

Dinner for twelve from the Sherman house.

Judge Brentano properly and promptly refused to honor this modest requisition, and the jurors immediately fled into court and returned a verdict fixing the amount of damages at one cent. This was a little too much for human nature or judicial decorum, and his honor righteously uncorked his vials of wrath and poured them out upon the heads of that jury, the members of which were left stunned and speechless. They were not prepared for such a vigorous and elaborate denunciation from the bench as they received and it is unnecessary to say that they felt the full force of it and realized for a time at least the enormity of their transgression. They had taken an oath to find in accordance with the facts and their best judgment, guided by the rules laid down by the court, and had not only violated the oath but done a gross injustice to a deserving litigant. No wonder his honor became wrathful, and we have yet to read a word of adverse criticism of his action.

The men were not without a reason for their contemptible conduct, even if they were destitute of justification. Jurors have become habituated to doing about as best suits them when deliberating on a verdict, the law as given by the court and the facts as admitted in evidence too often figuring merely as incidents rather than the elements out of which a verdict should be wrought. This unchecked has a tendency to make them autocratic if not insolent, and anything they may see fit to do has to "go." At such times and under such circumstances a verbal castigation like that inflicted by the Chicago judge is apt to be highly salutary.

### THE LATE W. H. SHEARMAN.

It is due to the memory of William H. Shearman that a brief statement be given in regard to his connection with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, with which he first became identified in the early fifties, in California. In that part of the country he devoted a considerable portion of his time to missionary work. He came to Utah and had resided here a comparatively short time when he responded to a call to take a mission to Great Britain, where he labored diligently and successfully in the ministry for about three years, returning to his home in this Territory in 1865. While in England he was a frequent contributor to the *Millennial Star*. He located soon after his return in Logan, Cache county, where for several years he was a leading worker in the Sunday school cause, for which he was admirably adapted. Then followed a blank in his career so far as his connection with the Church was concerned, as he withdrew from it. This step he deeply regretted and it was the cause of much sorrow to him. He, to the knowledge of the writer, several times expressed himself to that effect. When spoken to on this subject, nearly fifteen years ago, he stated that he had known the Church to be the work of God from his first acquaintance with it and still had that testimony, and that some time in the future he would return to the fold.

This determination evidently never

left his mind, as he acted upon it several years ago, being admitted by baptism and confirmation. His former blessings were also restored to him, and at the time of his death he held the office of Seventy. Since the renewal of his connection with the Church he has done missionary work in the Eastern States and Europe. Latterly he also belonged to the Home Missionary corps of the Salt Lake Stake.

Brother Shearman was a man of striking personal appearance. His figure was extremely slender, with a slight inclination to stoop at the shoulders. His face had an intellectual aspect. The forehead was unusually high and a trifle narrower across its upper part than at the base. The eyes were deep set, with a constant appearance of thoughtfulness. His movements were rapid and nervous, and he had a tendency toward melancholia, which rested like a shadow upon an otherwise brilliant mind. He wielded a facile pen, his style of writing being clear, sharp and incisive. Contributions from his pen have appeared at different times in the News. They were always written in the interest of truth, justice and humanity.

William H. Shearman was generous to a fault. It was common when cases of want were brought to his attention, for him to go at once to the rescue and relieve distress. Instances almost without number of this kind occurred. Not only were his sympathies easily awakened, but his sentiment of friendship was also of the most ardent character, and he was ever inventing methods through which to give its expression toward persons for whom he had formed an attachment.

It is not amiss to state in this imperfect sketch that one of his last acts, performed just previous to his taking to the bed from which he never arose, was to send a donation to aid in the work of completing the Temple in this city.

### STILL ROOM FOR AMENDMENT.

Without going exhaustively into the merits of the case of the administrator of the estate of Samuel Varney against the corporation of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints residing in the Fifteenth ecclesiastical ward of this city, and which was decided by Judge Zane yesterday afternoon in favor of the defendants, it is enough to say that if justice, equity, law and logic are still supposed to be of force there could be no other finding in this instance than that recorded. The contention of the plaintiff was that the defendants fraudulently contrived and conspired to cheat and defraud Varney who is alleged to have been of unsound mind when the deed of transfer was made; and further that the defendant, "the pretended corporation, is organized for said unlawful, immoral and criminal purposes," there being the doctrine of polygamy as a part of its religious creed, enjoined upon and propagated by its members.

There was a time, and perhaps the plaintiff in this case had it in mind, when such a complaint, embodying so direct an appeal to bigotry and preju-

dice, would have had a much better chance than any calm examination of the facts and the law would have given it. That time and its conditions—happily ended now—were a constant invitation to just such suits as this. Lynx-eyed attorneys might gleefully rub their hands at the prospect of fat fees as a reward for the litigation they stirred up; and that more of it was not instituted then was due to the fact that another class of suits was occupying public attention.

It is of course proper that an administrator should seek to discharge faithfully his trust and secure for the estate all that rightfully belongs to it. It is also proper that fraud in acquiring property or flaws in the title be examined and made right. Every citizen is interested in having such matters regulated and determined according to the due forms of law. But no one, we are at last happy to believe, desires, or has any patience with, efforts at church spoliation, even though the Mormon Church be the one aimed at. That a bald accusation of unlawfulness, immorality and criminality should figure as one of the fundamental parts of any such complaint nowadays is of course to be regretted; but that such accusation exerts no greater influence than any other declaration which must be proven absolutely by evidence is a gratifying indication of the progress that has been made. Fraud, conspiracy, or even the allegation of such methods, are proper subjects for inquiry; but in the name of all that's decent let us have an end of such bosh and falsehood as that contained in the assertion that the "Mormon Church is organized for unlawful, immoral and criminal purposes." It doesn't help the cause in which it is invoked one particle.

### THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION.

It cannot be concealed that there is a growing sentiment in this country against immigration and several suggestions have been made recently with a view to the solution of the problem. The danger of importing cholera has given rise to the radical proposition to entirely suspend immigration except from North and South America from March 1st, 1893, a measure which would hardly have met with approbation, had it not been for the scare created by the prevalence of the terrible epidemic in European countries. Another proposition is to prohibit the steamship companies from advertising the United States as an El Dorado. This would probably have the desired effect, could it be carried out, for a great portion of the immigrants come to this country on account of the glowing descriptions of high wages, facilities for acquiring homes and other advantages which are constantly published by the agents of the different lines. But how will it be possible to enforce any law framed in the United States to prevent the immigration agents from continuing their advertising in Germany, France, Russia, Italy or elsewhere? A more practicable suggestion is that no immigrant shall be admitted into this country unless he on landing proves himself to be the happy possessor of \$100 or its