

overturning them. They were the same great truths as taught by Abraham in his day in the royal court of Egypt, as recorded in the "Pearl of Great Price." That little volume contains what is called "The Book of Abraham," translated from the ancient manuscript by the Prophet Joseph Smith.

If the world would reform its morals and turn its attention toward the obtaining of knowledge by the process of intellectual investigation and the cultivation and exercise of that quality of faith that would open the doors leading to wider and unexplored fields of truth, the earth would soon be suffused with a knowledge of God and the laws pertaining to His creations. At present the operation is comparatively sluggish, because only a part of the method by which truth is obtained is in wide operation. Still, comparatively speaking, because of intellectual activity, knowledge is increasing apace in the earth.

The full association of intellectual and faith exercise will not be inaugurated until after the coming of Christ. Then the knowledge of God will cover the earth. Consequently the government of the Lord will have no element of despotism within it. The pacific condition it will bring will have universal knowledge for its base. This diffusion of information will be associated with a pervading disposition to conform to correct principles, hence there will be an intelligent, popular consent to the supremacy of a just and equitable government. Pending that time every lover of truth will labor diligently, according to the facilities within reach, to contribute to the rising of the sun of righteousness.

A SALT WATER ELEPHANT.

AN illustration of the familiar phase, "There's many a slip 'twixt cup and lip" is reported from Indianapolis, Indiana. The farmers in that neighborhood became infected with the desire for acquiring sudden wealth by merely tapping a hole in the ground and letting the gas run out. It seemed such an easy way of getting rich compared with garnering pumpkins and husking corn that the sturdy sons of the soil became enamored of it. But the well which they dug was not the kind of well which throws out enough gas to light and heat an entire country. Just as they were expecting within a few hours to be able to sit down and watch their fortunes being made that wretched

well began to throw a stream of salt water 150 feet in the air. And now the farmers have ceased to think of the prospective fortune that may lie in the well. In fact, they are so busy that they haven't time to think of anything but how to prevent their well from drowning them all out.

A PROPER AMENDMENT.

THE proposition to amend the city ordinance in relation to elections seems to give some concern to certain of "our friends, the enemy." They need not be alarmed. Neither need they anticipate finding something in it to criticize and carp at. As we understand the matter, the proposed amendment is necessary and perfectly "loyal," and is prompted by a desire to conform to, not conflict with, the laws of the United States.

As the matter stands now, the City Ordinance requires a *bona fide* residence of six months in this city to qualify a citizen to vote at any municipal election. The Territorial Statute requires a residence of six months in the Territory and thirty days in the precinct. This relates to elections for territorial, county and precinct officers. The respective city councils are authorized to pass ordinances substantially in accordance with this statute. The Edmunds-Tucker act, so far as it relates to this regulation, follows the form of the Utah statute. Therefore, a residence of six months in the Territory and of one month in the precinct, is required before a citizen otherwise qualified can vote at any election; municipal elections are understood to be included, and the Commissioners have so instructed the election officers.

In order to avoid any appearance of conflict between the city ordinance and the act of Congress, and thus prevent any difficulty that might arise over it, Alderman Pyper has presented an amendment which will harmonize the three enactments. That is all there is of the matter, and sensible folks will see that this is a proper thing to do, and one that gives no room for objection, unless it is to pesky people who are on the look out for flaws that have no existence except in their own unbalanced mental organs.

THE PAN-AMERICANS.

REPRESENTATIVES of all or nearly all of the republics of Central and South America, in a body, are at

the present time making a tour of the United States. Inevitably they are being impressed with the greatness of our government and the excellence of its institutions. They are all men of influence, many, if not all of them, being prominently connected with the political affairs of their respective countries; and when they return home it will be their uppermost thought to improve the laws and institutions of their respective governments, by molding them after models they have seen in the United States.

These little republics, as a rule imbibed in their organic laws, much of the spirit of the American Constitution and Declaration of Independence; hence further adaptations from the same sources will be the more easily reconciled with their present laws, institutions and conditions; and it is not unreasonable to expect that a broader, more liberal and more statesmanlike tone will be imparted to the future policy and legislation of most of the Latin republics of the new world; in consequence of the visit of their representatives to this country.

In all this we are perfectly willing to acknowledge the hand of Providence. North and South America are embraced in that portion of this world which is designated in revelation as the land of Zion, a region throughout all of which will, in time, prevail the very highest forms of liberty and civilization, and the best systems of government that men can devise, who are inspired only by the loftiest patriotism and the sincerest desires for the welfare of their fellow beings.

The work done by the founders of this nation forms an excellent basis on which to build, as the experience, conditions and increased intelligence of the statesmen of the new world may direct; until the whole land of Zion shall attain that state of political, social and religious excellence divinely foreordained as her destiny.

THE HOME FIRE COMPANY.

THE success of the Home Fire Insurance Company is very gratifying. The dividend declared a few days ago and the financial statement made by the officers, show that the institution has been conducted on business principles, and proves that such companies can be organized and operated in this Territory to the satisfaction of the stockholders and the benefit of the community.