

Upper California. It is a very liberal document, and will compare favorably with the constitution of any of the old states.

An article from the New York Tribune is also given on the same subject, which refers to the name Deseret as "a mystical appellation derived from their religious dialect, and signifying the land of the honey bee or of industry and all kindred virtues," and says of the application for statehood that the "great reason for the recognition of the State is the ability of the people to pay the cost of administering their affairs, which will save the general government the cost of a territorial establishment." The number of Mormons then in the State is fixed by the New York paper at 10,000, and it is noted in regard to the Constitution that it was modeled after the form usually followed in the nation, guaranteed religious liberty, and said nothing of slavery.

The other contents of the News first number are of more than usual interest at this time. The advertising is a special feature, and the News itself proposes to take flour, wheat, corn meal, butter, cheese, tallow and pork on its subscription price. It tells of the discussion in the United States Senate on the proposition to dissolve the Union; gives a vision which John C. Calhoun relates of when George Washington appeared to him and upbraided him for his intention to sign a paper declaring the Union dissolved—in this vision Calhoun says Washington informed him that an ink-looking blotch on the back of his right hand was a mark which distinguished Benedict Arnold, and the South Carolinian also says Washington presented him with the bones of Isaac Hayne, another South Carolinian who gave his life to establish the Union, but who had no blotch on his hand. The same issue of the News contains the announcement of Calhoun's death; a letter from General Wilson, of Missouri, in which the latter estimates the Mormons in Salt Lake City in September, 1849, to number four to five thousand, and says: "A more orderly, earnest, industrious, and civil people I have never been amongst. I have not met in a citizen a single idler, or any person who looks like a loafer."

In the same issue, June 15, 1850, there is mention of the great San Francisco fire; the cholera that was then making its appearance in the states upon the great epidemic which afterwards raged; an analysis of the waters of the Warm Springs in this city and of the soda lakes at Independence Rock, Wyoming; the surrender of the Michigan copper mines to the Indians; the fears of bloodshed in the national House of Representatives over the question of dissolving the Union because of the slavery question; statistics of the Church in Wales, where 1,357 had been baptized in six months; the great fire in Stockton, Cal.; the announcement of the death, at Richmond, Missouri, on March 3, 1850, of consumption, of Oliver Cowdery, one of the three witnesses to the Book of Mormon; and some other items, one of which is the first piece of poetry published in this valley, and which

Editor Richards suggests is "Friend B's first attempt." It is as follows:

#### TO MY FRIENDS IN THE VALLEY.

Let all who would have a good paper,  
Their talents, and time never abuse;  
Since, 'tis said, by the wise and the humored,  
That the best in the world is the News.  
Then ye who so long have been thinking  
What paper this year you will choose,  
Come trip gaily up to the office,  
And subscribe for the DESERET NEWS.  
And now, dearest friends, I will leave you,  
This counsel I pray you, don't lose;  
The best of advice I can give you  
Is, pay in advance for the News, B.

The News yet numbers among its subscribers many old friends of 1850 and the years immediately preceding. It has a grateful appreciation of the steadfast support of these and the thousands of new and firm friends whose acquaintance has been formed in later years. For all these, and others yet to come, the News sincerely hopes that it will be worthy their highest confidence and esteem as a faithful chronicler of events, a defender of the rights of the people, and a promulgator of the principles of eternal truth and liberty; and on this, the commencement of its forty-eighth volume, it sends greeting to all the good and the true, a hearty God bless you!

#### A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.

M. Samenhof of Grodno, Russia, who is interested in the adoption of an international language, has issued a circular on the subject, the contents of which he desires to become widely known. There can be no doubt as to the need of such a language. People already dream of communication with other planets, while, as M. Samenhof points out, the members of one human family are as yet incapable of communicating with one another, and on this account avoid and hate each other.

The existence of a universal language, that is one by common consent adopted for international purposes, would save the student the vast labor of learning many languages, which when mastered only bring him in touch with a small portion of the world. By one language known everywhere he would be enabled to draw at pleasure from the well-springs of contemporary literature and communicate with the various portions of the human family at pleasure. But the question is how to arrive at a decision concerning what language to elevate to the position of universality. Is any of the vernacular tongues suitable for the purpose? Or, would it be better to revive any of the dead languages? Or, is a new language to be invented? In order to obtain the prevailing opinion upon these questions, M. Samenhof proposes to take a vote and in his circular he explains the rules by which everyone interested to an international language can take part in the voting. He says:

Everyone who wishes to participate in the discussion and decision on the question of an international language is requested to send a notification of the fact, in any language, to L. Samenhof, Grodno, Russia; and anyone desiring to express his ideas on, or motives for, the

adoption of this language or that, is requested to send, in addition, an essay on the subject. Such essay or article may be written in any language.

All papers so received, in whatever spirit conceived or in the interests of whatever party written, will be printed in book form, impartially and verbatim, with no comments whatever, and this book will be sent to all those taking part in this "congress of minds." The book will be published in three volumes. As an appendix to the third and last volume, a blank form will be printed, on which each person taking part in the convention will be requested to send to the editor of the book replies to the following questions:

A). Do you find, after perusing this universal expression of opinion, i. e. after a thorough reading of these volumes, that (1) one of the already existing languages, (natural, artificial, living or dead), should be adopted as the international language? Or that (2) none of the already existing languages can serve for this purpose, and a totally new language must be created?

B). If you answer question (1) in the affirmative, please state what language (natural or artificial, living or dead) you would desire to select as the international tongue.

If you answer question (2) in the affirmative, it should not be forgotten that the final decision of the demand will be either impracticable or, at any rate, will be postponed indefinitely. In this case, please state which of the already existing tongues you would propose as a provisional language until such time as the final language shall be created, tested and authoritatively sanctioned.

Three months after the distribution of the voting blanks, the acceptance of votes will cease. All votes then received will be published, and the language which has received the largest number of votes will be proclaimed as "international"—permanently or provisionally, according as the majority of votes is cast in favor of question (1) or question (2).

The idea is great and novel. When the vote shall have been taken, those who agitate the question of an international language will know definitely in what direction their efforts must go in order to secure success. The more that participate in the discussion the greater will be the importance of the results achieved.

#### THE HAWAIIAN TREATY.

The prospect now is that Hawaiian annexation soon will be an accomplished fact. The action is likely to cause a little commotion in diplomatic circles abroad lest the United States may enter upon a colonial policy that might affect European nations, but this will subside as it is realized that any such policy suggested by Hawaiian annexation is very limited in its scope. As the treaty was signed today by the representatives of the Hawaiian republic and this government, there is no room for any important dispute. The extension over Hawaii of the United States laws restricting mongolian immigration may cause Japan to ask some questions about the Japan-Hawaii treaty, but since Hawaii ceases to exist as a separate government those questions will be answered easily. There is no new complication because of the Chinese and Japanese now on the Sandwich Islands, for they are prohibited from changing their residence to any other state or terri-