

ous fields of labor and carry with them happy reflections of unity and friends.

H. E. CAMPBELL,  
Secretary.

### INQUIRIES CONCERNING UTAH.

Probate Judge Blair returned from his two weeks' trip to the east Sunday morning over the Union Pacific railroad, having had a delightful time. The judge spent most of the brief holiday at his disposal at his old home in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and divided up the remainder between Indianapolis, Dayton (Ohio) and Chicago.

In conversation with a NEWS reporter today he said that numerous inquiries were made of him concerning Utah, with special reference to Salt Lake City, in which a deep interest appears to be taken by Eastern people at this time. When asked by strangers whom he casually met in his travels, "Where do you reside?" he invariably replied:

"I reside in the great, the mighty, the ever progressing West—in a city situate hard by the banks where flows the river Jordan—in a city where, on the return of each revolving day one feels an almost irresistible inclination to sing the doxology—a city where the women walk the streets as if on springs of steel and men hold their heads aloft as if numbering the stars; the city where the Saints do dwell, the bouquet city of America; I need hardly add Salt Lake City is the name.

"My location being fixed, the next question would be 'How about the 'Mormons' and how many wives has each of them?' My reply would be—of late years one only. You will perhaps remember that some three years ago the Church publicly renounced polygamy and I am quite sure that they no longer practice it. About the same time the Church withdrew from politics by disbanding their party organization known as the People's party; consequently at an election to be held on the 6th of next month, for the first time since the organization of the Territory of Utah, the struggle for political supremacy will be alone between the Republican and Democratic parties. The 'Mormons,' I think, are about equally divided between the two parties. Yes, we are all Americans in Utah now, and we not only dwell together in unity but are united in everything which tends to the development of the vast resources of the Territory, or that will add to the comfort and happiness of its inhabitants.

"When will you be fully clothed with Statehood?" I was asked. "About the first of January, 1896," was my answer, "and when fully in the Union Utah will be one of the brightest stars in the gallery of sisterhood states. I know no reason why she should not be one of the grandest of commonwealths. She has within her boundaries everything which is possessed by any other state in the Union, and I may say more, which makes a great commonwealth. In Utah the capitalists can find opportunities for safe and profitable investments in their money enterprises which will present themselves, and the young man who has an ambition to become something will soon discover that Utah is the place,

above all others, to commence the race of life. It will be a bad place for drones, as they are liable to get run over, if not killed!

"This is about the way I answered questions and talked to the many new acquaintances I made during my trip, and who seemed anxious to learn more about Utah. One of these will be in our city next month and try to make an investment."

Judge Blair likewise informed the NEWS representative that he was agreeably surprised to learn the feeling which prevailed back east in the public mind in regard to the free coinage of silver. In Parkersburg, his native place, for instance, they were, he might say, invariably in favor of the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1. In reference to the business outlook, the judge said there apparently still exists great uneasiness and unrest among the people, though an improvement was looked for in the near future.

### CHAUNCEY W. WEST.

The funeral of the late Chauncey W. West, who was shot at Butte, Montana, on Friday last, by Clay Pugh, who was attempting to steal a ride on a train on which West was conductor, took place at Ogden Monday. Relatives from this city, Ogden and other places, and a large number of sympathizing friends, including railway men, assembled to pay their last respects to the deceased. Consolatory remarks were made by Elders Lorin Farr, Abraham H. Cannon, Franklin D. Richards and Lorenzo Snow. Elder A. H. Cannon offered the dedicatory prayer at the grave.

Chauncey Walker West was born on the 3d of August, 1849, in Salt Lake City. He moved to Ogden with his parents in 1856; was married to Sylvia Snow on the 9th of November, 1868, and shortly thereafter filled a mission to the Muddy, where he spent the required six months. In the spring of 1869 he was called on a mission to Switzerland, in which country he acquired the language and was instrumental in bringing quite a number of people into the Church, some of whom returned with him to Utah on his release in the fall of 1871. He lived for some time in Ogden, and when the Utah Northern railway was completed served as an employe of that company. He subsequently moved to Montana and was conductor on the first train that went into Butte City.

When the morning train on the Butte, Anaconda & Pacific railway left Butte at 10 a. m. Friday, for Anaconda, Mr. West was on board as conductor. The train had just pulled out of the Butte depot when the conductor discovered Pugh stealing a ride, and put him off. Pugh jumped on the rear platform of the caboose, where the conductor found him after the train had proceeded about a mile. The train was stopped, and Pugh again put off. He tried to get on again, and West resisted his effort, slapping him in the face in response to some vile language he used. At this he dropped back and West turned to go into the caboose. Pugh pulled his revolver and exclaimed, "You——, I'll fix you," and fired two shots, both entering the conductor's back, one on each side of the spine. It was said he fired a third

shot, but if so, this missed its aim. West fell off the platform, and witnesses to the shooting ran to his assistance. He was removed to Mrs. Whitford's residence until the hospital van arrival. Though vomiting blood and suffering severely, he talked freely to those around him, saying that on three or four occasions during the past week Pugh had tried to steal rides and had been put off. West stated he had but done his duty in the matter, and it was for this that Pugh shot him.

When the murderer fired the shots he started south on a run. Lew Holland and John Odgers followed, the latter having a revolver in which there was one load. After chasing Pugh for about a mile, Odgers fired this shot, and soon after this the murderer stopped. He did not know that Odgers's gun was empty, so he surrendered, though his weapon, a double-action 38-caliber Colt's revolver, had in it three empty and three loaded shells. It was the same weapon he had on him when arrested for robbery last spring, but when he was discharged for lack of evidence. When searched in the jail on Friday, he had \$50 in bills sewed on the inside of his undershirt, and had \$3.55 in silver in his pocket.

Clay Pugh was formerly from Iowa, where he has a mother and brother living on a farm near Bloomfield, Davis county. He also had a brother, Lafayette Pugh, at Glendale, Montana. He is 26 years old. When told that the conductor would die he did not manifest the least concern nor show any fear for the consequences. He admitted that he had walked away from the train and then turned and fired the fatal shots. He made a claim that the shooting was done in self-defence. He said that when West struck him he also put his hand in his hip pocket and thought he was going to shoot. At that Pugh said he fired one shot and missed the conductor, who still had his hand on his hip pocket, and then fired again. The answer to Pugh's claim lies in the fact that both bullets struck West squarely in the back, showing that he had completely turned around and was not facing his antagonist, and that he was unarmed.

When the crowd assembled around where the unfortunate conductor was, a stranger remarked to some of them: "It serves the Mormon right. He ought to die. He just put me off the train too." This caused a burst of indignation from those who heard it, causing the fellow to retire. Mr. West was removed to the hospital, where an examination revealed the fact that one ball had entered the back just over the right kidney, and one on the left side in almost a similar position. There was internal hemorrhage, and the doctors at once pronounced the wound fatal.

The unfortunate man retained consciousness up till a short time before he died, at 9:45 Saturday night. He knew that the wounds were mortal, and endeavored to cheer his wife and three daughter, and son, and others around him. One bullet had been removed on Friday night, and his ante-mortem statement was taken by the county attorney. In substance it gave the account of the affair as related in this article, saying