

Utah utterly ignores the divine command, "Thou shalt not bear false witness." The Lord shall judge those prosecutors for their wickedness. But the people of this nation should be watchful, lest they are deceived by smooth tongues into the unchristian crime of persecuting their fellowmen, as the writers for and supporters of the movement referred to are doing.

### TRANSMISSISSIPPI CONGRESS WORK.

The Transmississippi Commercial congress closed its work after the NEWS went to press on Saturday evening. For four days it had been in session, and representative men of the West engaged in thoughtful discussion of important topics affecting the welfare of the West in particular, yet of superior importance to the nation at large. Throughout the congress the best of good feeling prevailed, and with it the best of judgment pertaining to matters under consideration. It is not saying too much, nor belittling the energy and work of previous congresses, to say that none has done its work better than the session just closed. The accomplishment there is full of portent for the improvement and development of the Great West, and every active worker in the congress merits the commendation of the people here as well as of his constituency at home.

A fitting episode of the closing moments of the congress was the reference to President Woodruff as the representative Pioneer among those who yet live in our midst, and the regret expressed that his condition of health precluded his attendance at the sessions of the congress; also the selection of Judge Kinney of San Diego to make a closing speech. The judge was an early resident of Utah, coming here as chief justice in 1854, and serving in a capacity that indicated his judicial fairness and ability. He was not a Mormon, never became one. In 1862 he was chosen by unanimous vote to represent Utah as delegate to the Thirty-eighth Congress of the United States, serving the people there with impartial fidelity. Later he moved to California.

The NEWS trusts that in the future the work of the congress will be as effective for good as it has been in the past, and that its membership always will be as thoroughly representative as at this session, and will have equal reason for being gratified with the labor performed.

### A TRULY UTAH ENTERPRISE.

Among other attractions which the capital city of the State is proud to call to the attention of its visitors and guests from far and near during Jubilee week is the finest bathing resort in the world—Saltair. Doubtless there are many of the survivors of 1847, as there are certainly many of a later date, who remember the Great Salt Lake as a wonder in saline bathing but forbidding and even offensive in its shore line. All such will be interested in knowing that while the same

marvelous bathing water is still there, a fairy palace has now been reared out of the waves, and a pavilion and platforms and bathhouses erected, the former rearing its graceful minarets skyward a hundred feet and more, the whole a wonder of architectural and electrical beauty which delights the eye of beholders and has spread the fame of the City, State and Lake in every civilized clime.

This may be deemed extravagant and enthusiastic praise—yet the place has earned and deserves it. Strangers say this much and more—why should words of favor be withheld at home? Moreover, it is the conception of local minds, has been built with local money, is controlled and owned by local men. Essentially a product of home energy, and constructed under the auspices of leading men of the community who felt its need for the improvement and utilization of the splendid body of water in which the whole State is entitled to share, it is singularly and most appropriately entitled to the patronage and support of all the people. Particularly should it be appreciated by Pioneers and descendants of Pioneers, who by a comparison of the view afforded today with that of fifty years ago will see new proof of the prosperity and advancement that have come to the people, and additional cause for gratitude that our lines have fallen in such pleasant places, and that we are at last able to use and enjoy the rare luxuries that Providence has laid at our doors. Disclaiming any intention of carrying advertising into these columns, the NEWS cordially and conscientiously declares that to visit Salt Lake City without also visiting Saltair is to miss a large part of the pleasure that every guest has a right to and is invited to enjoy.

### THE GOLD FEVER.

While the excitement caused by the stories of fabulous wealth discovered in the frozen north lands, calmer reflection are not likely to command much attention. It is nevertheless well to point out that there is another side to the matter, and that many well informed persons assume an attitude of doubt as to the exactness of the reports published. Among these is Mr. Hobart, of the Engineering and Mining Journal, whose views appear in a dispatch elsewhere in this paper.

There can be no doubt, probably, that valuable discoveries have been made, but this does not prove that vast tracts of country are equally impregnated with the yellow metal. The very fact that men have been engaged in mining there for years without striking anything and finally had to be transported home free of charge, would seem to indicate that the gold area is limited to certain localities.

Speaking of the first reports brought by the steamer Excelsior, which arrived in San Francisco last Wednesday, the Chronicle says:

Briefly summed up, the first chapter in the Klondyke history is that fifteen men and a trading corporation have brought down from there an amount of gold dust equally to nearly \$600,000.

Not quite one-half of this sum is the property of the trading company, and represents, beyond question, the gross proceeds of its sales of the necessities of life and mining supplies since last summer. This sum, big as it is in the aggregate, dwindles into comparative insignificance when it is remembered that it represents part of the cost of supporting a community of from 2,000 to 3,000 persons, and that on the cheapest and plainest fare—chiefly bacon, beans and flour.

The fifteen miners who have come out of the Klondyke bring with them an aggregate of \$330,000. One of the fifteen has \$90,000 to his credit; but that represents the proceeds of the sale of his mine, not what he actually took out of the ground.

A little reflection will convince any one that a claim panning out, as is alleged in the wild reports brought down by this northern contingent, from \$5 to \$150 to the pan would be worth to any one many times \$90,000, because it would not require the reduction of many cubic yards of such gravel to return the purchase price, and miners who sell out their placer claims are usually as shrewd in the trade as the buyer.

Successful gold miners always look on the bright side of the conditions surrounding them. There is no occupation which excites the imagination so much as that of gold mining, and the tendency in all mining discoveries is to exaggerate the value and extent of the wealth revealed. It is, no doubt, so in the case in the Klondyke.

Later reports continue to confirm the previous ones of fabulous wealth to be had in Yukon country, but the hardships to be encountered are also set forth in no attractive colors. The winter months are arctic in their severity. The ground is frozen to bed-rock, and the gold-bearing gravel must be released by fire. Without a good supply of provisions the miners are likely to perish before they have been able to reach their goal. It is always necessary to calculate the cost of any undertaking before commencing it, but if the question is of seeking fortunes in the frozen regions of Alaska, this would seem doubly necessary. A few have returned from there with the precious metal. Of thousands of others still remaining but little is heard, but no doubt many of them are bewailing the luck that ever led them to go there.

### "NEWS" PIONEER DAY NUMBER.

The DESERET NEWS number for Pioneer Day, July 24, 1897, will be issued two days in advance of its date, and will be forwarded to all regular subscribers to the daily, semi-weekly and weekly editions of the NEWS. Besides the number necessary to supply this demand, there will be published extra copies for use at home and abroad.

This number of the NEWS is in the regular daily form, but equal in size to four daily issues. It is printed on fine book paper, profusely illustrated with portraits of Pioneers and leading residents of the State, scenes of the Pioneer journey over the Plains in 1847, map of the Pioneer route, map of the State of Deseret (first published), public buildings in the State, leading commercial and industrial institutions, notable religious edifices such as the Temples of the