

done all along, and have just as much right to do as have the Presbyterians, but have not the right to misrepresent as the latter are doing. Dr. McMillan also complains that the Mormons are determined to rule Utah, and says the provision in the Constitution concerning polygamy is a dead letter—all of which is very amusing to those who dwell here and know the facts; and he adds:

I will give one instance of how the Statehood of Utah has helped Mormonism. When Utah was a Territory the directors and professors of the Agricultural College were all Gentiles, persons who were opposed to Mormonism. Since Utah has become a State almost all the directors and professors are Mormons.

Were the former directory and professors of the College opposed to Mormonism in the sense that they used their official positions adverse to Mormons or their religion? If they were, they were unfit for the State positions they held. Are the present directory and professors—who, by the way, are not "almost all" Mormons—favoring Mormons on religious grounds? If so, they, too, are not fitted for their official stations. But in view of his other assertions the NEWS could not accept this expert statement of the Presbyterian preacher, even if there were no evidence at hand to contradict it, which evidence is abundant.

There is one other plot, however, which the NEWS desires to call special attention to, since it comes to a vital spot in our State institutions. Dr. McMillan is an authority among Presbyterians, and in the dispatch referred to is quoted as saying that "if Utah had been a Territory ten years longer, Mormonism would have been stamped out;" the leading Presbyterians here and throughout the country are waging a persecutive war against the Mormons, and are quoting non-Mormon school teachers as being "opposed to Mormonism" in their operations in State schools here. At the same time a number of public school officials, and an especially large proportion of public school teachers in this city, are Presbyterians in faith. Are they using their positions in the public service to oppose Mormonism? Presbyterian papers and leaders say they are, as well as words and actions can express it. It is time to know whether or not the charge is true, that those interested in the non-sectarianism of the public schools may know where they are at. The accusation comes from the church organization to which the officials and teachers referred to belong. What is the response thereto?

A FORTUNE IN A FAD.

What energy and diligent application in apparently small things can accomplish was illustrated the other day, when Byron Ross of Chicago bought a hotel in Hurley, Wis., for \$35,000 and paid the price in used stamps. It took three million stamps to pay for the hotel, and the work of counting the novel medium of exchange was by no means an easy one.

Ross has for twenty years put all his energy into the collection of stamps. His playmates looked upon him

as a crank and his parents felt misgivings as to his future on account of the strong mania he seemed to have. But he always said that he would make a fortune out of his stamps; and he continued to buy and sell the little bits of paper. Forten years he was a letter carrier and sought every opportunity to acquire stamps. His collections were regarded as the most valuable in the country, some specimens being worth over \$1,000 apiece. He is said to have shipped millions of stamps to Japan and China, where they are used as ornaments for parlors, and made money on the business. But the exchange of a collection of stamps for a hotel is undoubtedly the most novel transaction of the kind on record. He has kept his promise to his parents to make a fortune in used stamps and has demonstrated what can be made out of a small thing well attended to—though it be only a fad.

WEST SUPPLYING THE EAST.

The fact that great statesmen often blunder egregiously in national policy, because of a provincialism which comes from their limited acquaintance with all parts of the country whose destinies they shape in a great degree, has another illustration in the action of the United States fish commission the past season, as compared with the policy of Daniel Webster half a century ago. At that time a proposition was before the United States Senate, looking to the establishment of a mail route from Independence, Mo., to the mouth of the Columbia river; it was denounced on the floor of the Senate by Mr. Webster, who said:

What do we want with this vast, worthless area? This region of savages and wild beasts, of deserts, of shifting sands and whirlwinds of dust, of cactus and prairie dogs? To what use could we ever hope to put these great deserts, or those endless mountain ranges, impenetrable, and covered to their very base with eternal snow? What can we ever hope to do with the western coast, a coast of over 3,000 miles, rockbound, cheerless, uninviting, and not a harbor on it? Mr. President, I will never vote one cent from the public treasury to place to Pacific coast one inch nearer to Boston than it is.

Sometimes, in their flights of oratory and intensity of feeling, a prophetic inspiration rests upon great political leaders. But it was not so with Webster. Providence was kinder to the Republic than Mr. Webster would have been, for the Great West was thrown into the hands of the United States—an invincible defense against any opposing nation on this continent, if it had been nothing more. But its hills and vales have given to the world's treasury hundreds of millions of dollars in the precious metals and other products, and have afforded homes and prosperity to tens of millions of people; and only the beginning is here. It has been shown that "this vast worthless area" is not only of inestimable value to the Republic, but that its financial worth reaches far beyond its "uninviting" shore line.

Referring to the fish commission's operations, Bradstreet's recites that one

of the features of the work of the commission for the season has been the stocking of some of the rivers along the Atlantic coast with the fry of Pacific coast salmon, with the view of developing the salmon industry on the former coast. That paper goes on to say that "the commission is going this year to send a vessel which has been working among the seal rookeries to investigate the condition of the salmon streams in southeastern Alaska, from which 60,000,000 pounds of salmon were taken last year;" and it adds that the statement has been made that the proceeds from the Alaskan salmon catch alone aggregate in value every three years the amount paid for the territory.

There are still a good many people in the East who think of the West as a wild and worthless section, comparatively, but if they will give their intelligence a chance, they cannot be long in learning that the West is doing a good work in supplying the East with much of its needs for prosperity.

HOW MONEY GROWS.

Some time ago a couple of lines in a published report on stocks conveyed the information that Standard Oil stock had been sold at \$300 a share, the highest price hitherto obtained. A contemporary commenting upon this item calls attention to the fact that this means that Mr. J. D. Rockefeller's fortune had been increased to the tune of \$55,000,000 in nine months, and that he now is worth in the neighborhood of \$244,000,000.

The paper further calculates that this capital brings an income of \$1,500,000 every month, or \$50,000 a day, or \$2,083 an hour, day and night, workday and holiday. Mr. Rockefeller generally sleeps eight and a half hours every night, but every morning when he awakes as finds himself \$17,705 wealthier than when he went to bed. He takes his breakfast at 8 o'clock, and half an hour later, when he has finished, he has earned \$1,041.50. He goes to church on Sunday, and after the two hours' services he has \$4,166 added to his wealth. And this gentleman was 35 years ago not worth \$1,000, it is said.

Rockefeller is now thought to be the wealthiest man in the world. His accumulation of money is probably without parallel, at least so far as history goes. None of the reigning monarchs are as well paid as he. Queen Victoria's income is estimated at \$2,000,000 a year, of which she spends \$1,700,000. The Russian czar has perhaps a little more to spend than the Queen, but all the other monarchs are veritable financial pygmies compared to Rockefeller. What an opportunity to do good entrusted to one individual! What a responsibility, if the opportunity is neglected!

RELIGION OF THE MORMONS.

Owing to circumstances which need no explanation here, the majority of professing Christians have been given an incorrect idea of the religious belief of the Mormon people; but during recent years the Latter-day