

AU REVOIR TO THE CHOIR.

At this writing our widely and justly famed Tabernacle choir is putting the finishing touches upon the packing and other preparations for its eastern tour. The members are all in excellent spirits, these being abundantly fortified by the good wishes and strong hopes of the many thousands of friends to be left behind, while a carefully selected escort representing every department of life in our busy community will lend buoyancy to the excursionists while dissipating as much of the tedium of travel as possible. Doubtless by the time this reaches the eye of the reader the ladies and gentlemen are bowling along over the course somewhere between here and the east, drinking in the exhilaration of the occasion as only a host of kindred spirits out on such a vacation can. The worst of it all is that the principal elasticity of feeling occurs at the time when it is not quite so much needed; by the time they have reeled off a few hundred miles from the hobble of their itinerary it will not be so "perfectly splendid," perhaps, as during the first hundred or so.

However that may be, we feel assured that they will get along finely. All the elements necessary to such an experience are with them—excellent company, good cheer, good health, relaxation from daily routines, sight seeing, business and pleasure so skillfully interwoven as to prevent either from becoming so conspicuous and continuous as to be tiresome, a noble errand, and the best wishes of the kindest community in the world. What more could be asked? The NEWS once more tenders its sincere regard with the hope and belief that the tour may be all that the tourists desire and more—that they may return to us in as good spirits and physical condition as they went away, and with the bright coronet of an added triumph blazing from their brow!

SEEING IS BELIEVING.

An eastern paper seeks to show that coluage has little or nothing to do with commercial finance, and claims that it has suited the purpose of money speculators to confound the two at this juncture. It makes anew the proposition with which we are quite familiar, that it is generally known that drafts, which are not money in any sense, are doing the bulk of the business of the world today, and are not only worth their face value but are often at a premium, this not a forced but a legitimate, natural and well-earned premium. This is claimed to be the result of the value of drafts as mediums of quick exchange in extensive transactions between domestic and foreign commercial centres. The question is then asked—what has a 60-cent silver dollar or a 100-cent gold dollar to do with such transactions?

Out this way we cannot pretend to such prescience and perception as the more highly favored denizens of the East; but if we were required to answer that question we would say—one or the other or both of those mediums of exchange have everything to do with such transactions. Of course

they are seldom handled, not even seen; but they are known to exist as the property, immediate or ultimate, of the one who makes the draft, otherwise of course it would be worthless and so far from possessing the magic qualities attributed to it would be given to the winds or the flames, or placed in some other innocuous situation, as soon as seen.

There is something that is more satisfying from the same writer in the subjoined paragraph:

But, it is said, balances to Europeans must be paid in gold, for they will not take silver or silver certificates, unless it is understood that these are redeemable in gold at the treasury and sub-treasuries. Let it be so understood, then. But Europe and the money-lenders of this country say we must quit buying silver and must repeal the Sherman law, or they will lose confidence, and then—the deluge! We must draw the line there. That is the business of the Congress of the United States.

There is just this much to be added to make the story complete, as we look at it: The Sherman law will certainly be repealed, the first decisive step having been taken. The country will soon have an exclusive gold standard of finance like England and the most of the great nations of the continent. We will have to stop one of our greatest industries and throw half our money out of circulation to do it, and the question then arises—By reason of all this will our drafts be more acceptable and less suspected than before? Because we have abandoned the all-along custom of abundance of currency and gone into the contraction business, whereby instead of a dollar with which to meet a draft when it reaches us for redemption through the clearing house we shall have but 50 cents—is that what is to add to the stability of paper and the credit of those who sue it? We hope it may have such result and do not say that it will not, but prefer to believe by seeing.

IT IS A MISTAKE.

A respected correspondent at Beaver in a vein of mild criticism seeks to show that some things appear as news while others do not; and that wholesome matters of public moment receive a meagre, silence is maintained as to others equally important. This, we have no doubt, applies to the newspaper industry the whole world around, but as relates to the special matter spoken of it does not apply to our department of the business. All the news received through the regular channels, and a good deal that is not, regarding public men and measures appears in these columns with the utmost regularity and impartiality. Comment is made without political or other bias or leaning in accordance with what, as it appears to us, the subject seems to merit. The particular one to which our correspondent refers has received several personal and official mentions in the columns of the NEWS, and those who think to the contrary have not been thoroughly advised.

THE CALIFORNIA midwinter fair promises to be a great success. Utah is willing.

A GREAT INVENTION.

Among the innumerable wonders at the Chicago Exhibition is an invention which by some is thought to mark an epoch in the history of steam engines. A correspondent of the *Svenska Tribunen* gives a detailed description of the craft. We synopsize a portion of what he says.

Gustaf De Laval's steam turbine which is exhibited in the Mechanical Arts Building at the Fair, in several models, in connection with dynamo engines, is by some German and French specialists pronounced the most important invention of the kind in many a year, and is considered as one of the remarkable objects at the great Fair.

The invention of this rotating steam engine—the first of the kind that can be regarded as a success—may cause a revolution in the realm of steam engines. It occupies very little space but works as good as any other and consumes so little steam that, with condensation, it can compete with triple expansion engines. It needs no firm foundation of masonry. The engines now exhibited stand on wooden boxes. It consumes but little oil and cotton and is pronounced entirely harmless. It obeys willingly the ingeniously constructed regulator and possesses other quite important advantages. The weight is comparatively slight, but the velocity of rotation is all the greater. An engine of five horse power makes 30,000 rotations round its axle in every minute; another of from ten to fifteen horse power, 24,000; one of twenty to thirty horse power (weighing respectively 1579 and 1840 kilograms), 22,000; one of fifty horse power (weighing 3740 kilograms), 15,000; one of 100 horse power (weighing 5300 kilograms), 15,000, and one of 300 horse power, 12,000. This enormous velocity of the steam turbine—which even exceeds that of a cannon ball—makes it necessary through exchanges to check it, instead of as usually to hasten it, when the engine is used for the performance of some work, as for instance to drive a dynamo engine. But this is not all. The difficulty of exchange was augmented thereby that in common cog-wheels, the teeth simply burst. In order to remedy this great inconvenience it was necessary to construct a new kind of cog-wheel, in which the cogs do not run parallel with the axle of the wheel, but in two different rows and are given an inclined position, so that in the process of exchange not two cogs as formerly but sixteen grab each other. The most important part of the invention is, however, said to be the slender, flexible axle, which makes the enormous velocity possible and reduces the dimensions of the engine essentially.

The inventor, Mr. De Laval, is said to have given twenty years of thought and study to this invention and is now at the point of realizing a handsome fortune as the result of his skill and perseverance.

Mr. F. B. Allen of this city about a year ago exhibited a little steam engine with rotating cylinder, constructed much on the same principle as this one at the World's Fair. It was pronounced a marvel of simplicity and ingenuity and would seem to deserve a better fate than to be buried in oblivion.