

seven miles, in many places to a depth of fifty feet. The entire mountain finally subsided and in its place was formed an extensive lake. On the 8th of July the volcano of Ganunggong, a few miles northeast of Papandayang, broke out in fury and destroyed nearly everything within a radius of 20 miles. On the 18th of the same month another eruption took place, which proved fatal to 20,000 people.

There are a number of mud volcanoes on the island which also emit carbonic acid gas and sulphur, the latter lying in powder in the near vicinity of all the craters. An extinct volcano near Batar, called Guevos Upas, or Vale of Poison, is a half mile in diameter, and is so strongly impregnated with carbonic acid gas that animals, birds and insects fall to the ground, and die from its baleful effects. From this vale of poisonous gas arose the legend of the Upas tree, whose aroma was said to be fatally destructive to life. The mountain Bandung is sixty or seventy miles to the east of Tjandjar, Mount Galung-gung forty or fifty miles to the south, and Gunung Qunter to the east, midway between the two. All these are in the Western part of the island, but Merapi, also in a state of eruption, is in the central district, over 300 miles from Krakatoa.

Java is divided into twenty-three provinces, called residences, and two small native kingdoms. The cities are Batavia, which is the capital, Bantam, Buitenzorg, Cheribon, Samarang, Surabaya, Surakarta and Jogyakarta. The native population is of two kinds—the Sundese and the Javanese. Each has a distinctive language, and both are of the Malay race. The Javanese predominate, about nine-tenths of the population being of that nationality. As a large portion of Java is mountainous and unproductive the people are crowded upon the fertile spots, so that the island is the most densely populated portion of the globe, the census of 1879 giving the population as 19,298,151, of which 30,713 were Europeans, 308,051 Chinese, a little more than 13,000,000 natives. The balance, over 19,000,000, natives. The climate is moist and tropical and the tillable soil very productive.

North Bantam, the town at which great loss of life is reported, is on the lowlands at the mouth of a river which flows into Bantam Bay, and was formerly one of the most important seats of commerce in the East Indies, but since 1817 has been in decay. The new town, six miles inland, is called Serange, and is sixty-one miles west of Batavia, that is to say, sixty-one miles nearer the volcano on the island of Krakatoa. Another lies on the coast in the narrowest part of the Sunda Straits, and just across the strait from Krakatoa, Batavia, the capital of Java, has a population of over 100,000.

The chief products of the island are rice, sugar, cotton, tobacco and coffee, the latter being in use and celebrated throughout the world. Tea is also grown extensively. As the coffee and tea plantations are chiefly in the neighborhood of the great volcanoes, it is probable that they have been seriously damaged, sufficient to affect the price of Java coffee in the world's great markets. The annual products of Java are placed at 110,000,000 pounds of coffee, 280,000,000 pounds of sugar, 8,000,000 pounds of tea, 7,000,000 pounds of tobacco, and 115,000 pounds of cinchona, to say nothing of the great quantities of rice. The commercial losses likely to have been the consequence of the great disaster must therefore be very extensive.

Earthquakes have shaken the globe, tidal waves have rolled in upon the land, and burning mountains have emitted fire at different periods from the foundation of the world. They are nothing new in the history of Mother Earth. Yet they are spoken of in holy writ as among the signs of the approaching "end," and of the establishment of the heavenly government. In the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew and the twenty-first of Luke, many of the events which have been taking place, during the past few years are graphically described, and in sections twenty-nine and forty-five of the Doctrine and Covenants they are further portrayed, as warnings of the coming consummation.

This year has been more prolific of vast and thrilling catastrophes than any of its predecessors. In the midst of these calamities which should awaken the world to listen to the voice of inspiration and yield

to the decrees of the Almighty, the servants of God have been traveling to and fro in the earth with the glad tidings of the everlasting Gospel restored. It is being "preached to all the world as a witness unto all nations." It carries with it the testimony of its own truth and divinity and is the preparation for the great change which awaits the world. It is the voice of God proclaiming that the end is nigh; and His elect are gathering in from the four winds, that they may stand in holy places, and be not moved when He shakes terribly the earth and pours out His judgments upon the wicked.

