

years ago we had six Elders in this conference and now we have twelve and room for several more. But we think it would be a good idea for our Elders to study at home and prepare themselves there for the work, then they will not have to study and drill six months before they can assist their companion.

I hope those few lines will encourage the young to inform themselves on the Gospel.

R. C. HARVEY.

AN IMPORTANT GATHERING.

If the Trans-Mississippi Congress which convened at Ogden today is not a grand success as to all the features which called it together, then is there ignorance as to why it shall be so at this end of the line. The people of the "vast, illimitable, bounding West," as it used to be called in the early days, by reason of their peculiar experiences, products and conditions, are quite as distinctly a section unto themselves as are the people of the South. In either case, it amounts to a vast family whose dissimilarities are personal but whose welfare is largely common and whose sympathies and feelings go out to each other first, to other people next.

Perhaps we are reaching a stage of things beyond which the Father of Waters will become a line of demarcation more pronounced and distinct than is Mason and Dixon's line, for the latter being imaginary could only be maintained by the perpetuation of a sentimental condition, while the Mississippi is a physical and at times and in places an impassable barrier between the sections; while just now there is a more pronounced feeling one against the other on both sides of that mighty stream than has existed between the northerner and southerner for a decade at least. We all know what causes it and the congress at the junction city, so far from being an agitator or a nullifier, will doubtless prove a harmonizer, at least its bent ought to be in that direction.

We believe another rebellion—not a prolonged, fierce and bloody one like the last, but one in which the brain and brawn of men would be the factors and the instinct of self-preservation the incentive—could be worked up between the northern and southern sections of the country if the principal product of the latter were to be so legislated against that its value would thereby shrink fifty per cent in the markets of the nation and be so hampered with conditions that it could not go abroad at all. Suppose Congress were to declare by enactment that cotton should no longer be used for the chief purpose for which it was designed by nature—that of being the warp and in many instances the woof also of the lighter fabrics—thus practically driving it out of the marts of trade at home; and were to place an inhibitory tariff upon its exportation, so that those who use it most in their manufactures in this country would have things in their own hands and could give much or little for the product as they pleased, thus placing the southern producer entirely at the mercy of the northern dealer—would not that precipitate a crisis? We think so, and it would not be as ephemeral

and inconsequential as those semi-periodical affairs in France either.

It may be said that the cases are not parallel—would not be even if the condition imagined above were a reality. The only point curtailing the similarity that we can see is that the articles referred to are different and have different functions—one belongs in the vegetable, the other in the mineral kingdom; one is for the manufacture of staples, the other to be the medium by which such staples shall be produced and circulated among those who require them. In a certain sense neither is a necessity, since man's necessities when reduced to the lowest proportions at which he can "live and get around" are few indeed; but both are indispensable auxiliaries to man in a higher and more generous life, and by means of diffusion have a direct tendency to make all others as well as the immediate producers prosperous, educated and happy.

We don't want any separate arrangement on this side the Mississippi, nor would we have the people further apart in any sense than they now are. We would rather have them closer together. But they must be made to see that we cannot permit the selfish interests of a few men in the extreme east to dominate the money situation to our continued and increasing disadvantage. The way they have been going on for some years makes it look as if only the swelling of their own coffers and not the welfare of the country was the design; as if more and more is to be added to their mountains of wealth at our immediate expense, but in a general way that of every workingman and limited producer in the country. They demand that a Constitutional dollar of the United States have the power of paying only 65 cents of indebtedness because it is white and thus cutting down proportionately the value of everything which the debtor produces for the market—actually more than doubling what he owes. It is this inequitable arrangement—this legalized robbery we might say—that is weighing heavily upon the western mind, that is causing the western man to ask if it would not be better to have a separate commercial arrangement, one in which we can return to the state of things authorized by the Constitution and make both gold and silver full legal tender for all obligations public and private. "Let the East," such man is prone to saying, "maintain its gold standard in defiance of the Constitution; we prefer to uphold it and the time has come to do so. It will not then be long before the East will be in the condition of England, with its business prostrate, money scarce and hard to get, idlers swarming in every commercial center, and the only activity being at the money changers' headquarters; while the West, with an equitable and legal system by means of which all its products will be utilized to the best advantage, will become all that every part of the country might be—Independent and prosperous."

The Trans-Mississippi Congress has many questions of importance to consider and dispose of, but none we think is entitled to more profound consideration than the one herein outlined. The NEWS wishes the members the fullest degree of success in all particu-

lars and hopes their deliberations may be harmonious and happy, resulting in honor and profit to themselves and those who sent them.

NO MORE TO BE ADMITTED.

The Temple was erected in order that there might be a proper place for the performance of certain rites of the Church. In these, naturally enough, only members of the Church can participate, and after the edifice has been dedicated to the Lord any other than sacred ceremonies therein and the admission of any others than those entitled by such membership thereto, would be manifestly improper. As much latitude in this direction as the time and circumstances admitted of was given before the dedication services began, and many ladies and gentlemen not of our faith were given an inspection of the interior; such inspection, however, could not occur with propriety at any other time, and we now make the announcement, in order that there may be no misunderstanding in the premises, that hereafter non-Mormons will not be permitted to enter the building.

We learn that a good many tourists and others, laboring under a strange misapprehension, have been waiting here for the purpose of going through the Temple after the dedicatory services are completed, and for this we are truly sorry. The Church authorities would not wilfully disappoint anyone nor act in any other way than that of hospitality so far as it can be properly done; but it should be remembered that they have made no promises that should lead any one to expect otherwise than what is herein contained, nor should they be expected to annul all other rules obtaining in the case in order that visitors may be gratified, much as it would please the authorities to be able to gratify them in all proper respects.

THE FARE TO THE FAIR.

A good deal of censure is being felt and expressed at the high-tariff schedules of the railroads, regarding visitors to the World's Fair. The rate which has been adopted from this city is pronounced not only excessive but outrageous, and the NEWS would be glad if it had the means at its command to show that such judgment is erroneous. It looks as though the competing lines had decided not to compete from here, for this particular occasion, taking full advantage of the great crowds that are tolerably sure to visit the opening of the Exposition. Whether it is the intention to make a reduction soon after that or at all is not disclosed.

The complaint extends further west than here; in fact, it extends all over the coast. A recent number of the *San Francisco Chronicle* says the foolish manner in which the railroads of this country do business is beautifully illustrated by the present and prospective situation of the passenger rate schedule to and from Chicago. Some time ago there was an attempt made to agree upon a uniform rate which should be something like 40 or 50 per cent below the usual rate for round-trip fares to Chicago, but the attempt