

elected; finally the man, who is a Republican, proposed to his wife, who is an ardent Democrat, that if Cleveland was elected he would clear off the supper table, wash the dishes and put them away every evening for a year; while on the other hand, if Harrison was elected she was to shave him and shine his boots every morning. The wife readily assented, and now the ardent admirer of Harrison struggles away with the dish rag each evening, while his worthy spouse looks on with an indulgent smile. If the betting spirit cannot be overcome and those which involve some sacrifice of dignity must be made, how much better it is for the performance to take place under one's own roof than to make a public display of his weakness, his love for notoriety we may say!

INFORMATION AS TO UTAH.

E. B. L., writing to the News from Layton, Utah, asks the following question:

How many square miles does Utah contain; and what is her population?

Answer—The number of square miles is 84,970. The population, according to the last census, in 1890, was 207,905; but of course since that time there has been a very considerable increase.

"ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES."

Life in a city has its sad as well as its pleasant side, and the carrier of a newsboy offers its full share of them.

A night or two ago, one of the wildest and stormiest of the year, a little urchin not more than nine years old, but energetic and shrill-voiced as the largest of his competitors, was an object of interest to a crowd of purchasers in one of our leading drug stores.

The little fellow had lost most of his papers, but two or three remained on his hands and they were wet and soiled beyond all hope of disposal. Business in his line having become dull he had crept into the store referred to, whose blazing fire and warm interior, together with an unoccupied and inviting chair near the stove, had proved too strong an attraction to be resisted. Curled up on the seat he had so timidly appropriated, tired nature soon asserted herself and he fell fast asleep. Minutes lengthened into hours, and still the boy slept on. At length the time for closing came. It was late, for drug clerks are not allowed to go home early. The sleeper must be awakened now, and the last clerk, pausing in his work of turning out the lights, gave the tired boy a gentle shake. A few more gas jets turned out, and then another shake. Finally the drowsy youth was aroused. He stretched, yawned, opened his eyes a little, and then a little more; and when he saw the crowd of spectators who were watching him, he rose sheepishly, smiled sadly and glided out into the darkness and the storm.

"That boy comes here every night and stays until the last minute," said the clerk. "If he has a home I don't believe he ever goes there. I have to wake him up and turn him out every evening, and each time he wanders

away as he did tonight, as though thankful for the brief comfort I had been able to allow him."

All of which, corroborating our opening remark that life in a city has its sad episodes, suggests the further reflection that in the case cited there are either some parents whose indifference to their children is cruel, if not criminal, or there is at least one homeless wail whose condition calls for the display of some person's active sympathy and succor.

TOO MUCH SMOKE.

When the elements wage war upon us in this quiet and populous valley, a gloom sometimes overspreads the face of nature that is almost funereal, and sometimes this is the case when the air is at rest and the clouds give forth no moisture. There are several causes, principally scientific, but one is mechanical and it is with this that we would deal. We have reference to the dense volumes of smoke which are discharged from the hundred or more huge smokestacks in Salt Lake City and its environs, these being augmented in no small degree by the contributions from 25,000 ordinary chimneys, or thereabout. On any day that is ordinarily fair and there is a slight quantity of humidity in the air, the volumes of smoke hover over the city like a pall and accomplish literally what was said figuratively of the Parthian arrows—they obscure the sun. This is destructive of health and not conducive to exuberant feelings in the slightest degree.

It is recorded that the development of industries requiring the aid of great furnaces has a tendency to destroy the beauty of the places in which they are located and also to give undue business to doctors. A writer in one of the prominent newspapers of London, England, recently made a trip through the pottery districts of that country for the purpose of examining into the workmen's condition there. He found those towns, several in number, to be exceedingly dismal places to live in for two reasons—the annual dumping of hundreds of thousands of tons of rubbish around the works, by means of which the potteries have become fairly imbedded, and the vast volumes of smoke which the work occasions. Sixty per cent of the workmen die of pulmonary consumption; and while this unusually large proportion is not altogether if even principally due to the effects of smoke upon the system, there is no question that it contributes its full share to the general destruction created in the potteries.

Smoke-consumers work with reasonable success wherever they have been tried, and it would seem to be imperative that they become universal. The cost of using them cannot even approximate that of getting along without them and thus either engendering disease or accelerating it where resulting from other causes.

THE REPUBLICANS of Massachusetts demanded a recount of the vote of Boston, owing to the closeness of the race for governor, and got it. The result was that Democrats gained 371 votes over the first count.

END OF A CELEBRATED CASE.

The news columns of this paper briefly noted yesterday the final judgment in the long-pending Blythe will case in San Francisco. This, by reason of the great amount involved—some \$5,000,000—the illegitimacy of the successful claimant, the social standing of the other claimants and the persistency with which it has been fought, has become a *cause celebre* and justifies the use of a little space in explanation of it as well as the principles of law upon which it was finally adjudicated.

The issues were originally tried before Judge Coffey, who held in favor of Florence Blythe, the child born out of wedlock, and who is now Mrs. Hinchley. Some of the other heirs appealed to the Supreme court, where, after a long and tedious hearing and much subsequent consideration, the lower court was fully sustained on Wednesday last. The points at issue and which by this ruling have become a finality and passed into the category of authoritative precedents, were—Can a child whose father resides in California and whose mother is a resident of England (where the child was born), and whose parents were married only after her birth, inherit property left by the father in California? These were presented and considered separately, the court holding substantially as follows:

First—The domicile of the mother is the domicile of the illegitimate child, and the place of birth of the child is an immaterial element.

Second—In a case of legitimation by subsequent marriage the place of marriage does not affect the question.

Third—Legitimation by a subsequent marriage depends upon the law of the domicile of the father.

Inasmuch as the deceased Blythe was domiciled in California, both at the time of the birth of the child and at the time he performed the acts which it is claimed resulted in legitimation, this question does not become an issue in the case.

Reference is made by the court to the celebrated English case of *Munro vs. Munro*; the defendant was a Scotch gentleman of fortune domiciled in Scotland, who while on a visit to London cohabited with an English-woman domiciled in England, and a child was the result of such cohabitation. He subsequently married the woman in England, and it was held under the law of Scotland by the house of lords, sitting as a court of appeal (although, if it had been a case appealed from the English courts the decision would undoubtedly have been the same), that such a child was thereby legitimated, Scottish law providing for legitimation by subsequent marriage.

Thomas H. Blythe died in San Francisco on April 4, 1883. He came from Liverpool in 1849. He peddled for a living and by 1851 had saved up \$300, with which he bought the block which subsequently became the bone of contention among his heirs and alleged heirs. He went to the mines, made a living there and let the property take care of itself, which it did to the extent of making him wealthy. He was not a moral man and at the time of his death was living unlawfully with Alice Edith Dickinson, who claimed the property