But the wise in their own conceit will regard not the warnings of nature or of inspiration; the wicked will do wickedly, and cast reproach upon the Saints, and so the impending tribulations will come upon them unawares, and they will perish in their folly. But "the wise will understand," and the troubles that are coming will not overtake them as a "thief in the night." To them we will repeat the sayings of the Master. "When ye see these things know ye that the end is nigh;" and "Watch ye therefore, for in an hour that ye know not of the Son of man cometh."

AN ACT OF COMMON JUSTICE.

A COMMITTEE has been appointed by the City Council to consider and report upon a proposition to appropriate money from the funds of the City to the estate of the late Marshal Andrew Burt. We believe that a liberal appropriation for this purpose will be endorsed by all classes of citizens. The deceased Marshal was held in high esteem by the people as well as by the City Fathers. His long services, his eminent abilities, his incorruptibility, evidenced by the fact that after the many years he has been in office and the frequent opportunities to make money improperly he died with but little means, his fearlessness, wise management, excellent judgment and admirable disposition, endeared him to all who knew him, and his sudden taking off was universally regretted.

When an officer of his standing and faithfulness loses his life in the public service, it is but just and proper that some substantial proof of the public recognition of his worth should be made to his family surviving. It is the only way by which the appreciation and gratitude of the people can be fittingly exhibited, and in our opinion it ought to be done in no niggardly spirit. Let the thing be done handsomely or not at all.

Precedents for this kind of memorial can be found in all large cities in every civilized country, so there need be no timidity on that score. If there is doubt as to the authority of the Council to appropriate money for this purpose, we think that should be dissipated by Section 73 of the City Charter. This gives the Council "power from time to time to require further and other duties of all officers whose duties are provided" by the Charter, "prescribe the duties and powers of all officers appointed or elected," and "arrange the fees and fix the compensation of all officers," etc. The Council is not tied up in the matter. It can enlarge the duties of officers and say what their compensation shall be "from time to time." It is not bound to do this by ordinance, either. No amount of compensation is large enough to cover the service rendered by Andrew Burt which cost him his life, but what can be done ought to be done for the benefit of his family, who depended upon his labors and salary for their support.

We consider that common justice, the esteem in which the late Marshal was held, his eminent services to the community and the encouragement that a liberal policy will give to other officers to follow his honest, courageous and steady example, cry aloud for a generous appropriation to his estate, and that nothing less will be satisfactory to the citizens and creditable to the City Council.

THE CLANGING OF THE BELLS

ONE of the topics of the times in the East is the ringing of big bells. An enemy to bell-ringing has inaugurated a war upon it. He has plenty of means and declares he will expend his money freely in putting

down the nuisance. The right or the wrong of bell-ringing is thus made a subject for considerable discussion.

It is argued that though bells on churches and other sacred edifices have been in use for many hundreds of years, bell-ringing is not part of divine worship and therefore the suppression of the custom would not be an infringement of religion. And in proof of this is cited the fact that many congregations have no bells at all. We do not think this argument very sound. The Roman Catholic Church baptizes and blesses its sacred bells, and they are used as signs and signals for certain services, prayers and ceremonies. If the Catholics consider bell-ringing a part of their divine worship, it makes no difference to them if Protestants do not. Each denomination and every individual must be the judge as to what is his or its religion; that cannot be determined for them by others. A Catholic has as much right to call the ringing of bells a part of his religious worship as a Protestant has the singing of hymns or the playing on organs.

But there is another phase to this controversy, and that is the right of any church to make itself a public nuisance. Religious rights must be preserved within a certain limit. When that is transcended the liberty claimed becomes subversive of the rights of others and may be legally restrained. In crowded cities the clanging of bells may become an intolerable nuisance, and be positively injurious to the sick and super-sensitive. Every hour of the night, in certain cities, there are church chimes disturbing the rest of light sleepers, and doing much more harm than good. On Sunday mornings, too, in places where there are many churches each with its own bell or bells of peculiar tone, the discordant noises of each sect calling for people to come to its house of worship are worse than the clamors of hackmen and hotel keepers at railroad depots, and are in our opinion destructive of that serenity and holy quiet which should pervade the Sabbath day.

