

machine, is not a boiler but a storage for compressed air. Of course there is no smokestack because there is to be no smoke. Some 2,000 pounds of compressed air is to be carried, this to be obtained by means of a pipe from a station established for the purpose. To charge the motor is said to take about the same time as to put water into an ordinary engine, or something under a minute. The 2,000 pounds, it is said, will run the motor for an hour, or long enough to make the trip from the Battery to One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street. As it is, the ordinary locomotive takes water at each end of the line.

The motor was to have been quietly tested an evening or two ago, when it was proposed to take it over the whole line. Success in all respects was confidently looked for, but whether achieved or not we have not yet been advised, although it had previously been operated successfully at Rome, N. Y., where it was built. It is the first motor of the kind to be built in this country for use on a regular railroad, though air motors have been run on some French railroads. One man, it is said, can easily operate the air machine, though to avoid risk of accident, two men are likely to be placed upon a locomotive. "And other surprises are in the air," says the writer. Whatever his promises, there can be no doubt as to the correctness of his conclusion.

THE BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

In the Deseret News today is published the first bulletin of the Bureau of Information, of which Presiding Bishop William B. Preston is chairman, organized for the purpose of giving to the unemployed the information where they can obtain work. The movement cannot be too highly commended; and for its practical character the bulletin speaks in no uncertain terms. In that list the farmers, the blacksmiths, shoemakers, carpenters, school teachers, etc., can learn where those of their avocation are needed, and to whom they can apply to obtain employment. Now, if there are unemployed people here—and there is no doubt as to that—and they really want work at remunerative wages, they can learn where to get it. In many cases, the offers made are of a character through which an energetic person can reach an independent position in life. Those who need work, or to branch out in a fresh field, have something to look at in the bulletin given.

GAMBLING WITH WHEAT.

In the fulness of the rejoicing over bounteous harvests at home, and with the news of a short crop among our chief rivals so that prices have largely advanced, we are confronted with statistics from the great grain growing states of the northwest showing that the wheat yield will be less by 30,000,000 bushels than was the whole amount credited to that section. The Dakotas and Minnesota are chargeable with the falling off or most of it; and if there were any probability that the rate of decline would be maintained throughout it would be a very serious matter indeed—so serious that there would be but little more than is needed for home consumption so far as this season's crop is concerned.

There is, however, much reason to believe that such will not be the case. In the first place, as the matter is viewed at this distance, the quota of wheat assigned to the states named must have been overdrawn, this being partly the placing of them on an equal

footing in that respect with the other states of that section, because of the assured increase generally. It is pretty well understood that not only the Dakotas and Minnesota, but Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa as well, while heavy wheat producers, are not equal as such to most if not all of their more easterly neighbors, corn being the cereal which more than any other flourishes in the former places named. It is the middle and more easterly of the northwestern states that give the greatest wheat returns as a rule, and if they have gone ahead of their average, as seems the case, while the others have but come up to it, the result by comparison would at first glance seem to be a shortage where in fact the real situation is neither that nor increase.

Independent of all this is the very obvious fact that a good deal of the upward movement in wheat is not attributable to the action of the great law of supply and demand except as an incident. Undoubtedly bounteous harvests in the United States and a great falling off in Argentina, for instance, would have a tendency to advance prices somewhat here; but there would not be any such spasmodic movements up and down as speculators delight in were not their magic touch added to the situation. The gentry who toil not neither do they spin but live for the sole purpose of having more wealth by clever manipulation, have it within their power to supplement and even to some extent control the natural law. Chicago is the grain center of the country and from that point the traffic radiates, but it is not necessary for an operator to be right on the ground in order to participate in the spoils. With a brokerage connected directly with headquarters by telegraph and synchronized timepieces on hand, as good results can be obtained in Salt Lake City as in the Illinois metropolis. One class gathers in all the available stocks on the market, and by withholding it therefrom a short time the inevitable tendency is for the article so withheld to advance somewhat in price; the advance not being attributable to any real present shortage cannot last long, and as soon as it has gone about as far up the scale as it is likely to go, the holders—who in this case are "bulls"—let go, and the influx thereby created produces the reverse movement or a decline. Those who operate the other way (the "bears") then jump on the article, whatever it is, and crowd it down as far as possible, when they "load up" and are in turn ready for business. The art of the thing consists in knowing at just what times to take hold and let go, and a few seconds sometimes make a vast deal of difference.

