

EDITORIALS.

THE GOVERNORSHIP.

We hear nothing more about the Governorship of Utah. The last report through the *New York Herald* was that the ex-Delegate from Montana had been offered the position, but held the matter under advisement, being undecided as to whether he ought to accept or not. To those who know the ex-Delegate and the position which he occupies in his Territory, this is a most unlikely story. The position of Governor of a Territory, with the increased salary lately granted, is not so undesirable that an ex-Delegate of limited legal practice would long boggle about accepting it. We, therefore, yield no credence to the *New York Herald's* statement upon the subject, especially as we happen to know that no less than two ex-U. S. Senators look with some degree of longing towards the office. Had the proposed legislation for Utah, of which the ex-Delegate from Montana seemed to be one of the champions, become a law, his claims might have been deemed so strong that the office of Governor of the Territory might have been tendered him; but as that failed to pass, we do not see how he can have claims on the Executive that outweigh those of ex-Senators and other prominent men who aspire to the position; unless, indeed, he is tendered the place to console him for the chagrin he must have experienced at the non-passage of the bill. It is difficult to tell in every instance what motives prompt appointments to office in Utah. It ought not to surprise any person, therefore, if Montana's ex-Delegate should be appointed Governor here, though he has no more claims than Tom Noakes.

COLD COMFORT.

HERE is another prophet predicting terrible things by and by, but he gives the world a few years wherein to prepare for hard times and afflicting dispensations of Providence. The prophet is Dr. R. T. Trall, and in the *Philadelphia War* he talks not very cheerfully. He says that we are approaching the climax of a pestilential period. From 1880 to 1885 the planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune will approach the earth nearer than they have been for eighteen hundred years. Whenever any one of the four have come near enough for us to feel its influence, pestilence, famine and extremes of heat and cold have been the result. Now, we are to have the influence of the four combined, and he predicts that in seven years from now all manner of evil which grows out of the atmospheric changes will be upon us. To lessen the calamity, the world is urged to use the strictest sanitary measures, and by health and cleanliness counteract the effects of our unwelcome neighbors. The world is so much better able to care for itself than it was two or three hundred years ago, and by care we may avert much of the danger. To the following classes he gives very cold comfort: "The dissipated, the glutton, the debauchee may calculate on being among the first victims. Young men who devitalize themselves by tobacco-using, young ladies who destroy one-half of their breathing capacity by fashionable dress and tight lacing, will never survive the perihelion of all the large planets of the solar system; and perhaps it will be best that they should not."

A MORAL CITY.

IN the Reese River *Reveille*, Fred. H. Hart, alias "Van Jacquin," alias "Foby Green," on a visit to San Francisco, has a letter from that city, wherein he manifests by no means a high opinion of the morality of the metropolis of the Pacific. Here is the paragraph:

San Francisco must be an awfully moral city. The vigilant police, those gray-coated, brass-mounted guardians of shady sidewalks and corner groceries, enforce the gambling law with great strictness; but you can hardly enter a saloon but you see men and boys shaking dice for money. It is not confined in low groceries or out-of-the-way places, but is carried on publicly in the bar-rooms of some of the first-class hotels. A friend remarked to me: "There are faro banks in town; but they are strictly private; but if a man is hunting a poker game he can find one in a d-d near every house in town, which is a pretty sure sign that people will not gamble when they are prohibited by law. Then there is a Sunday law, and of course

these vigilant street ornaments enforce it. I got here on Sunday evening, and I did not experience any particular difficulty in obtaining whisky, cigars or any other article that I might have happened to want. Of course there are no houses of prostitution in this city (?); only whole streets containing nothing else. The police do not allow lewd women to solicit passers by (?), but then you know the poor policeman cannot be everywhere at once. I am not posted in the ways and doings of a large city, but if half the stories told me are true, San Francisco must be the wickedest, most depraved and licentious city that has disgraced the world since the days of Sodom and Gomorrah. I have been asked, and by men looked upon as respectable, to visit places where practices are indulged in that are enough to make a man curse the human race, and ask if it can be that these wretches are formed in the image of their maker. The morbid sentiment of the day forbids the writing on such a subject; but men who would say that it was indelicate to write about such things will visit these places and call it fun.

