

in which he gave an account of his travels and experiences is referred to at this day, his descriptions being graphic and interesting. He impressed the people favorably in relation to his powers as a public speaker.

We have no detailed data at hand to aid us in giving an outline of his remarkable and eventful course since that time; he must therefore be spoken of in general terms. He was appointed to go on a mission to the Sandwich Islands nearly 30 years ago. Shortly afterwards all the Elders from Utah, with the exception of himself, were withdrawn from the islands and called home, leaving him in full charge. Having an open field for the exercise of his unscrupulous proclivities, he was not slow to take advantage of the situation to enhance his personal interests. At that time the gathering place of the Church in that mission was on the island of Lanai. The land belonged to a native named Haselele. Gibson resolved to purchase it, and adopted a novel plan to raise sufficient means for the purpose. Being unable to procure it by the ordinary method of free donations, he sold offices in the Priesthood, or rather pretended to do so, as no office can be obtained or conferred in that order under fraudulent conditions. The price charged by him was graded according to the importance or otherwise of the particular office he pretended to bestow. We understand from Elder Henry P. Richards, some years ago a missionary to the islands, that he has in his possession one of the certificates of ordination issued by Gibson to one of the natives for a consideration. Having secured the requisite funds the adventurer purchased the land which had been used as a gathering place, from Haselele, and had the deed made out in his own name.

The subsequent visit of Apostles Lorenzo Snow and Ezra T. Benson, Elders Joseph F. Smith, W. W. Cluff and Alma L. Smith, to the islands, and their dealing with his case, resulting in his being excommunicated from the church, are matters of history. The land on Lanai being unsuitable for plantation purposes, owing to the water supply being inadequate, Gibson used it as a sheep rancho, becoming the owner of a very large herd.

Ultimately Mr. Gibson was elected to the Legislature from the Lanai district. His mind being of a subtle, insinuating cast, and possessing much more than average ability, he soon ingratiated himself into the good graces of King Kalakaua, who is personally, from all we can learn, honestly inclined, and has a kindly disposition. Gibson was finally made Premier and minister of finance, and upon him has been cast the burden of the odium for the complicated state of the affairs of the kingdom, resulting in the recent revolutionary movement with which our readers are familiar. Popular feeling ran so high against Mr. Gibson some months ago, while the clamor that preceded the late reconstruction of the government was at its height, that his life was in imminent danger. A warrant was issued for his arrest, but he managed, by some expert maneuvering, to elude capture, and came to San Francisco. His son-in-law was not so fortunate, as the officers succeeded in securing his arrest. Subsequently, however, it appears that proceedings in relation to both were dismissed.

During Mr. Gibson's public career, and indeed from the time of his excommunication from the Church, he never took any step toward atoning the Latter-day Saints. He appeared to realize what he had done while associated with them and to signify by his attitude toward them that if they would let him alone he would be quite willing to act similarly toward them. Our reason for making this necessarily imperfect allusion to his career is the fact of his former connection with our community, causing many people to feel an interest in the fate of one whose life record is tinged with the tinge of romance. Some of its chapters are covered with blots, but the volume is finished and even a story like his may not be entirely devoid of landmarks, which point a moral and adorn a tale.

### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS.

On the 12th ult. a bill was introduced into the United States Senate and referred to the Select Committee on the Centennial of the Constitution and the Discovery of America, appropriating \$800,000 to defray the expenses of celebrating at the national capital, "in a manner becoming the dignity of the United States," the one hundredth anniversary of the Constitution, which will occur next spring. Under the provisions of this bill the President of the United States is authorized and requested to invite the presidents, chief justices and ministers of the fifteen Spanish-American republics to visit Washington and participate in the ceremonies of the celebration. The reason for this invitation is suggested in the preamble of the bill, which recites that all of these republics have modeled their organic laws more or less closely after that of the United States.

The bill provides for the creation of the Constitutional Centennial Commission, to consist of nine members, who are to be appointed as follows: Three by the President of the United States,

three by the President of the Senate and three by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. This Commission is to have charge of the preparations for, and the ceremonies of, the celebration. This bill, or some similar one, will very likely be passed, but until a law is made and the Commission has been appointed, and has formed a plan for the celebration, nothing definite can be stated of the manner in which the great anniversary will be commemorated.