People have a right to regard bell-ringing as part of their religion if it so seems right in their minds, and no one has the right to say it is not a part of the religion of such individuals. A man may define his own creed, but not that of others against their consent. But the bell-ringing devotees must not infringe upon the rights of his neighbor. He must not disturb the peace, repose or worship of other persons, whether they do or do not believe as he believes. Therefore it will be found that where people who are annoyed by the clanging of bells, even if they are rung for divine worship, and appeal is made to the Courts, the nuisance may be legally abated and the public relieved of the nuisance.

Mr. Schultz, the New York fighter of unseasonable bell-ringing, has the sympathy of a good many citizens, and if he perseveres he will no doubt succeed, providing that he does not become as fanatical in his warfare as some people are in maintaining and supporting the disciples of noise and discord.

WARM TIMES IN MASSACHUSETTS.

THE irrepressible Ben Butler is a candidate for re-election to the Governorship of Massachusetts. It remains to be seen whether he will receive the nomination, but it is quite probable that he will be put up again. In that case there will be a great struggle in the staunch old Bay State. The aristocracy, the blue bloods, the "culchawed" and fastidious people of upper-ten-dom have affected to be greatly scandalized by the elevation of the bluff and blunt old plebeian General to the office of Chief Magistrate in their highly respectable commonwealth.

It is now stated that a determined and organized effort will be made to defeat him at all costs, and that already a fund of \$300,000 has been raised for the purpose. The registration lists at present number 6,000 names of voters in excess of last year, and in all probability the gubernatorial canvass and campaign will be highly exciting, and occasion much bad feeling. Look out for warm times in Massachusetts if Butler gets the nomination.

ICE FLOATING IN MOLTEN LAVA.

In the account of the Java catastrophe telegraphed to many of the papers east and west, but omitted from the dispatches sent to Salt Lake, the following paragraph appeared:

"One of the most singular freaks of the eruption was the carrying in the midst of molten lava of a bed of solid ice of enormous size, which had been emitted from one of the craters, carried along by the current and landed on the extremity of Point St. Nicholas on the northwest corner of the island. This bed of ice was surrounded by a thick envelope of sand and scoria which are such non-conductors of heat, that a red hot stream of lava running over it will not melt snow. It is supposed that this ice had formed the crust of some vast subterranean lake."

This has been ridiculed by some persons who think themselves smart. The idea of a bed of ice in a flood of lava emitted from a burning mountain, seems preposterous to them. But there are many things in nature which appear to be paradoxes until we become better acquainted with them. It is the same in science, in religion and in philosophy. It is often the ignorance of mortals which produces incredulity, and then a "little knowledge" is really "a dangerous thing."

A gentleman who knows more about the matter under consideration than common people, has explained that this so-called impossibility is not only possible but natural. His name is Dr. J. D. Bonnar, and through the columns of the Buffalo Courier he explains the phenomenon. People should not be too fast to call that impossible which is only a mystery because of their lack of knowledge. Dr. Bonnar says:

"When water evaporates or changes its state from that of a liquid to gas or steam it requires very much more heat to maintain itself in the latter condition than in the former. At the sea level water boils when it reaches 100° centigrade (212° Fahrenheit), and the steam which is given off will also register 100° on the centigrade thermometer; yet it actually contains 536° of heat over and above that which is sensible to the thermometer, and this insensible heat is said to be latent, still it can be rendered sensible by passing the steam into cold water, when one pound of steam will raise rather more than five pounds of water (5.36 pounds) from the freezing to the boiling point. Now the tremendous evaporation of water from the surface of some subterranean lake which was in the vicinity of the volcano, and communicating with it by a channel, abstracted heat so quickly and in such enormous quantities from the body of water that it was frozen to a great depth before the eruptive power of the volcano reached it, which, consequently belched forth the immense fields of ice spoken of.

On a small scale, in the laboratory, with a bent glass tube having a bulb on one end containing water, by rarifying or exhausting the air in the tube, ice will be formed in the bulb, as the steam raising from the water abstracts the heat. The same result is obtained by pouring sulphuric ether on the bulb. The rapid evaporation of ether abstracting the heat from the water causes it to congeal, and this being the result on a small scale, it is only rational to believe it possible in the volcanic eruption in Java."

