

## A SOCIALISTIC MAYOR.

ONE day last week in the Department of Tarn, France, a mining company discharged one of its workmen. His co-laborers demanded his reinstatement, but the company refused to comply. The discharged employee is mayor of the town in which the mine is situated. He is a Socialist, and was elected to that office at the last election. The district is becoming Socialistic at a rapid rate.

The miners are contemplating active measures, and it is feared that great disorder will result in the event of a strike. Most of the public officials in the district are socialists. It called on to quell disturbances, it is expected that they will side with the workmen.

## THE NEW MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION

THE new constitution adopted recently by the State of Mississippi, according as its main features become known to the public at large, attracts proportionate attention. The New Orleans *Times-Democrat* says of it: "The main purpose and motive of the new constitution was to render it certain that the negroes could never, by any possible political combination, secure control of the State."

The vast majority of white people in the north, both Republican and Democratic, would not favor negro domination in any of the States of this Union. But the plan adopted by the Mississippi whites is not likely to be endorsed very generally in the north. A clause in the new constitution provides that any applicant for registration as a voter must be able to read a section of the State Constitution, and also to construe it to the satisfaction of the judges of election. An educational test for the franchise is not unreasonable, but further on is another clause which provides that if the applicant can understand a section of the constitution, if read to him, it shall qualify him for the ballot. A large number of whites in that State are illiterate, and this clause will be of assistance to them. The judges of election can thus say who is or who is not to vote. Utah people can appreciate what it means to constitute election judges the arbiters in disputed cases relating to voting.

The total population of Mississippi in 1890 was 1,287,423, of whom 539,703 were white and 747,720 colored. The total males over twenty-one was 271,000 of whom 120,611 were white and 150,489 colored. The total number of school age was 280,258, of whom 114,559 were white and 165,699 colored. These figures show that the colored people in Mississippi largely predominate, and that there is danger of race supremacy if numbers are permitted to prevail.

Although the male population of that State was over twenty-one was in 1890, 281,000, yet the total vote cast in 1888 was only 84,929. Under a registration just completed, according to the new regime, the total number of colored voters is 80,000 out of a total of males over it of 150,000. The white registration is 68,127 out of a total of 120,611.

Mississippi has nine electoral votes

and seven members in Congress. If her voting population were taken as the basis, her congressional representation would be limited to one. Under the Constitution of the United States this reduction could be made, provided it is proven that American citizens over 21 are denied the right of suffrage.

It would be well for Mississippi, while endeavoring to preserve good government, so to regulate its election laws as not to abridge the rights of American citizens, white or colored. Whatever may be thought of the wholesale disfranchisement of the uneducated negroes, the fact remains that they are constitutionally endowed with the ballot, and State laws must be so framed that they will apply equally to all citizens irrespective of race or color.

## TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC IN SEVENTY-TWO HOURS.

THE Canadians are contemplating a scheme by which the transatlantic ocean trip can be accomplished in three days and nights. In fact there is something more than contemplation in it, inasmuch as some of the preliminary work has been performed. The survey for a Labrador railway has just been completed from a town on the Saguenay river to Port Marnham on St. Lewis Inlet, sixty miles north of the straits of Belle Isle. The Quebec and Lake St. John railway now runs to the point on the Saguenay, from whence the proposed Labrador road is to start. The distance from this point to Port Marnham is 850 miles. The road can be built in 18 months. From Port Marnham to Milford Haven in Wales, the water can be traversed by ocean steamship in seventy-two hours. It is proposed to establish a steamship port at that place in Labrador. During eight months of the year navigation can be prosecuted without any trouble. The engineers who have completed the survey say that the Salvador climate is bracing and invigorating, and that mineral in vast quantities can be found in that region. English capital is at the back of the scheme, and if the Canadian government will only grant certain concessions, it is said that the work of constructing the road will commence immediately.

## THE STUDENTS AND SOLDIERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

ACCORDING to the census bulletin the significance of the term "school age" varies in the States and Territories, and there is no standard in the national statistics. In some States school age is fixed at from six to twenty-one, in others four to twenty-one, and others five to fifteen. In Utah it is six to eighteen. The aggregate of persons of school age, which under the 1890 census is put at five to twenty inclusive, was in that year 22,447,392. Of this number 8,196,827 were colored and 1,384,039 foreign born. Utah had 79,937, of whom 72,982 were native born and 6,955 foreign born, while only 362 were colored.

Of the 22,447,392 persons of school age in the United States in 1890, 11,242,700 were males and 11,204,692 females. In 1880 the aggregate of school

age was 18,319,830. These figures show an increase of 22.53 per cent., while the increase in the aggregate population for the same decade was 24.86 per cent.

The militia age is put at from 18 to 44, both years inclusive. The total of males for 1890 of this age was 13,168,280, of whom 1,426,204 were colored and 2,808,082 foreign born. Utah had 45,139, of whom 1,000 were colored and 15,000 foreign born. The total of males of militia age for 1880 was 10,281,239. These figures show an increase of 29.31 per cent. against a general increase in population of 24.86 per cent.

The males of voting age in 1890 aggregated 16,940,311, in 1880 12,830,349, an increase of 32.03 per cent. for the decade.

The whole number of foreign born adult males in the United States in 1890 was 4,348,459. Of this number 1,160,214 or 26.68 per cent. were returned as aliens; 2,546,037 or 58.55 per cent. naturalized; 236,069 or 5.43 per cent. first papers; and 406,139 or 9.34 per cent. information not obtained. Of the grand total of aliens 68.25 per cent. could speak English and 31.75 per cent. could not speak it. The States showing the highest per centage of aliens who could not speak English were Arizona, 65.81 per cent.; Texas, 60.54 per cent.; New Mexico, 54.31 per cent.; Oregon, 50.48 per cent.; California, 43.43 per cent.; Florida, 43.14 per cent.; Wisconsin, 42.23 per cent.; Pennsylvania, 41.40 per cent.; and Idaho, 40.53 per cent.

## ACT IN "THE LIVING PRESENT."

THOSE "Liberals" who make profit out of the continuance of the fading faction, are extremely angry over any intimation that the richety concern is going to pieces. And they are particularly savage at individuals who say or do anything to help onward the political movement which is to sweep away the last remnants of the party of hate and discord. Well, that does not matter, to anyone but themselves. When they are forced by the tide of events to come into the current or be everlastingly overwhelmed, they will see the folly of their present obstruction.

We do not think there is any prominent "Liberal" who maintains that his party can hold out beyond "one more election." Doubtful members are being entreated to stick to it just for that and nothing more. What particular benefit will that be to them or to the Territory? All that it can accomplish possibly will be to put into local office a few "Liberals" in two or three counties, and keep up a show of hostility to the majority of the people. Is that worth the trouble and the expense?

Everybody, except persons who never think, but simply swallow down the doses of anti-"Mormon" stuff dealt out by a malignant scribe or two, knows that there is no real issue in Utah today except that between Republicanism and Democracy. The old issues are defunct. They are actually buried, and the feeble attempts of a few malcontents to drag their decaying remains from the grave of the past are as pitiable as they are disgusting. Shall Utah be a Republican