question of valuation.
2. The principal coins.
3. The unit of value and its sub-divisions.
4. The charge for coinage, the rate of alloy, and other technical questions.
5. The preservation of the full value of the principal coins in circulation, and the coining of others.
6. The different modes of introducing a new money system.

Mr. A. Eggers, consul in Bremen, is the principal agent in promoting this conference, the declared object being to bring together a limited number of semi-official or private representatives of different countries, to fully discuss the subject. A committee of French and Ger-

man gentlemen, interested in the question, has been constituted, and Mr. Eggers recently visited England to induce English advocates of the question to take part in the proposed conference. A private meeting was held in the Standard office, London, at the suggestion of Mr. J. B. Smith, M. P. Dr. Leone Levi, Mr. Hendricks, and a few other gentlemen attended.

The principal propositions of Mr. Eggers, as set forth in his pamphlet, *Die Geldreform*, published at Berlin, appear to be as follows—

1. That the international coins should be of round metric weight.
2. As common units of value, a dollar of fine gold 1-2 grammes, and a coin of 25 grammes of silver 9-10 fine.
3. As nearly corresponding with the pound sterling, a coin of 5 dollars, or a new sovereign of 7 1-2 grammes of fine gold.

Mr. Eggers suggests that such a gold dollar and sovereign might be conveniently first introduced in Canada, as very nearly agreeing in value with the American gold coinage.

The objections to these propositions are thus stated—

If the fine gold in the dollar weighed one and a half grammes, the addition of 1-9 alloy would make the actual weight of the dollar 1 1/2 grammes, which is not a round metric weight. There would be the same result with the new sovereign of 7 grammes fine gold, a 1-9 alloy would make the actual weight 8 1/4 grammes.

A far more serious objection was that the difference between the 7 1/2 gramme fine gold in the proposed new sovereign, and 7.32238 grammes in the existing sovereign, equal to 0.17762 grammes, would increase the value of the sovereign more than 5/24, which was quite inadmissible.

An almost insuperable obstacle to the early and common adoption, however desirable, of a uniform international coinage, it is thought, would be found in the adoption in the German Empire of the 20-mark piece as the gold coin unit, which contains 5.94d. less in value of fine gold than the sovereign, and the recent very large issue of that new coinage.

The difficulties in the way of agreeing upon a gold unit are considered so great, that until they are overcome it is thought to be almost hopeless to expect to establish international coinage, and therefore there is little necessity at present to discuss the question of silver coin.

When international coin units shall have been determined upon, each national government can remodel its own coin in accordance with the uniform standard adopted, and sell the new coin for the old at full value, each government bearing the expense of the transformation of its own coin.

## THE MANX RAILWAY.

THE railway recently opened in the Isle of Man, is an object of interest for more than one reason. First, because it is a triumph of scientific and material progress over the stubborn insular conservatism of the Manx people; and second, because the railroad opened on that island is on the narrow gauge principle.

Until very recently the islanders jogged along in a very easy manner, not much troubled with the restlessness of progress manifest among their more powerful and enterprising neighbors. But after Mr. Henry Brougham Loch, formerly private secretary to Lord Elgin, assumed the governorship, things took a turn. Energetic and able, under his intelligent and vigorous administration the Manx people, after a while, became somewhat awakened and stimulated to enterprise, and the island began to undergo a process of rejuvenation. An attempt was made to rouse the islanders upon this railroad question in 1871, which was partially successful, so that £30,000 was raised towards £200,000 for the construction of the road. The services of Mr. Henry Vignolles, a well known engineer, were secured, and his surveys and reports attracted the attention of English capitalists.

A careful inspection of the celebrated Festiniog railway (2-feet gauge) and other narrow gauge railways induced Mr. Vignolles to conclude that a gauge of three feet would be sufficient for all the requirements of the road in the Isle of Man. He says in his report—

I am convinced the traffic, on these railways, with a three-foot gauge, may be worked for about 40 per cent. or at the most 45 per cent. of the receipts. It will be observed that I have provided for rails weighing 45 lbs. to the yard. The weight of the rails, used upon the narrow-gauge lines in Norway and Queensland, is only 40 lbs.

per yard; but I consider this too light, and am convinced that great economy in the end will result from the adoption of the 45 lb. rails.

The line from Douglas to Peel (12 miles) has been thoroughly constructed, and made of unusually sound and durable material. The ruling gradient is one in eighty, and the sharpest curve ten chains radius. The road is laid with the Vignolles rail, in general use on foreign railways, being the invention of the father of Mr. Henry Vignolles. The locomotives were constructed by Messrs. Beyer, Peacock & Co., of Manchester, weight 15 tons, run on four wheels coupled, leading wheels on a Bissel bogie, carry about 300 gallons of water in their tanks, and have accommodation for about 18 cwt. of coal.