Correspondence.

Sevier Stake Conference—Seventies Organization, etc.

RICHFIELD, Sevier Co., Sept. 7th, 1882.

Editor Deseret News:

The Sevier Stake Conference held in Richfield on the 25th and 26th ult., was adjudged the largest gathering ever before assembled in that capacity in this place.

Apostle Brigham Young and the Presidency of the Stake, Presidency of the High Priests' Quorum, and Bishops and Counselors of the several wards were present, with but few, if any, exceptions, as also the Elders and Lesser Priesthood were well represented.

On Saturday a faithful report of the condition, spirit and tendency of the members of the several wards

was called for by Apostle Young. After which the Conference was ably and instructively addressed by him, by Elder Palmer, and by the Counselors to the President of the Stake, A. K. Thurber and Wm. H. Seegmiller.

On the Sabbath at 10 a.m. appeared the welcome faces of Counselor John W. Young and Hon. John T. Caine.

Elder Brigham Young in his remarks earnestly commended unity of action; a renewal of firm resolve to keep all the commandments of God, among which was the word of wisdom and keeping holy the day of rest. "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

A few very appropriate remarks were delivered by Elder Frank F. Taylor one of the sons of our esteemed President more especially to the young men appreciative of the labors of their fathers in so great a cause.

The quarterly High Priests meeting was held on the Saturday evening and in the Relief Society Hall a meeting of Supt. H. P. Miller and officers of Sabbath School interests was well attended. The Y. M. M. I. A. were not overlooked but well represented by Supt. M. H. Seegmiller during conference.

The General Local Authorities of the Church and Stake were presented and sustained unanimously.

Our esteemed President Franklin Spencer conducted, with much apparent satisfaction to himself and the conference assembled making such salutary and reasonable instruction as time and circumstances would admit and conference adjourned until November.

On Sunday the 2nd inst. we were visited by Abraham H. Cannon and Edward Stevenson of the Seventies, who called and ordained several young men of promise to that degree of the Priesthood. Their addresses and labors in organizing and setting in order the Seventies with Presidents etc. were exceedingly interesting to us.

With much respect, your brother in the Gospel,

WM. MORRISON,
Stake Recorder.

MORONI, SANPETE CO.,

Utah, Sept. 7th, 1882.

Editor Deseret News:

Elder A. H. Cannon and myself expect to complete the organization and location of the Seventies in Sanpete and Sevier Stakes this evening at Mount Pleasant, which is eight miles northeast of this place. After holding meetings at Gunnison last Friday evening in the south end of this county, 35 miles from this place, we proceeded overland 35 miles south to Richfield, where we spent the Sabbath visiting the Sabbath School, enjoying a very agreeable visit. There are 1,976 scholars enrolled in this Stake of Zion. The conducting of the school by the Superintendent Bishop Horn and the Teachers, indicated a bright future. At 2 p.m. and 7.30, we held meetings and located two Quorums of Seventies, and on Monday evening 7.30, we met a crowded house at Gunnison. The Seventies and others from Fayette (commonly called Warm Springs), five miles north, and Mayfield, and Pettyville, east eight miles, met and formed a district for the 65th Quorum of Seventies.

On Tuesday evening we met and located the Seventies in Mantli, 15 miles North of Gunnison in the new tabernacle; with two galleries. It will hold 1,500 persons. While standing on the top of the temple walls, viewing the valley to the South, West and more particularly to the North, about 30 miles it seemed to be almost a complete field of small grain. We are told that a more fruitful year has never been for this valley and at the time of our view from the elevated spot, wagons were to be seen on every hand laden with the golden grain.

Only two bents remain to be placed to complete this part of the temple roof and it is expected that they will be in place this week, the timbers are of the very best red pine and appear to have sufficient strength to stand securely. The material throughout is of excellent quality.

EDWARD STEVENSON.

The New York Times suggests that as the three-cent piece came into existence with three-cent postage, it is proper that the coin should follow its leader into permanent retirement. We second the motion: Let the little nuisance go.