

On Wednesday two Assyrians, Michael and Nicholas Numair, brothers, appeared before Judge Northrup, a state judge, for final papers, and were refused on the ground that they were not white in the Caucasian sense, but Mongolians. The Assyrians then applied to Judge Bellinger, whose decisions as United States district judge have been characterized by learning and ability. Judge Bellinger issued the papers, holding that the Assyrians were not Mongols within the meaning of the Revised Statutes, and therefore were eligible to citizenship. This ruling would admit to citizenship Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders who are descendants of the Hebrew race, the same as the American Indians, and are not Mongolians.

### ON THE SECOND HALF CENTURY.

Utah's first Jubilee celebration is past, and her people have a sense of deep gratification at the grandeur of the success that has been achieved. It was a vast undertaking, instituted at a peculiar time in the national history, when there were more discouragements than usual to such an enterprise. But when the work was begun, its perplexities and difficulties were met and coped with in turn, and a glorious consummation was wrought out. To the Semi-centennial Commission, to the various counties, to the municipalities, to exhibitors, and to all who engaged in the onerous responsibilities of the celebration, who are too numerous to particularize by name, are given the thanks of an appreciative people. In matters of railway transportation both electric and steam, and in lodging and feeding the vast number of people which the city contained, the result was most satisfactory. In fact, from every point the State can look with pride upon the celebration of its semi-centenary.

There are many lessons to be drawn from the displays of last week, both as to the influence these will have abroad and what they manifest at home. In the former respect Utah will be better known and understood, and therefore her work and aims will be more highly appreciated; in the latter it is made clear that there is no commonwealth so prosperous as in this State and the adjoining country whose interests and methods are interwoven with those of the people of Utah. Compared with the conditions which are manifest elsewhere in connection with great exhibitions, as to the actual status of the masses of the people, the situation is most gratifying in Utah.

Fifty years ago, the people of this valley appeared to be making their start in circumstances of a most untoward character. Indeed, if they all had perished in the wilderness it would have been no surprise to those who did not recognize the hand of an Almighty power giving aid and protection to the exiled Saints. But those Saints manifested a sublime confidence in God, and conducting themselves in harmony with that faith were rewarded with success to a remarkable degree. The starting out upon the second half century of

Utah's history presents a different aspect so far as the natural prospects of the future are concerned, yet one that under the advanced conditions is in perfect accord with continued success. If it be accompanied by the same faith and determination, manifest in the same rigid conformity to principles of virtue, honor and industry, the achievements of the coming half century, based upon the accomplishments of the past fifty years, possess for Utah a future that in its magnificence is beyond the mind of man to conceive. May the lessons of thrift, of unity of effort, of unselfishness and determined perseverance, and of the noble aspirations that have characterized the past, be applied in the fullness of their beneficial influence to the success of the half century of Utah's work now entered upon.

### THE FEVER SPREADS.

Vessels that have been lying in comparative idleness, or at the most examining with no particular objective point ahead, along the Pacific coast are being put in commission and preparing to make trips northward as rapidly as possible. These craft are much more numerous than would have been thought a month ago, and it seems quite probable there will in a short time be a regular fleet of them plying between Seattle and Juneau or St. Michaels, but the lumber is nowhere near adequate to the demand. Every vessel that leaves port is chartered up to its full capacity some time before it is ready to go, and it is a safe proposition that were the carrying ability ten times as great as it is there would still be one to spare.

This state of affairs prevailing at a late time in the season, what is to be profited for the more propitious period, beginning about the middle of the latter part of next May? If thousands want to, and wish if they can, go now, the season is closing and with a certainty of not more than a month's good work to rely on till next year, it is reasonable to conclude that those who are holding back for the coming year can be counted upon by tens of thousands, always provided the craze does not subside in the meantime. These latter will find that they have been sensible against their will for once at least, as even though their minds are so fixed on the frozen north that they are incapable of attending business where they are, they are awaiting the settlement of the question of continuity in quarters much more hospitable than can be found anywhere within the Arctic circle of our life.

There is an abundance of gold in the Klondyke country; all doubt of this is at rest. It may also be believed with good grounds that there is considerable elsewhere in the frozen zone, as not a little has been extracted from the earth on the American side of the line which separates Alaska from British Columbia. More than this, it has been found contiguous to the coast where the rigors of the eight months' winter season are not quite so pronounced as at the scene of

the present excitement. As to how extensive the finds are in any of these places, nothing but hard, continuous work can determine; one thing, however, being pretty well settled—Klondyke up to date leads all lists if reports are anywhere near true.

The trip by the Yukon river, if made much later in the year than this, will have to be on sledges or some such contrivance, as early in the fall it begins to freeze and shortly after is practically a solid mass of ice from source to mouth. It is one of the most crooked streams on earth, so much so that the traveler upon it from St. Michael to Klondyke covers 1,900 miles, while the crow's flight would be less than half that distance. The mouth of the stream is nearly 100 miles north of the seal islands of the Bering sea and about twice as far south of the Arctic circle, yet it not only enters this region but traverses it for some distance about half way from St. Michael to the diggings. Those who are not naturally hardy, accustomed to privations and equipped in the most comprehensive manner, had better keep away from there till next year at least; even then they will find it an uninviting, sterile, hard place to get along in.

### CHAIRMAN SPENCER CLAWSON.

Now that the Pioneer Jubilee celebration has closed, attended with the highest success, the News wishes to express thanks publicly and specially to Spencer Clawson, chairman of the Semi-centennial Commission, for the magnificent work he has performed. Others have discouraged the party assigned them in most excellent form; but as chairman of the Commission, Mr. Clawson was placed in the position of highest responsibility. To him more than any other man is due the great success which has been achieved. Even where all have done so well, it is not an obvious distinction to specially single out Spencer Clawson for words of commendation in relation to the Pioneer Jubilee. He has merited it all, and more too. From the start to the finish he has served without compensation, neglecting his own business, and displaying pre-eminent ability and energy in all matters connected with the Jubilee celebration. To him are particularly due the thanks of the Pioneers for the attention directed toward them. As a reward of merit for his efficient services, the name of Spencer Clawson should go down in history connected with the Jubilee as deserving of the highest honor in conducting the great event.

### JAPAN'S PROTEST.

Japan continues, with considerable vigor, to protest against annexation of Hawaii by the United States. It is evident that the Mikado's government is determined to oppose such a step to the utmost of its power. There is some logic in the latest document on the question presented to our state department, but it is clear that the interest of Japan in the island republic is chiefly this, that a place is needed where the over-crowded population of