We gave a notice of the opening of the road from Douglas to Peel a few weeks ago.

## PENMANSHIP.

THE Payson, Dunton & Scribner Manual of Penmanship, by J. W. Payson, S. Dunton, W. M. Scribner, G. H. Shattuck, and A. S. Manson. Woolworth, Ainsworth & Company, New York. For sale at Dwyer's.

This is a work of 112 pages, besides full page plates. It is liberally illustrated, gives a full analytical exposition of the whole system, and is designed for the use of those who wish to obtain complete information thereupon. In addition to the Manual, the publishers supply in connection with the system a graduated series of Copy Books for individual practice, three series, in fact, and Black-board Tablets for class illustration.

Those who wish to go through a complete analysis of the science of penmanship, would do well to obtain the Manual. The descriptions and instructions with the accompanying illustrations are very thorough, and perhaps it would be impossible for any person to rise from a careful perusal of this work without an increased appreciation of the beauties of good penmanship and the desire that the accomplishment were his, even to a complete mastery of the art, which can be quickest and most perfectly attained to in connection with a conscientious study of the science.

In this system the letters are dissected, taken to pieces, and their forms, in their several parts, reduced to elements and principles, which are carefully designated, described, and illustrated. The different lines, curves, strokes, slants, angles, turns, spaces, and combinations are all made subjects of exposition, illustration, study and practice, so that by faithfully going through a course in this system the intelligent and capable student may arrive at a very comprehensive knowledge of what is included in perfect penmanship.

In addition to the illustrations of parts and wholes of letters, there are series of different varieties of capitals, and several other kinds of hands for use with the brush.

On the advantages of penmanship nothing need be said. It is not only one of the elegances but one of the first necessities of civilized life.

## THE FINE ARTS.

THE *Aldine* is a credit to America. It is the Art Journal of the United States. The illustrations are of a very high class, and the letter-press, both in literary character and mechanical execution, is a fitting counterpart to the illustrations. The latter show to what a stage of perfection the art of wood engraving has been brought. In fact our individual opinion is that it is far superior in appearance and effect to second class steel engraving, and unfortunately much of the steel engraving executed now is of that character, possibly resulting from the great advances made of late in the art of photography as well as that of wood engraving. In much steel engraving of these times there is a coarseness which to our mind ill compares with the soft, delicate, refined, subtle touches with which the best wood engravings abound. Of course in these remarks we are not referring to the highest style of steel engraving, for that must still be ranked at the head of the whole art of engraving.

To return to the *Aldine*, for September. The number opens with a full page view of "Clear Creek

Canyon," Colorado, a sublime precipitous rocky solitude. The "Blue Bird" follows, a French scene, a sad young lady confined in a strong tower or castle to keep her and her lover separated, but the "Blue Bird" is suggested as the medium of communication between the forlorn couple. Next are two scenes, one of the emigrant team "In the Rocky Mountains;" the other is equally grand, "Snowy Range of the Sierra Madre." "Who is It?" is two expectant young ladies, peeping anxiously down stairs over the bannisters to the hall door, to catch a first glimpse of the coming man. "Brookside Willows" is a beautiful woodland scene, full of detail. An "American Farm Scene" is a "one-horse" affair, otherwise natural, pleasing also. "Emperor Charles V. and Titian" illustrates the anecdote of the Emperor, during a sitting before the painter, picking up a brush dropped by the latter, with the remark to him, "My friend, you are worthy to be served by an emperor." This recalls another anecdote of the same Emperor, who, upon his nobles expressing astonishment at the royal honors paid to Titian, said, "I can make a new duke every morning, but such an artist can be created by none but God." The "Sleeping Palace" and the "Sleeping Beauty" from Dore, are two telling illustrations of a well known fairy tale.

So far as we are aware, in no other way can such a number of illustrations in the highest style of the art be obtained for so little money as in the *Aldine*.

Mr. Harrington, of the *Herald* office, is agent for the *Aldine* in this city.

## POTATOES AND FISH.

MR. LECKY made the suggestion that the use of the potatoe as such a general article of diet was the cause of the physical degeneracy of the Irish race. Cobbett, in his sturdy style, would fight away on the same line as Mr. Lecky over the potatoe. A number of German authors have taken that side of the argument, and have predicted that nations, so far from improving, will deteriorate, physically and mentally, if they make potatoes their principal food. Carl Voigt holds that potatoes contribute very little towards the restoration of wasted tissues. Mulder, the Holland physiologist, declares that the excessive use of potatoes among the poorer classes, and coffee and tea by the higher ranks, is the cause of the indolence of nations. Leidenfrost says that the revolutions of the last three centuries have been due to revolutions in nutrition. And the question has been mooted whether much of the growing physical degeneracy of New England is not due to the general use of the potatoe and the consequent exclusion of other articles of food.

