

shores swarm with fish of every variety, and its soil is adapted to all the useful grains, while its mountains are clothed with magnificent forests. It is one of the choicest regions of the United States. Its population now verges on to 80,000, and emigration is pouring into it at the rate of 25,000 a year. Utah has about 180,000 inhabitants. It abounds in gold, silver, copper and iron, and wherever irrigation is introduced, its plains yield abundant crops of cereals."

A HOME PRODUCT.

THE Omaha Bee says:

"There are two broom factories in Omaha, which have together made about 32,500 brooms during the past year."

We take pleasure in adding that one Utah broom factory alone, that of Mr. H. B. Scoville, in Ogden, turned out 36,000 brooms during the past year, and has a capacity for double that number. There is one thing connected with this industry which is not quite so pleasing; that is, that a large quantity of broom corn has still to be imported. Last year the home broom corn crop purchased by Mr. Scoville was twice as great as that of the year before, but he had to obtain considerable from the States.

Farmers would do well to consider the fact that there is a ready market for this product every year. Utah should not import a single broom nor a bundle of broom corn. We can raise the material and manufacture it in sufficient quantities at least to supply the home market, and produce as good an article as can be made anywhere. Care should be taken not to plant broom corn in the vicinity of sugar cane, but spots should be selected suitable for its cultivation and at a sufficient distance not to cause a mixture of the seed when maturing. Let us cease buying from abroad either the brooms in common use or the "corn" from which they are manufactured.

SCIENCE OR SPECULATION?

IT is a conspicuous fact that most of the favorable notices published of the Edison electric light, contain some allusion to the depreciation of gas stocks as a consequence of its alleged success. Of course the utilization of the new light for ordinary purposes would naturally result in a depression of the gas interest. But this point is so frequently put forth in connection with the Edison notices, that one cannot help thinking there may be some hidden purpose in this persistent association of ideas.

It really looks as though a scheme was in operation to "bear" the gas market in the interest of speculators; to induce holders of gas stocks to unload for the benefit of the "bears," who, when the excitement passes, will reap large profits on the consequent rebound in the market.

We have no doubt that in time the electric light will be brought into general use. But in spite of the flaming accounts of its exhibition at Menlo park, we have not yet been able to discover its practical application to general use by ordinary management. While experts are needed for its successful manipulation, it will not become a popular illuminator. It may be utilized for lighting up certain localities in large cities, as at the Thames Embankment in London, but for common street lamps, and household purposes, gas still holds its own as a cheap, safe, steady and simply-controlled agent of light.

The London Daily News of the 17th ult., records the successful lighting of the Victoria station of the Metropolitan District Railway, by the electric light at a distance of a mile and a half from the generator. This is a step in advance for this light, because it was supposed not long ago, that the steam power necessary to produce it at long distances would be so great as to become too costly. It was also said that each light of the size of those used at the Thames Embankment would require one-horse power. But the same engine used at the embankment generates the current that

lights the Victoria Station, and twenty-horse power suffices for sixty lights.

We referred a short time ago to the lighting of the reading room of the British Museum by this means. It now appears that the light lacks steadiness, and does not glow with uniformity. However, if Edison's discovery of an unconsumable substance for this purpose stands the test of time and use, this difficulty may be overcome.

France has made many experiments with the electric light which have been pronounced successful, but we notice that in spite of all the boasts of the triumph of the new illuminator, the Paris civic authorities have made arrangements for the improvement and extension of its gas-lighting system, at an increased expenditure of about \$120,000. This does not look as though they were very profoundly impressed with the probability of the fading away of the old light before the power and cheapness of the new.

We believe there is something in the electric illuminator, and look for its triumph over all existing obstacles. But at present we are inclined to think that speculation is at work, and making a financial stroke more productive than the engine which generates the electric fluid, and that the money "sharps" will reap greater profits than the scientific experts, unless some of the latter are "standing in" with them on dividends.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Four hundred thousand sewing machines were made in Germany last year, notwithstanding the competition of American companies, and probably many more were made this year.

The iron market is still rising. If it were not that the word is so frequently used that it is becoming monotonous, we would say this really "precious" metal was on the "boom."

The manipulation of glass has come to be one of the fine arts. A glass spinner of Vienna offers for human wear glass muffs, white and curly; glass hats, feathers, cuffs, collars, veils, and dresses for ladies; glass carpets and wool, hardly to be distinguished from the real.

A new method of bridge building has been successfully tried at Dinard, in France. The structure was built on shore and then pushed across the river. It is 314 feet long, weighs over 200 tons, and was moved into its place by a dozen powerful windlasses.