A gentleman from the Eastern States, but recently from California, after a visit of several months to the Pacific coast, informed us that he had formed a similar estimate of the moral status of San Francisco and other places in that State.

Correspondence.

ST. JOHN'S, Tooele Co.,
February 15, 1873.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear sir—I am happy to inform you and the public through your columns that the smallpox has left this place. The disease had quite a start in the settlement before it was known what it was. The judge and the selectmen of the county, hearing of a disease spreading in the place, sent W. B. Dodd, M. D., to see what it was, and he returned and pronounced it to be smallpox. There were about fifteen cases down with it then. He was sent back to attend to the sick, and if possible to stop the spread of the malady, which he accomplished to the satisfaction of all, especially those that were afflicted with the disease. There have been thirty cases down with it here, and of those six deaths, which happened before Mr. Dodd arrived, except two babies, which were too far gone for assistance. Five of the six fatal cases were not vaccinated, and the sixth was an old gentleman about seventy years old.

Seeing that the last case happened in my family, I thought it would not be amiss to inform you of the good of vaccination, as it proved in my family. While the malady was raging I vaccinated two of our children which did well, and on the ninth day, Sunday, I vaccinated our baby, four months old. On the following Tuesday my wife was taken down with the malady, and the baby nursed off her mother through the time. Still it did not seem to trouble the baby except some two or three pimples that broke out on her face, which the Doctor pronounced to be varioloid. Myself and the other two children proved to be thoroughly protected.

This is the most hateful of all diseases that can be imported among us. Years back the plains stopped all such diseases, but times have changed, the iron horse lands them right amongst us, and I, for one, hope and trust that some steps will be taken to inspect emigrants before they are allowed to be scattered through all our settlements, which are not acquainted with many diseases, especially contagious diseases. I expect it was one from the same company of emigrants that started the malady in this place as in other settlements that I have read of in your columns.

Yours,
E. J. ARTHUR.

SHEFFIELD, England,
March 1st, 1873.

Editor Deseret News:

We have got no horse disease here, but we have a coal famine, and that is a very bad complaint in the cold weather, for the only remedy that some poor people have against it is to go to bed and endeavor to obtain from their blankets the warmth that their empty grates fail to supply. In large cities and places remote from the coal districts, there is some acute suffering on account of this scarcity of coal, and it is reported that children are induced under these circumstances to go on errands and perform little services with a promise that they shall have "a few minutes by their neighbors' fire." Some are endeavoring to start a movement to place a tariff on coal,

and thus prevent the exportation of that article, but to this the coal owners and dealers are decidedly opposed, arguing that the price of this product, as with all others, should be determined by supply and demand. Seeing that the coal fields for the most part belong to the nobility and those who have a voice in Parliament, and who are materially benefitted by these extortionate prices, it is still likely to follow that the rich will have their comforts and pleasures, but the poor must pay for them.

The Athanasian creed is a subject that has been disturbing the politico-religious element here of late. Very many, among whom is a bishop and other high church dignitaries, are desirous of excluding therefrom the condemnatory portions which positively affirm that "except every one do keep this faith whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall perish everlastingly." On reading it, it appears such a complication of incomprehensibles to the ordinary mind, that when one has got through he is really puzzled to state whether he believes it or not, and in many instances it is a question whether it is understood at all. In conclusion it states "that they who have done good shall go into life everlasting, and those who have done evil, into everlasting fire; which except a man believe faithfully he cannot be saved." Thus you perceive this is a very warm subject for those who disbelieve in it to contemplate, and we can see the safe policy on the part of the objectors, for if those tenets in the creed be true they are certainly lost, seeing they do not believe in them; and should they be struck out they have no doubt some serious reflections as to whether they are or will be saved then. Now, seeing that this creed became part of their faith by royal if not Divine command, by legislative enactment if not by supreme authority, it really would seem in accordance with the liberal spirit of the times, in making religion easy and accommodating, for the same power that made that belief so binding upon the followers of the Church of England, to exclude it and kindly relieve so many thousands of their fellow country-men from such burning probabilities in the future. For notwithstanding the present high price of coal and the scarcity of fuel, the prospect of such a close proximity to and everlasting continuance in such a warm element that unbelievers are threatened with, would be too great a change to be at all agreeable.