On the 5th inst., another bill of a similar character was introduced into the Senate, "To provide for a World's Exposition at the National Capital in 1892, and thereafter a permanent exposition of the Three Americas, in honor of the 400th Anniversary of the discovery of America." This bill contemplates a world's exposition, to be held at Washington in 1892, and the establishment thereafter of a permanent exposition of the three Americas, under the joint auspices of the United States, the forty-six States and Territories, and the sixteen independent sister nations of the American continent.

The management of this exposition is to consist of a governmental board of twenty-one directors; seven to be appointed by the President of the United States, seven by the President of the United States Senate, and seven by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. In addition to this board there is to be an advisory board of sixty-two members, one from each state and territory of the Union, and one from each of the sixteen nations joining in the great affair. The bill provides for space for the necessary buildings, on some government reservation in Washington, to be available as soon as the states, territories and national governments interested shall appropriate means for the necessary structures, but contemplates no appropriation of money by this government.

The ratification of the Constitution of the United States and the discovery of the New World by Columbus, are two events which deserve to be commemorated while time shall continue and the sentiment of the American people, using the term in a continental sense, will doubtless impel them to join, with befitting zest, in a centennial celebration of two occurrences of such superlative interest and importance to the race. There is little doubt that Congress will by the adoption of the above bills, or other suitable provisions, pave the way for the signaling, in a suitable manner, of these two grand centennials.

A number of national organizations, including the American Bar Association, have adopted resolutions favoring the celebration of one or both of these centennials, and the government of Spain has signified an intention to take the initiative in commemorating the discovery made by Columbus, and a willingness to take part in any celebration of it which may be engaged in upon this continent.

### MORE ABOUT THE ATTACHMENT MEASURE.

The discussion that has been provoked by Mr. Marshall's bill for a law in relation to attachments has attracted considerable attention to the subject. If we have been properly informed, some misstatements have been made by the side friendly to the pending measure for the purpose of propping it. We will give them the benefit of the doubt, and admit that the utterances referred to may be the result of misinformation.

For instance, it has recently been asserted that the law of Nevada in relation to attachments is substantially the same as that introduced by Mr. Marshall. In other words it has been claimed that the statement that the Nevada statute of 1869, which created great dissatisfaction in that State, was never repealed. We are enabled to place this matter beyond dispute, the chapter in the civil code of Nevada in relation to attachments having been repealed February 14th, 1887, and the following enacted in its stead:

"Sec. 123. The plaintiff at the time of issuing the summons, or at any time afterwards, may have the property of the defendant attached as security for any judgment that may be recovered, unless the defendant give security to pay such judgment as hereinafter provided in the following cases:

First—In an action upon contract for the direct payment of money made or by the terms thereof payable in this State, which is not secured by mortgage, lien or pledge upon real or personal property situated or being in this State, and if so secured when such security has been rendered negatory by the act of the defendant.

Second—In an action against a defendant not residing in the this State.

Third—In an action by a resident of this State for the recovery of the value of property, where such property has been converted by a defendant without the consent of the owner.

Fourth—Where a defendant has absconded, or is about to abscond, with the intent to defraud his creditors.

Seventh—Where a defendant is about to convert his property, or any part thereof, into money, with the intent to place it beyond the reach of his creditors.

Eighth—Where a defendant has assigned, removed, disposed of, or is about to dispose of his property, or any part thereof, with the intent to defraud his creditors.

Ninth—Where a defendant has fraudulently or criminally contracted a debt or incurred the obligation for which suit has been commenced.

Sec. 14. The clerk of the court shall issue the writ of attachment upon receiving and filing an affidavit by or on behalf of the plaintiff, showing the nature of the plaintiff's claim that the same is just, the amount which the affiant believes the plaintiff is entitled to recover, and the existence of any one of the grounds for attachment enumerated in the preceding section."

Those who compare the foregoing with the present Utah statute will find them to be substantially the same. Perhaps it may be too loose and liable to be taken advantage of by dishonest debtors. If a statute could be formulated that would bear more vigorously upon that class and thus be a greater protection to creditors it would be conducive to the public welfare. But it should be framed so as not to place people who get into temporary financial difficulty by force of circumstances, but who are honest, at the mercy of one or more unscrupulous creditors, who might ruin their business. It is not sound policy to legislate simply to catch the dishonestly disposed without taking into consideration the probable effect a proposed measure may have upon the honest but unfortunate.