With regard to the degree of temperature in which men can work in tunneling high mountains, Professor Raymond says it is possible that work can be carried on for a short time at 60° Centigrade, if the atmosphere is dry, but not beyond 40° when the air is saturated with moisture.

It is announced that skeleton sermons can now be purchased in New York, which may be stuffed by the preacher according to taste. This, in a measure, does away with the necessity of "unconscious plagiarism," as some of the reverend gentlemen designate their pious pulp pilferings.

The New York Herald wants to know if it is "not time that the word 'Gentile' was made obsolete in the Mormon Territory." We answer yes, if it is also time to make the word "Mormon" obsolete in this Territory and elsewhere. If you don't say "Mormon" we won't say "Gentile."

A new horse disease has broken out in Kentucky. Many prominent stock men in Harrison County have lost valuable animals, and the veterinary surgeons are puzzled what to do. It commences like the distemper, then attacks the kidneys and bowels and becomes very fatal.

Rev. Dr. J. P. Levison, xviii. 18 Newman is to start an anti-Popery newspaper soon in New York, but he denies that Grant is going into partnership with him. If he makes no more impression on the Catholics than he did on the Latter-day Saints, failure will be a weak word to express his anti-Papal collapse.

The Republicans, in exclaiming against what they denominate the "Maine outrage," are quoting the adage: "Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God." If the "Mormons" were to make use of this

motto, what a howl of "Treason!" would go up to heaven from every nook and corner of the country.

The new legal rate of interest in New York that took effect with the New Year, is 6 per cent. The National and State banks are liable to forfeiture of twice the amount of interest in case of usury, and other infractions of the law incur a penalty of \$1,000 fine or six months imprisonment, and the loss of both principal and interest. Six per cent. is enough in that part of the country.

Glycerine is an excellent remedy for chapped hands, and for other cutaneous afflictions. But it should not be applied, as is frequently done in an undiluted state. One of its remarkable properties is its power to absorb moisture, and hence its irritating effect upon the skin. About three fluid ounces of water to one of glycerine will form a mixture which neither attracts moisture nor evaporates, the weight scarcely varying from week to week, either in one direction or the other.

A German priest in Styria lately lost his life from a wound caused by a steel pen. He had a careless habit of leaving the pen in the inkstand, with the point sticking upward, and he inadvertently struck with the palm of his hand the point of a pen thus sticking upward. The hand was only slightly wounded, but the next day he felt seriously ill, and the doctor declared it a case of blood poisoning. On the third day the hand and arm were terribly swollen, as high up as the shoulder, and after suffering great pain for eight weeks he died.

It is well known that the writing ink manufactured by Brother Geo. Goddard, of this city, is an excellent and enduring article. But it is only quite recently that its power to resist the action of frost has been discovered. Other inks when frozen are entirely spoiled, the constituent parts separating and leaving a useless liquid with a muddy sediment. Goddard's ink may be thoroughly frozen, but when thawed out is as good as ever. We have a bottle of it which has been thus treated and it is now in excellent condition. This renders this fluid very valuable in this latitude and altitude, and as it is a really good and durable ink, anyhow, it should be extensively patronized.

It is seldom that a deadly weapon pointed "in fun" acts in anything like a sensible manner. But a few days ago a gun did the correct thing at Evansville, Indiana. John Wiehl, a young man aged 19, and old enough to know better, while frightening children with a loaded gun, fell and the gun was discharged into his forehead, killing him instantly. If this new departure in the "didn't-know-it-was-loaded" business should be repeated a few times, perhaps those exasperatingly funny folks whose wit consists in scaring timid people, would turn their attention to some other branch of humorous art. If not, their number would grow small by degrees and beautifully less, which would be of some comfort to the community.

We have received a copy of the Seed Annual, published by D. M. Ferry & Co., seed merchants, of Detroit, Michigan, who have just erected a mammoth seed store, probably the largest seed store in the world; certainly the largest in the United States. It extends 300 feet by 120 feet, is four stories high, besides the large basement under the whole building. The area of the combined floors is nearly five acres. This house do an immense business, growing on their own seed farms a large proportion of the seeds they sell. They are entirely reliable, and our readers would do well to send to them for their beautiful Seed Annual before purchasing their supply of vegetable or flower seeds. See their advertisement in our columns. The book is sent free to applicants.