This much may be said of the potatoe, that it furnishes a large amount of starch, and it has a well established reputation for usefulness as an alternative and as a preventive of scurvy at sea. But that is not sufficient reason to conclude that it is competent to take the place of the staff of life—grain.

Bread from grain is undoubtedly good, so good that it stands first in the category. Meat is good, and vegetables of different kinds are excellent too for variety, though everybody would not like to make them the staple dish, not even potatoes, though some people do it. Fruits are not to be despised. Then there is fish, which Mr. Payen, in opposition to Dr. Edward Smith before the British Association, shows contains as much solid substance as fresh beef. Herring have even less water than salmon, and flat fish, Mr. Payen asserts, are as rich in nitrogenous substances as the best wheat flour, weight for weight. This is saying a good deal for fish, and we may conclude that it will not only make brains but backbone, two things it is difficult to say of many people which they lack most.

HEAVY CROPS.—The Walla Walla *Statesman* says the farmers are cutting this season the heaviest crops they have ever raised thereabout. Along the foot of the mountains fifty to sixty bushels to the acre are reported, some farmers contending that the average will be sixty bushels. A rich country is Oregon, some parts of it.

## EDUCATIONAL WORKS.

*Bartholomew's Drawing Books*, Nos. 1 to 6. New and revised edition. Woolworth, Ainsworth & Co., New York and Chicago. For sale at Dwyer's.

Each number contains six lessons, with a blank leaf in each lesson for exercises, also instructions for every lesson and example. The lessons commence with the simplest forms—straight strokes, horizontal and perpendicular, and in the first book progressing to various angles, etc. The second book gives further combinations of straight lines—angles, plane figures, squares, rectangles, inclined or oblique lines, elevations, outlines, plans, etc. The third book treats of simple curves, circles and parts of circles, ovals, spirals or scrolls, vases, etc. In the fourth book are more complicated and intricate curves—pitchers, leaves, blossoms, buds, goblets, vases, etc. The fifth book deals almost wholly with straight lines in greater variety of combination, including objects in outline, or linear perspective, cubes, oblique perspective. The sixth book treats upon circles in perspective, oblique circles, rectangles in perspective, light and shade, etc. A very practical and useful series.

THE THEATRE.—A visit to the Theatre will convince anybody that the improvements being made in the interior of that building are in excellent hands. Mr. George Romney, the energetic contractor, has a force of from fifteen to twenty hands at work, and the alterations are going on with a vim and a rush. Although the improvements involve a great deal of labor, as well as ingenuity, it is expected that the opening performance will be given on the 1st of October or, at furthest, by Conference time.

Strangers who have stepped into the theatre and witnessed the improvements being made have said that when the latter were completed it would be one of the "snuggest" buildings of the kind in the country.

The orchestra has already been lowered, which will bring the heads of the musicians at such a level as not to interfere with the view of the parquette part of the audience. Preparations are now being made to lower the front of the stage, which will have an upward grade from front to rear of sixteen inches. This, combined with the new arrangement of the parquette and other places, will enable parties in all parts of the house to have a clear, unobstructed view, without any inconvenience, of every portion of the stage. The steps or platforms of the parquette, on which the chairs will rest, and several tiers of which are already made, will be somewhat similar in form to a horse-shoe, and will correspond, to some extent, with the curve of the upper circle. The space between the pillars which support the first circle will be left open and will be a kind of promenade. As an aid in obtaining a full stage view, the parquette platforms will be graded stagewards in every direction, which involves some nice work for the carpenters.

The front rails of the first and second circles will be cut down about eight inches, and the first will be re-seated, while the upper will remain as heretofore.

The two proscenium boxes to be constructed on each side of the stage, are to be fitted up in the most improved style.

If Mr. Romney gets through with all the work he has in hand in this job by the time anticipated he will do a pretty big thing, and we do not doubt that he will. The work is not only being done rapidly, but well.

GOING FOR GOVERNOR.—It is generally understood that Ex-President Andrew Johnson is to be a candidate for governor of Tennessee, and that he intends to stump the State in his own behalf. The *Memphis Appeal* says he aims to secure a seat in the U. S. Senate.

ENTERPRISE.—The New York *Herald* of Aug. 18 has two letters of Louise Mulbach, upon "Ems" and "King William's Movements," printed in German, with an English translation also, each covering nearly a page.

—Don't invest all your money in lottery tickets. Give some other man a chance for a prize.