# NO EXCELLENCE WITHOUT LABOR. but, to

A cotemporary publishes a few facts for the benefit of young ladies and gentlemen with literary taste, who are too impatient, and consequently too toe impatient, and consequently too much in a hurry, to get their produc-tions before the public. It endeavors to show that fame in the literary world can only be obtained by patient and persistent efforts. Tenny-gen re-wrote his poem "Come into the Garden, Maud," fifteen times before he was satisfied with it. Thomas Moore considered himself industrious when he had completed seventy lines in a be had completed seventy lines in a week on his "Lalla Rookh." Kinglake's "Eothen" was rewritten at least week on lake's "Lotnen" was rewritten at least five times before it appeared. Buffon spent about balf a century on his "Studies of Nature." He had made a large book in five columns. In the first he wrote any fact or incident that happened to come under his obserthat happened to come under his obser-vation. The others he filled with ex-tracts arranged in the order need-ed. Sometimes the author wrote a sentence twenty times before he was sentence twenty times before he was satisfied with it, and once he is said to have spent fourieen hours in looking for the right word wherewith to round off a period. John Foster sometimes spent hours on one sentence. La Rochefoucauld spent fifteen years on his "Maximes." The post Rogers once called the attention of a friend to a few lines on Italy, on which he had been working almost two weeks. Gibbeen working almost y years on his work hon labored twenty years on his work on Rome. Bancroft spent iwenty-six on his History. Webster worked years on his History. Webster worked thirty-six years on his Dictionary. Sir Isaac Newton wrote his incidenty. Sir Isaac Newton wrote his chronological work sixteen times. The collector of these data might have added that Pascal is known to have reconstructed some of his Pensees twenty times, and that for depth of thought and elegance oflanguage he is probably unsurpassed in French literature.

Our time is perhaps too busy to act on precedents of this kind, but at all events they are instructive. And as a general rule, what costs the author no pain, is worthless. Gold must be dug out of the ground with great effort; diamonds must be well polished before the brilliant luster is apparent to the spectator. So, valuable thoughts are the products of the work of genius and their presentation in suitable form is dependent on intelligent study and patient practice.

## EX-CONGRESSMAN THOMAS FITCH.

A New York paper says: "One of the best campaign speakers who have visited this state from abroad is ex-Congressman Thomas Fitch, of Callfornia," and it then goes on to give a quotation from one of his recent speeches there. When Mr. Fitch was in Congress he represented Nexada, after which he settled down to the practice of law as a business and politics incidentally in this city, doing at least. He is all that is said of him as a public speaker, having an inexhaustible vocabulary, a facility of expression and grace of delivery rarely equaled. He is known in the West as the "silver-tongued," and some of his flights are truly silvery enough

but, to be just, they are not always silvern—just the appearance of it at the time being. His success at the bar has been attributed more to bis gift of oratory, than to bis legal attainments, and no doubt this is just, too. In an interview in San Francisco a year or so age Mr. Fitch was narrating how long he had been on the Pacific cossi, saying among other things that he "didn't count the time spent in Utah," to which the Ogden Standard wittily replied—"He made it count all the same."

### THE GAS STOCK SALE.

A day or two ago the local columns of the DESERET NEWS contained an article regarding the disposal of certain gas stock owned by the city to a Denver firm, the whole transaction savoring somewhat of a "deal," not in its exact dictionary sense but as here given, with considerable accent on the quotation marks. We have no charges to make nor were any made in the article spoken of; the facts as well as the surmises, were placed before the public and out of these crystallizes a suspicion which is neither vague nor shatowy, that all in that transaction was not as regular and as well considered as it might have been.

When the best stock on the market, said to be paying a dividend which would make it hold almost a hundred per cent premium, or nearly double what its face calls for, as a commercial entity, is sold for an advance of only thirty-three per cent above par, that circounstance alone is enough to engender a healthy suspicion; but when it further transpires, as a cotemporary suggests, that the sale was in the form of a pool into which the City Council should dump the stock held by the municipality at the rate last named, while individual holders were to pull out of the same transaction with \$180 —or somewhere near what the shares were worth—to their credit, all that was airy and evanescent in the suspicion is evolved luto materialization at once.

Perhaps there was a solid reason for the mysterious transaction. Perhaps these figures are all wrong, and deduction from them must as a consequence be wrong. To the outsider whole only permitted to pay taxes and ask unanswered questions there is frequently more or less that is occuit or opaque atlending every transaction which those whom we serve permit to reach the public at all; but it would seem that enough of this latest move has come to light to justify the Council in making a bare breast of the whole affair. The NEWS awaits their pleasure.

THE NEWS wishes its good friends the Stake clerks throughout all the Stakes of Zion would make a note of and take example from the report of the recent quarterly conference in Tooele as published in this issue. It is neither too long nor too short; it is just right, and gives succincily all the proceedings that need to be preserved in the columns of the DESERET NEWS. Brother Atkin has our thanks for his model report.

#### SALT LAKE'S PROSPERITY.

The census bureau at Washington is quitebusily engaged at present in sending out statistical bulletins showing up the status of the manufacturing and mechanical industries of the country. The one numbered 254 relates to Balt Lake City, and has just been received at this office. The following showings are made:

TOTALS FOR INDUSTRIES OMITTED IN 1890, BUT INCLUDED IN 1890.

Number of establishments reported	- 14
Ospital invested	\$22,180
Number of hands employed	71
Wages paid	\$20,629
Cost of materials used	\$33,415
Miscellancous expenses	\$10,996
Value of product at works	\$110,886

To ascertain the amounts for comparison with the totals for 1830, the foregoing figures should be subtracted from the totals for 1890, and the percentages of increase would then appear as follows:

#### PERCENTAGES OF INCREASE.

Capital invested
Number of hands employed
Wages paid
Cost of materials used100,66
Value of product at works
Population of city115,92
Assessed valuation of city
Municipal debt less sinking fund

Decrease in number of establishments reported, 18.67 per cent., which is caused by the fact that hand trades, such as custom boot and shoe making, the manufacture of bread and other bakery products, and carpenter ng, do not appear to have been as fully reported as in 1880. It is claimed that a "striking feature

It is claimed that a "striking feature of these returns is the satisfactory increase during the decade in the number of hands employed and the amount of wages paid," the increase being set out as from \$459 in 1880 to \$652 in 1890, or 42.05 per cent. A great many other statistics, corresponding substantially with the foregoing, also appear; and all tend to show a material increase in our material prosperity.

#### DESTROYING NATIONAL RELICS.

A few days ago mention was made in these columns of the fact that the private car in which President Lincoln used to visit the army and in which his body was brought back to Springfield for Interment, was lying in a wrecked condition at North Platte, Nebraska. It occurred to us that a relic of that dark and dreary period, around which clustered memories so sacred and abiding, should have better treatment in its olu age; that it ought to be given a quiet corner in some place where it would be accessible to anyone who wished to visit it, and there, secure from the weather and the vandal, be allowed to sink into dissolotion by the abrading hand of time.

But it seems our nation is not alone in the matter of neglecting cynosures of that kind; our cousins across the water are just as bad, perhaps worse. They have apparently less sentiment regarding trophies of national worth when these are once permitted to tumble into the channels of trade and traffic than we. The hull of the "Foudryant"--Neison's grand old warship at Trafalgar-was recently