This is a form of gambling which has received a sort of legitimacy from custom and the participation therein of respectable business people. It is not, however, greatly different from any other form except in its methods. The theory and results are the same in every case. It is simply an effort to increase the operator's possession by bidding against chance and making the thing bartered or sold the merest figurehead in the proceeding. Of course skill, ability, cunning and coolness of judgment and steadiness of nerve are prime requisites, and not a little of the measure of success attained is attributed to good luck. It is thus easily seen that when we read of wheat going to 101.01 and falling back to 98.05 at the close, it does not mean that the higher figure was caused by the discovery that there was less wheat in the country and more demand than was shown to be the case when the lower figure was substituted, by any means; that would be strictly

a legitimate barometrical indication of the state of the market. It means in this case that the bulls and bears are having their regular pastime.

"DON'T FEAR THE MORMONS."

An altogether admirable editorial appeared in the Brooklyn Eagle of August 12 under the heading "Don't Fear the Mormons." It was clipped from that paper by a gentleman formerly residing in this city and well known to many of its residents, and sent by him to a relative here, who gives it to the News. The article is too good to spoil by synopsis or abbreviation in any way, so we give it in full:

"Some people on Long Island are needlessly alarmed over an irruption of two or three Mormon missionaries into their neighborhoods, and we learn that 'Christians are opposing the preaching' of these people. Evidently the alarmists are unaware that Mormons are Christians, and pretty good Christians, too. History ought not to be written on the heel of the circumstance that it describes. The writer is pretty sure to see it in the wrong perspective, to put false values on certain things and overlook others and to color his report with prejudice. When the true record of the Mormon Church is written we shall see that it was not the monstrous institution that certain Gentiles made of it; that it was a great factor in the building of our nation. Most of the opposition to the Mormons in these later years has come from Gentiles who followed them to Salt Lake and tried to oust them from the little garden of Eden they had created on the shore of that inland sea. The bitterest opponents of their Church are men who are living in houses built by Mormons, on streets laid out by Mormon engineers, shaded by trees planted by Mormons and watered by cold brooks brought from the Wasatch mountains by Mormon labor, dining daily on foods that come from Mormon farms and enjoying the security and peace that years of intelligent care and upright living have assured.

"The religion that is preached by the missionaries on Long Island is the religion of Christ, and there is not a word in it that can be objected to. We have had Mormons in Brooklyn for many years and they occasionally hold services in parlors. It should be known that polygamy is no part of the Mormon religion, for when that fact is understood the scare will die out. Plurality of wives was never a common luxury in Utah. Probably at no time did more than 10 per cent of the men embark for a second time in matrimonial perils. Since the introduction of railroads, newspapers, fashions and other accessories of civilized existence, the support of a large family by the average citizen of Utah is out of the question, for economy, no less than law, serves the righteous purpose of restraint. Polygamy was approved by Joseph Smith, who found more women in his company than men, while Brigham Young preached it because he wanted Utah to grow fast and be filled with people and become a power so that it could resist the harassments of the Indians and the worse whites of the frontier. He wanted to see his Church grow great in numbers, so he had an official dream in which he was commanded by the Deity to tell his people that they might take many wives and he set a heroic example by taking nineteen himself, leaving over eighty children to develop the Territory and support the Church.

"Had the Mormons been a low, corrupt or shiftless people they never would or could have done what they did in Utah. They went to that Ter-