

clusion of the opening prayer. Much spirit was manifested during the debate. The division on the word Mormon was not as clearly defined as on the previous day. Several of the elders who the day before boldly proclaimed they were preaching Mormonism and were not ashamed of it, were very much more conservative, and they offered explanations of their position. Elder T. W. Williams made an explanation that was regarded by many of the elders as a complete backdown on this question.

The result of the debate was the adoption of Bishop Kelley's proposition by a vote of 68 to 24. The objectionable section and the words "Mormonism," "best blood," etc., will continue in the book, but a note explaining that the entire article is but a newspaper clipping will be appended, relieving the church from any responsibility for the use of the terms mentioned.

After the amendment by Bishop Kelley was adopted, President Joseph Smith, who under the rules was not allowed to speak on the question, explained his position. He said whenever he had been called on to explain the term Mormonism he said he believed it was Gospel restored by the angel. He would personally have much preferred to see the article in question written in a much more moderate way. He said he would not have cared if the section was removed entirely. He had absolutely no feeling in the matter.

Elder W. W. Blair then gave notice that before the end of the conference he would endeavor to so amend the rules as to give the presidency of the church a right to speak on a question, and that a chairman be chosen for the routine work of the conference.

SWISS AND GERMAN SAINTS.

About two weeks ago the News published an article under the above heading setting forth a plan for the obtaining of genealogies in Switzerland and Germany. Elder Julius Billeter, who left Saturday on this special mission, provided with many letters of introduction, recommendations and certificates, will commence his work immediately upon his arrival. Devoting the first two months time to places in the Cantons Bern and Solothurn, he will first take up the work in Berner Oberland, then Simmenthal, Emmenthal, etc. The plan of travel in the other Cantons is also carefully mapped out, upon the completion of which he expects to enter Germany, taking Wurtemberg and Baden first.

Now, since the expense and trouble in writing out the records is so materially reduced by taking several genealogies from one book, it is of utmost importance that all the Saints who expect to embrace this excellent opportunity of obtaining their records and who come from the particular places mentioned, should not delay in applying to Prof. Richard T. Haug, 218 E street, Salt Lake City, at once, that he may forward the necessary information, etc., to Brother Billeter in time.

Consistent with the economy of the plan, it has been decided that any one desiring to obtain a record in a

place which, having already been visited, would necessitate an extra trip to that locality, could not be accommodated unless he or she makes a prepayment of double the amount asked otherwise, e. g. \$10 per record.

Several orders for records have been taken from parties who are unable to make any prepayment, and in order to serve as many of these as possible and still meet all expenses of such an important journey all who can should now join the large number who already have shown practically the great interest they take in this undertaking.

MODERN MAIL CARS.

An innovation that amounts to a marvel in mail coach operation has just been inaugurated between Utah and California. With the change the old style car is displaced on the Central Pacific between San Francisco at Ogden. Attached to Saturday morning's train which came into the junction city was this newest of things in the way of mail car improvements. The San Francisco Chronicle has a detailed description of it. The car is in charge of the oldest mail clerk on the system, William C. Dubois, who has been in service since 1869. He was the first clerk on the Central Pacific, and had a run from Sacramento to Promontory, Utah, the then end of the line. He has never had an accident, and in all he has traveled 1,591,200 miles. The new car is modern in every respect, and finished as finely as the Pullmans, except that it is devoid of the plushes and hangings. The first thing noticed in the main part of the car is what is termed "the catbox," a device to gather in mail bags at small places without a stop. It is made in the shape of a V. A signal from the engineer warns the mail car occupants of the approach to a town. The clerk puts up the catbox and the mail bag, which has been put on a crane by the side of the road, is brought up as the train flies by. The letter cases of pigeon holes in the new car are so numerous that the observer thinks he is in a city postoffice. There are at least 600 hundred of these receptacles, and each case bears a revolving label holder, making it possible to use each pigeon hole four times. This gives the clerk in reality 2,400 receptacles for letters. The gas cooking apparatus is shown the visitor with some pride by the clerks, for no other line in the United States has such a thing in the mail cars. A burglar proof safe is placed in the car and the man at the head of the crew, William C. Du Bois, alone knows the combination. All valuables are entrusted to him. Heretofore there was safe in the cars and the headman depended entirely on the honor of those under him. The portion of the apparatus already described takes up half the space in the car. The other half is devoted to newspaper distribution. One hundred and two sacks can be hung up in the car on racks, that so distend the mouth of the sack that the clerk who is expert in this can throw a paper from one end of the car to the other and make it find the right sack. After the sacks are filled they are taken out, labeled, and then dragged through the vestibule into the storage car.

The light is from the Pintch system of storage gas. There are eight large globes, with four feeder to each globe, and four small globes, each with one feeder. In the daytime the car is lighted by fifteen windows, besides twenty-four ventilators covered with glass. Each car can accommodate nine working clerks comfortably, and these men handle, on an average, about 30,000 pounds of mail daily, or fifteen tons, which is distributed between San Francisco and Ogden to 2,000,000 persons.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

SEATTLE, Wash., April 17.—James E. Alsop, alias A. A. Austlo, who was arrested in this city yesterday afternoon by Detective John Courtney of Minneapolis on the charge of murdering Lena Olsen on the shore of Lake Superior, near Duluth, in order to get possession of \$450, committed suicide in the city jail here tonight. He took a short piece of the blanket given him to sleep on, and after making it fast to a staple in the wall only five feet above the floor, put the other end around his neck, and proceeded to strangle himself. He was discovered at 10:20 o'clock when Detective Courtney and Jailor Peer entered his cell to give him some oranges.

While it is true that Alsop made no regular confession, he admitted in a general way to Detective Philbrick today that he was in Duluth under the name of Austlo.

Courtney was afraid this afternoon that Alsop would commit suicide, but the police thought his fears groundless.

PEORIA, Ill., April 17.—By an explosion of the converter at the works of the American Glucose company this morning, John Hoey and a man named Burus were instantly killed. John Wilcox, Mat Connelly and John Dooley were badly injured.

NEW YORK, April 17.—A special from Havana to the World gives the following additional details about the arrest of Rev. Mr. Diaz.

Alberto J. Diaz, a missionary of the Southern Baptist church of the United States, has been arrested and taken to the police headquarters. His residence was searched. Consul General Williams promptly made inquiries. Diaz is a native Creole. He has been acting as a missionary for a number of years, in charge of the Gethsemane church, and has been frequently in trouble. He called on the consul general of the United States on February 12, 1887, and requested him to write a letter to the captain general and inform him that he (Diaz) was supervising bishop of the Baptist church in Cuba. He had a controversy with the Roman Catholic bishop of Havana, because the latter prevented Diaz from using property belonging to the diocese. Diaz has also engaged in the undertaking business. He is a naturalized citizen of the United States and has been a pronounced opponent of the government, talking rebellion openly.

CHICAGO, April 16.—Charles Vieth, a baker, suffocated himself with molasses yesterday. He was very fond of the stuff, and in order to get enough he lay flat on his back on the floor, so that when he opened the clip on the barrel, the syrup would flow into his mouth. Then he opened his face and