Parliament is still in session, the papers state it is a dull one. The members are agitated mostly in the question of Russian aggression and the Irish University Bill. There are evidences at times that the skin is yet very tender over that part of the body politic that reluctantly consented to the Geneva award.

The subject that engages the attention of us, missionaries, the most is the dissemination of the principles of the gospel, which appears to us to be of such vital importance, and of which we can truly say we know it to be such. Yet the people of this nation at the present time regard it as of little or no consequence and treat those principles and its expounders with perfect indifference. Anything that speaks against us, however old or absurd, is readily listened to and accredited. A Mr. Hardy Gillard recently exhibited to the inhabitants of this place a panorama, showing the route from New York to San Francisco. Of course he got off at Ogden and took his audience down to Salt Lake City, to show them the large Tabernacle, Brigham Young's houses, Tithing Office, and the other neat dwellings as they peered forth, half hidden by the foliage of the beautiful trees, which was the best scene by far to my eye that was exhibited. I felt that I could not sit still while that view was before me without remarking to my neighbors that my home was in that country, and before they had recovered from the surprise of a "Mormon's" presence, I further remarked "that it did not look such a very wicked place after all," to which they assented. The lecturer told the old threadbare sensational fictions about the "Mormons." Such statements are eagerly received, and although we have distributed handbills giving information of our place of meeting and advertised it in the newspapers, giving them an opportunity of hearing the other side of the question, yet very few comparatively give heed. Still we trust that many

will yet hear and obey, as thousands of England's sons and daughters have done in the past. For we cannot but bear in mind, that in the preaching of the gospel to the nations of the earth in these last days, the seagirt isle of old England has tolerated the Saints and the Elders of Israel when other countries have discountenanced and expelled them.

From one who thought upon his native land still feels himself a

PILGRIM.

PAYSON CITY, March 17, 1873.
Editor Deseret News:

We have had a very enjoyable time here this winter. Our Philomatheon Society meets every Monday evening. Many of our young people attend and take great interest in it. We also publish the *Philomatheon Gazette*, which is ably edited by Mr. John Redington. The matter is mostly original. The society is presided over by Bro. Wm. Clayson.

Our Sunday Schools are in a prosperous condition. Over three hundred children are attending these schools. We have one Bible class for the old and young, which meets separately from the large school. Our bishop and the superintendents are taking a lively interest in the same.

There has been some sickness of late.

The prospect for fruit is good. We have done no ploughing yet, as the ground is very wet. The mail has been running triweekly of late, but now has begun its daily trips.

Our day schools are also well attended. In fact, there is more interest taken in the education of the youth than formerly. We also have a Legal Institute organized, which holds weekly meetings and bids fair.

OBSERVER.

Woman Suffrage in Utah—A Narrow Escape.

We congratulate the friends of Woman Suffrage that the "Utah Bill," which passed the Senate last week, did not meet the concurrence of the House, and through the efforts of our friends has failed to become a law.

This abominable bill, framed by Senator Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, and approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee, was entitled "A bill in aid of the execution of the laws in the Territory of Utah, and for other purposes." But it was especially designed to remand the women of Utah into political slavery, and even went so far as to guard against their future emancipation by constitutional prohibitions. The present Territorial suffrage law of Utah is as follows:

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Governor and Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah, That every woman of the age of twenty-one years, who has resided in this Territory six months next preceding any general or special election, born or naturalized in the United States, or who is the wife, widow or the daughter of a native-born or naturalized citizen of the United States, shall be entitled to vote at any election in this Territory.

SEC. 2. All laws or parts of laws conflicting with this act are hereby repealed.