### ACCOUNTS OF DISTRICT COURTS.

It is alleged that methods pursued in the District Courts of this Territory, in issuing certificates of attendance and mileage to witnesses and jurors, result in a loss and expense to the Territory which might be avoided were a more rigid and accurate financial system adopted. We have not heard of any charge made in this connection involving a suspicion of dishonesty or moral turpitude, in respect to any individual, and the loss to the Territorial Treasury may be merely the result of a laxity in the system of paying witnesses and jurors now in vogue. From representations which have been made relative to this subject, it is apparent that it ought to receive attention from the Legislature. In support of this view, a report rendered to the Assembly of 1882 by John E. Booth, is subjoined:

To the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah:

On the 20th day of February, 1880, by legislative enactment, I was appointed a "Special Commissioner to examine District Court Records" in the First Judicial District of Utah Territory, "for criminal matters," pertaining to "expenses for jurors and witnesses." I proceeded at once, after learning of said appointment, with my labors in said office. I discovered that there had been no abstracts made of services of jurors and witnesses after the February term, 1878. I therefore carefully examined the records of said court for the years 1878 and 1879, and made abstracts therefrom as best I could; said records, however, did not give me the necessary information from which to complete said abstracts; I therefore advertised, at my expense, notifying holders of certificates to present them to me before they would be allowed. This referred to the years 1878, 1879 and the first part of 1880. There was a very liberal response. With the certificates and records of the court I completed the abstracts, which are now filed with the Auditor of Public Accounts.

I found, on comparing the records and certificates, that in a majority of instances certificates issued to jurors called for pay for the whole time in attendance on court, making no difference with civil and criminal business. The records showed no accounts of witnesses before the grand jury, most of such certificates having been issued by the clerk of the grand jury in a very careless manner, as to their correctness as to time and mileage.

The certificates presented to me for the year 1878, not including the February term, amounted to \$5,138.30; amount allotted thereon, 3,622.70; errors, found therein, 1,515.60.

Certificates presented to me for 1879, not including a portion paid by the Auditor previous to my appointment, \$6,846.20; amount allowed, \$6,119.40; errors found therein, \$726.80.

The whole amount paid by the Auditor for the years 1878 and 1879 amount to \$13,573.50; errors found and not allowed, \$2,242.40; total costs for 1878-9, \$15,815.90.

This does not include quite a large amount of certificates presented to me and found to be wholly erroneous, and therefore rejected.

The whole costs of 1880 amount to \$3,404.10, of which there is still unpaid, \$196.60; the whole cost of 1881 amounts to \$3,068.20, all unpaid. Total costs for 1880-1, \$3,470.30; of which there is now unpaid, \$3,263.80.

There is probably about \$500 on the year 1878-9, yet unpaid, the appropri-

tion being all paid out before I was ready to report on some of the claims.

The above figures show a reduction of expenses in jurors' and witness' fees for 1880-1 over that of 1878-9 of \$7,345.60.

The costs of 1880-1 are necessarily larger than they would have been if the district had not been divided.

It may be that the laxity shown in the foregoing report has been corrected in part by the operation of subsequent legislation, though positive statements are made to the effect that it still continues to some extent.

### THE PRESIDENT'S GIFT TO THE POPE.

The Pope of Rome recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his entrance to the priesthood of the Catholic Church; perhaps we ought to say that his friends and fellow churchmen celebrated it for him, since they made all the arrangements, perfected all the plans and left His Holiness more a "looker-on in Venice" than otherwise. Not only those of his own faith but many who were even Protestants joined in making it a memorable occasion not merely for the Papacy but for Leo individually. All the civilized sovereigns of Europe forwarded some kind of substantial testimonial to be presented to him on the occasion, and considered intrinsically they aggregated a considerable value. It was not to show a leaning to Catholicism, necessarily, but simply as a mark of respect for the spiritual ruler of more souls than any physical ruler numbers in his dominions, and as a tender of respect to the Pope as an educated, distinguished gentleman, on his arrival at the jubilee year in a calling which embraces all of his rewards of merit on earth and his hopes of reward for faith in the world to come. Nothing was solicited, and what was given was presented as a voluntary tender, so that each consulted his own taste and circumstances as to the kind, quality and value of the present he sent. Our President, Mr. Cleveland, had a copy of the Constitution of the United States specially printed in large type and with open pages, conveniently arranged and splendidly bound, and this comparatively cheap and simple testimonial was forwarded just as one gentleman of good breeding and lofty instincts always presents a thing to another, without apologies or excuses and as though it were intrinsically the most valuable gift in the whole collection.