Dr. Dollinger, a celebrated divine, states that Mohammedanism is rapidly increasing. He says that "a Moslem university is flourishing at Sierra Leone, in which are being educated a thousand young men whose lives will be as absolutely surrendered to the cause the school represents as were the lives of the early soldiers of the crescent, who counted it joy to fall in its defense on the field of battle. In China the followers of this ancient symbol have increased beyond computa-

tion, fifty thousand residing in Tonquin alone. Among the Malayans and the islanders of the eastern archipelago, it is reported that 18,000,000 have been won over to its support; and still one-fifth of the dwellers on the earth are enrolled as its army, of whom 50,000,000 at least are subjects of her Majesty Queen Victoria."

Travelers across the plains have often wondered how the interesting little rodent called the prairie dog, manages to obtain water, in the desert spots where the colonies of these burrowing creatures are established. Mr. F. Leech, formerly of Mercer County, Pennsylvania, and a frontiersman of experience, asserts that the dogs dig their own wells, each village having one with a concealed opening. It matters not how far down the water may be, the dogs will keep on until they reach it. He knows of one such well 200 feet deep, and having a circular staircase leading down to the water. Every time a dog wants a drink, he descends this staircase, which, considering the distance, is no mean task. In digging for water the animals display as much pluck as in resisting the efforts of settlers to expel them from the land of their progenitors.

The idea that three score years and ten is the allotted period of man's life originates from a saying of the Psalmist, who had occasion for his sorrowful complaint of the troubles of old age. But the only really definite divine statement of the limit of life which appears in the Jewish scriptures is that announced after the flood, namely a hundred and twenty years. Dr. Richardson, a celebrated physiologist, says that the body should be in its best physical condition at forty years; for thirty years after the organization should become more perfect; at seventy, old age should begin and last for fifteen years, when, from eighty-five to one hundred, there should be ripe old age, without disease or pain, but marked by a general subsidence of the vital functions. This is his ideal limit of life where nature has its undisturbed course.

To the lovers of fun and the believers in the virtue of hearty laughter, Mark Twain, the genuine American humorist, is a genius and a benefactor. Who has not discovered his *Innocents Abroad*, and wished for more of the same kind of pabulum? Well, a companion work to that unique volume is in readiness for publication. It is called *A Tramp Abroad*, and will be out in February. It is a record of the author's travels in Germany and other parts of continental Europe, illustrated with funny and descriptive engravings, and embellished with a fine portrait of Mark himself. Humor and pathos are skillfully blended in this book in the writer's peculiar style and it will without doubt meet with a ready sale. Mr. R. M. Powers is agent for the work for this Territory, and desires to obtain the services of sub-agents in country places. He can be addressed at Salt Lake, where he will canvass for the work himself.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.

A conference was held by the St. Louis branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, on the 30th of November, 1879, in Union Hall, No. 1310 Broadway.

After singing and prayer, President Burman spoke largely upon the rise and progress of the latter-day work.

The authorities of the Church were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elder John Morgan was sustained as President of the southern mission.

Andrew Burman was sustained as the President of the St. Louis branch, with his two counselors, John F. Schrepel and Jos. J. Harrison.

The local priesthood was then presented and sustained.

Elder Schrepel was sustained as president of the Sunday-School.

The sacrament was then administered.

The financial and Sunday School reports were read, showing a balance of 65c. in the financial and \$6 95 in the Sunday School fund.

Elder Allison then bore a faithful testimony of the latter-day work.

President Morgan then said he was glad to see by the financial exhibit, that the St. Louis branch

was out of debt, which was a characteristic of the Latter-day Saints, and the saying, "Pay as you go," was good gospel though not found in the Bible. He felt happy in his travels to be known as a "Mormon" Elder and would not change it for the greatest name that could be given him.

Conference was brought to a close by singing, and benediction by Elder Moffet.

A. BURMAN, Pres.,
JOS. J. HARRISON,
Clerk.

"For Building On."—Merchant (loq.) "Weel, Donal' that's been awin' times for sheep."

Donald—"Nae only for them, but achi! a thing's gaen to thae devil's noo."

Merchant—"Sosh, man, if that's the way o't, he need till exten' his premises."—*Fun.*

A Poser.—Maud: "Mamma, where do people go to when they die?"

Mamma: "Oh, you must not ask such questions, dear, you will understand more about it when you are older."

Maud (after thinking it over for some minutes): "Mamma, do you know all about it?"

"Gem'len, remember dat de loud-est voice doan' sink the deepest in de heart. Big words may shut de odder man up, but they won't convince him. One kind word am worf more dan a pleasant day; while a pound of crackers an' about half a pound of cheese will put mo' heart into a poo' man dan all de promises eber made on de hind platform of a street kyar. We will now pass out into de cold an' crewel world an' abash to our separate homes."

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