

lie deeper than about six inches. On the mountains, too, the fall has been abnormally light, the depth now being from six to eight inches only in the timber at the head of the river, whereas in most previous years at this season it has averaged upwards of twelve feet. Mr. Horton says that he never before remembers so small a quantity of snow in the Weber Valley at this period, and that nearly all kinds of stock could have been kept out all winter. Unless there is a further and heavier downfall of "the beautiful" very soon he fears that a most inconveniently dry summer will be experienced and that the water supply will be greatly curtailed.

We also learn from a resident of Provo, that in Strawberry Valley, where snow usually falls to a great depth, the surface of the ground is scarcely covered. It may be remembered that last winter the snowfall in this particular region was exceedingly severe, and a whole family of emigrants, who were literally snowed up while on their march across the country, would have perished but for the prompt action of a party of villagers, who rescued them on horseback.

Loa, Plute County.

"A Subscriber," writing from this place, Jan. 24, says:

"We are having an epidemic of sickness among our children, and in some instances it attacks grown people with severity. It comes in the form of a severe cold, attacking the lungs, throat, and head with great violence, in nearly all cases requiring the utmost care and attention to keep the dear ones with us, as it chokes up the lungs with great rapidity and is attended with violent fever. There have been one or two cases that have proved fatal, but thank God, through the energetic labors of our Bishop (E. H. Blackburn), numbers of all classes are enabled to rejoice in the safety of their little ones, for he has fought the disease untiringly almost day and night for the past two months with great success.

The weather here is sharp and clear, unusually calm, with a few inches of snow."

Belief and Citizenship.

Before Judge Henderson at Ogden Feb. 4, John Barton, of Coalville, a native of England, applied for citizenship. To questions asked by the court he stated that he believed the revelation on polygamy to be true, but did not consider it binding in any way. He would obey the laws of the land. Should the revelation and the laws of the country come in conflict he would obey the latter. Even if in time to come he should be counseled to enter into polygamy, or understood that it applied to him he would still consider that the laws of the land should be obeyed and did not feel the revelation at such times to be in force; though he considered that if society were to be organized over it might be well to establish it on his ideas regarding polygamy, yet it was only a matter of belief with him and would not interfere with his duties as a

citizen if admitted. The court said that belief alone would not preclude him from admission so long as it would not interfere with his obedience and fidelity to his adopted country and its laws, and he was admitted.

Utah Disposed Of.

On February the 6th the House committee on territories, although not unanimous in regard to the bill for the admission of Utah, appointed a sub-committee of five, with Springer chairman, to draft a report to the effect that, owing to the lateness of the session, it will be impracticable to secure the passage of the bill.

The committee also decided to report favorably the omnibus bill for the admission of Idaho, Wyoming and Arizona. The vote was practically unanimous, although one or two members expressed themselves as opposed to the omnibus system and preferred the admission of these territories singly.

Death From Morphine.

On Sunday morning, Feb. 3, Samuel Franklin, son of Martin Lenzi of the Twelfth Ward, died at the home of his parents, from an overdose of morphine, aged 23 years. Some years ago the young man was leaded, since which time he has at intervals suffered great pain, supposed to arise from an affection of the kidneys. To obtain relief he has used opiates, and on the night previous took an overdose. His condition was not ascertained until just before death occurred, too late for medical skill to save him.

A \$3,000,000 Fire.

On the morning of February 2 an enormously destructive fire occurred in Buffalo, N. Y. It is estimated that the total loss will amount to if it does not exceed \$3,000,000.

Death of the Austrian Crown Prince.

On Jan. 30 an announcement was made in the press dispatches, singularly lacking in details, of the sudden death on that day of Rudolph, Crown Prince of Austria. Later the statement was made that he died of apoplexy, but almost simultaneously another statement was telegraphed that he had committed suicide with a revolver. Later developments indicate the following to be the true theory of his death: He had seduced a lady of high rank, and her husband had challenged him to mortal combat. The challenge was accepted and the duel was fought, resulting in the fatal wounding of the Crown Prince.

It is but proper to state, however, that while the above theory seems to be the most plausible of any put forth, it is contradicted by others, and may not be true. There seems to be a determination at the Austrian court to prevent the truth from being known.

Earthquake in Missouri.

On Feb. 2 an earthquake occurred at Clarkville, Missouri, which "rattled things generally," but did no serious damage.

Street Car Strike Ended.

After repeated rioting, some bloodshed, and the fatal wounding of several persons, the great street car strike in New York and Brooklyn was officially declared off at midnight Feb. 5. The employees were given leave to return to work as they could. The strike was a failure. It is hinted that it was the work of stock jobbing conspirators, who fomented it in order to "bear" and then buy the street railroad stock.

Artesian Wells in Arizona.

There has been much comment in regard to the finding of artesian water in Arizona; but what it is causes the debate I cannot see. We have all the indications that can be found in any country. All that is needed are men of means and energy to make a test. On the first day of May, 1888, a shock of earthquake occurred which will be well remembered, for a considerable amount of property was then destroyed. When the shock had subsided, Mr. J. S. Merrill discovered an opening in the earth, caused by the violent shaking, from which flowed a stream of water and white sand continuing long enough to run to the river, a distance of half a mile. As a pipe was not put in to keep the ground open, the aperture closed, and so stopped the flow of what might be today a constant stream.

A gentleman of the place in the course of driving a well reached a depth of 238 feet. Here the force exercised at the bottom raised the pipe 60 feet. They had not the necessary machinery, and so had to desist. I have heard it said the county offers a bounty of \$5,000 to the first flowing well in the valley. Could such be discovered, the San Pedro would be one of the finest and most desirable spots in the Territory. Grass is abundant, wood is within easy access, and thousands of acres of land lie in every direction.

A few energetic men with a small capital might be amply compensated for their time and trouble in such an enterprise. J. A. McRAE.

ST. DAVID, Arizona, Jan. 25, 1889.

Samoa Matters.

On February 1st, it was reported in the telegrams, in relation to the Samoan troubles, that the forces of Tamasese were reduced to 800 men, and that the Germans were willing to recognize Mataafa as king, provided he would rule under German control. The Germans acknowledge that they are at war with Mataafa, but deny that war, in an international sense, has been declared by them, or exists. German papers scout the idea of a war with the United States, over Samoa.

Sensational reports have been published to the effect that Germany had agents in this country, engaged in procuring data respecting the strength of our army and navy, etc. The U. S. naval vessel, *Mohican* left Mare Island Feb. 5th, presumably for Samoa. A Berlin dispatch of Feb. 4th, stated that Germany would make friendly proposals to America regarding Samoa.