The Frelinghuysen bill declares:

SEC. 26. That the following acts and parts of acts passed by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah, are hereby disapproved and annulled, namely: ... An act entitled "An act conferring upon women the elective franchise," approved February 12, 1870. ... Also all acts or parts of acts so far as the same are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this act.

Having thus coolly disfranchised 20,000 women voters, it proceeds to forbid their presence on juries by declaring:

SEC. 5. That only male citizens of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, shall be competent to serve as grand or petit jurors in said Territory.

In order to prevent the men of Utah from restoring the exercise of the right of suffrage to women, the bill provides:

SEC. 13. ... That at all elections, none but male citizens of the United States, over twenty-one years of age, and who have resided in the county four months, and in the precinct or election district thirty days prior to the election, shall be qualified to vote.

If any woman should hereafter endeavor to exercise her right of suffrage, here is the penalty prescribed by Mr. Frelinghuysen.

SEC. 21. That if any person not qualified to vote shall vote, or offer to vote, at any

election, or if any qualified voter shall cast or offer to cast, at any election more than one vote for the same officer or officers, he (or she) shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof in the district court of the proper district, be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

We have interlined the words, "or she," because the clause is so framed as to be equally applicable to both sexes.

Not content with thus crushing the political rights of the women of Utah, with the strong arm of the Federal Government, Senator Frelinghuysen actually proposes to rob every married woman in the Territories of her person, property and earnings.

Sec. 23. That the common law of England, in force in the colonies of America, at the date of the Declaration of Independence, is hereby extended over and declared to be in force in the Territories of the United States, so far as the same is applicable: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the Territorial Legislature of the respective Territories from modifying the same.

Remember, ladies, that "The common law of England," thus extended over your sisters in Utah, expressly gave "The custody of the wife's person absolutely to her husband," gave the husband a right to use "gentle restraint" to keep her, and to administer "moderate correction," to punish her; deprived her of the power to sue or be sued, or to make a will; made her the "servant" of her husband; gave him all her personal property and all her earnings, and the life-use of all her real estate, if they had ever had a living child, and subjected her to despotic control.

To this infernal law, almost as bad as chattel slavery itself, Senator Frelinghuysen has actually induced a Republican Senate to subject the women of Utah. Thus has the Republican Senate shown itself mindful of its obligations to the loyal women of America! This is its "respectful consideration" for the rights of the women of the Territories.

Thank God the bill has failed. But this failure may prove only a respite. The snake is scotched, not killed. Let the women of New Jersey call a public meeting and denounce the action of their Senator, who has thus insulted Womanhood. Let them see to it that Mr. Frelinghuysen is never re-elected to the Senate of the United States.

H. B. B.

The Territorial Suffrage Act, which we publish elsewhere in full, expressly limits suffrage to women who are over twenty-one years of age, and recognizes an unnaturalized woman as a citizen only when she is the wife, widow, or daughter of a citizen permanently resident in the Territory.

We can understand perfectly well that the "Gentiles of Utah," who are principally miners and unmarried men without families, feel aggrieved at being outvoted by the Mormons, of whom a large portion are women. A husband, wife and grown up daughter count three at the polls, an unmarried man counts one. But, after all, this is right. These women are entitled to representation. If the Gentile wishes to count three, let him also marry and rear children.

We have no sympathy with Mormonism or any other form of Secularism. We abhor polygamy and long to see it suppressed. ***

That frauds may have been perpetrated in receiving the votes of women under age is very possible. But this is not the fault of the law, and affords no excuse for its repeal. Fraudulent voting is not confined to women.

Hon. W. H. Hooper the delegate of Utah, on the 19th of January, vindicated Woman Suffrage from the slanders of its opponents on the floor of the House of Representatives.—*Woman's Journal*, March 8th.

Changes in the Public Land Laws.

Three bills more important to settlers on the public lands of the United States than any that have before passed since the Homestead act became laws during the last hours of the session of Congress just closed. The first is an act to encourage the growth of timber on Western prairies, and is the first measure of the kind that has ever been adopted by Congress. The following is its full text:

Be it enacted, That any person who shall plant, protect, and keep