The way in which the President's gift would be received was a matter of some little speculation if not curiosity. Saturday last was designated as the day on which the formal presentation should be made, and on that day, in the throne room of the Vatican, Archbishop Ryan, of the American delegation, presented the gift accompanying it with a little speech in which love of our country and its institutions blended harmoniously enough with respect and veneration for the Holy Father. The Pope's reply was quite felicitous; he said he had received presents from numerous sources and of great value, but none that afforded him the pleasure that that one did. He expressed his gratitude to the people of the United States and his high regard for their President, and concluded by bestowing his blessing upon them, asking theirs in return. This was all simple enough, and yet as dignified and impressive as the most potential circumstance could require. The Pope afterwards ordered the American gift placed on exhibition with those of the kings and other potentates.

Now this was all simply an expression of friendliness; to not have done it would have made our President take on somewhat the semblance of a boor and bigot, while to have sent something costly and gaudy would have looked too much like the action of a sycophant and snob. He is neither one nor the other, but an American thoroughly imbued with American principles and having a sense of appreciation of the dignity and importance of his position, and he did exactly right, going neither beyond the mark nor "coming tardy off." Yet there be papers and people who have set up a wall and offered a protest loud and deep over his action. Some people are only happy when they are miserable, apparently, and when everything seems to be progressing properly, so far as others can see, that class will dash out sorrow and tribulations dark and dismal from the placid waters. They can only see that President Cleveland's action is a humiliation to us as citizens of a secular republic and a blow in the face of the Goddess of Liberty. It is useless to reason with that class; the proper thing to do is to let them croak it out. When they "come to" and find things going on pretty much as they were when the fit struck them, that Leo XIII has not established his throne in America and that the President has not embraced the Catholic faith, they will then look about them for some other matter laden with apprehension to brood and groan over.

### REPORTS OF RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

ADDRESSES from returned missionaries at the religious services in the Tabernacle or Assembly Hall in this city have become of late quite a feature of those gatherings. As a rule they are very interesting to the hearers. The Elders are selected by the ecclesiastical authorities and the appointments are sustained by the Church as a body. They go to various parts of the earth, meet with varying success and have many experiences. The Saints take pleasure in hearing descriptions of the manners and customs of the people among whom the Elders mingle while abroad, how the message of the Gospel has been received and its bearers treated, and listening to relations of incidents and circumstances that have been encountered.

In our view, the report given of his labors last Sunday by Elder George S. Taylor, recently returned from New Zealand, was a model statement of its class. It was delivered in a plain, straightforward way and in an humble spirit, and was of absorbing interest. It transported the listener to the land of the Maories, so he could see them in imagination, while there was conveyed to his mind a phenomenal phase of the work of the Lord, the progress of the Gospel among that people being truly one of the marvels of the latter times. When the rapidity with which it has moved and the character and condition of the people are considered it must be admitted that it has few parallels in this dispensation.

The novelty of the work in which Elder Taylor has been so recently employed perhaps gave him some advantage as a returned missionary in the line of interesting the people. At the same time there are few brethren who go into the world on similar business but who, after an experience of two or three years, have, if they have been observant, much to tell that more acceptable to the Saints than would both interest and instruct, and probably be, on their return home, wholly doctrinal discourses, making an acceptable variety.

The London Telegraph recently said: A remarkable warning was addressed yesterday by an authorized voice to the Socialist element in the municipal council. The writer predicts that if the Ultras persist in carrying out their programme to the bitter end they will drive all the wealthy classes out of the French metropolis. "Without even taking foreigners into consideration, is there not," he asks, "a tendency which is leading those persons who are not compelled to live in Paris, to leave it more and more, or only to retain a modest pied-a-terre within its walls?" This is perfectly true. Many of the larger apartments are now unoccupied, and during the last year or two their rents have fallen to an appreciable extent. Yet tenants are not easily to be found. The smaller apartments, on the other hand, maintain their prices. Keepers of restaurants have also a doleful tale to tell as they talk of the vanished glories of the past. Money is not spent as lavishly as was formerly the case, and without the "exotic" l'oco—to borrow the expression—no less a justification here—it is difficult to say now trade would be kept going.

An egg that would bring several hundred dollars would generally be regarded as an exaggeration, but such a one was laid before an assemblage of ornithologists and others in London the other day, for sale to the highest bidder. It was an egg of the great auk (now extinct), the auctioneer explained, and exactly sixty-six, no more, no less, were known to be in existence. It brought 160 guineas. It will hereafter be known as the 160-guinea egg.

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