

house and a mammoth trading post in Salt Lake City, control the Utah Central Railroad, and collect \$500,000 a year in tithes from the faithful followers of the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

A capital story is told in Paris of an American lady who at an inn in Normandy was deputed, as being the best French scholar in her party, to make the arrangements for their accommodation. She did her best—which was a long way short of perfection—but the clerk did not catch her meaning, and his remarks were jargon to her. Finally, in desperation, she said, slowly and with awful distinctness: "Do—you—speak—English?" "Wa'al, neow, you're jest talkin," shouted the clerk. "Guess I'd orter speak English. I was raised ten miles from Ban-gor."

Reports from Panama show that active work is going forward on the maritime canal, and before long 15,000 men and many machines will be busily engaged in excavating. The great difficulty, that of managing the Chagres River, is yet to be encountered. The rapidity of the work will be much hastened during the winter, the most favorable season. One American dredge, the Hercules, removes 6,000 cubic metres of earth a day. The port works at Colon are nearly complete, and the whole work will be finished in two years, according to the roseate dispatches. Just at this moment M. de Lesseps is claiming that the construction of such great works of international communication as the Suez and Panama Canals introduces a new principle in the relations of nations. His argument is that the association of the capital of the world in enterprises of this kind, conduces to a solidarity of the interests of all nations, and tends to raise them above the plane of political conflict. Experience in regard to the Suez Canal hardly yet bears out this claim.

Prof. Philip Schaff says that the Old Testament is still in the hands of the American revisers, who are preparing the American appendix; that is, selecting from all their readings and renderings which the British revisers have rejected those which they deem worth laying before the public for final decision. The revised Old Testament will probably be published before next spring. Then the convocation of Canterbury, which originated the movement, will subject it to official judgment.

California Department.

CONDUCTED BY PROF. J. DURHAM.

All matter intended for this department should be addressed to Prof. J. Durham, College City, California.

The Lie.

It is not very becoming in a preacher to try to prove his propositions in the pulpit by using such arguments as "That's a lie," "He's a liar," "Who says so and so." Of course these are knock-down arguments, but they are the kind that produces knock-downs in the saloons and other disreputable places.

I said the language is not becoming, that is too mild a form to express it, it is low and vulgar and far, far beneath the dignity of a proclaimer of the gospel of salvation. In fact such words never ought to fall from the lips of one of the Lord's ambassadors, scarcely even in jest. And the preacher that has to prove his propositions by such arguments as those to which I have alluded, has run out of arguments proper and takes up the "bulldozing" cudgel. The world will never be convinced in this manner, and it will not strengthen the saints. Christianity must stand on its merits, it has arguments numberless in quantity and unanswerable in quality. It has arguments for every form of its propositions, its bulwarks are impregnable, it has forts that are as invulnerable as the throne of Jehovah himself. Besides the angels of the Lord camp around about those that fear him. All these truths and facts make the Christian warrior bold and fearless, strong and courageous. His weapons are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. Let then the "children of light" use discretion, sound judgment, that our good be not evil spoken of. Zeal should not run away with the judgment, particularly of those who would be teachers of the people and expounders of the word.

Brief Notes.

Bro. Foster ministers to the brethren at Santa Rosa half his time, one-fourth at Fulton, and one-fourth at Petaluma.

Bro. J. H. Rosecrans, our Singing and Sunday-school Evangelist, will go to Ukiah, in Mendocino county, next. Ukiah is the field of Bro. Jas. Logan.

A rain somewhat interfered with the Sunday School Institute at Williams. Many of the brethren and sisters were prevented from coming. Bro. Hand came to the rescue and we went on with most of the performances.

Bro. G. R. Hand is now seventy-one years of age, his locks are like the snow, but his eye is not much dimmed, nor has he lost much of the fire of his early days. He is a master workman, and can present the gospel with a power that delights the heart.

Bro. James Anderson, one of our old pioneer preachers of California, has been engaged in the Clerk's office of Sonoma county, for several years, but he spins out occasionally and preaches in the country, or at home in Santa Rosa; he used to say when there was no one else or there was a fifth Sunday.

The brethren at Pleasant Hill, in Sonoma county, have agreed to disband and unite with the church at Santa Rosa. These brethren are not able to keep a preacher all the time, and there are several other congregations in the vicinity that are in the same fix. Probably this will do when they cannot do better, but it is far better to board at home. I hope they will soon be in a shape to worship around their own firesides. The poor of their neighborhood will not get much of the gospel. Bro. Gentry lives in that community, and he will do all he can. He is a dear and faithful saint.

A brother writes me asking if he did wrong in refusing to loan his horse and buggy to persons who wish to go to a dance. He has been censured for refusing on the ground that it was a violation of the "Golden Rule." We are to avoid the "appearance of evil," and exhorted to "not conform to the world." It is but smiling at a sinful and demoralizing practice, and it is as merciful to keep a dumb animal out of bad company as any thing else, so that it would be nothing but good old fashioned bay horse sense to keep a good old sorrel mare in good company, and especially if she belongs to a Christian.

Bro. A. W. Dewitt, of Tulare county, has just closed a very interesting meeting at Visalia, re-

sulting in thirteen additions. Bro. Dewitt is one of the pioneer preachers of California. His name is as household words in northern California. He has many sons and daughters in the gospel who praise his name. May he have many more years to labor in the great vineyard. Bro. and Sister Dewitt spent part of last summer in visiting their brethren in Colusa, Yolo and Sutter counties. Old time has left his imprint on their brows, their locks are very grey, but their voices are clear and strong, and they bid fair for many more years of usefulness. May their golden sun set in everlasting peace and joy.

Educational Department.

CONDUCTED BY PROF. W. E. YATES, A. M.

All matter intended for this department should be handed or sent to Prof. W. E. Yates, Monmouth, Oregon.

Teaching.

It is sometimes thought by those not giving much thought to the subject of teaching that scholarship is the only qualification of any worth for the teacher to possess in order to be successful in the school-room.

A person may be a Solomon in learning, and a failure in teaching. He may possess a good education, and be totally ignorant of all methods of instruction. An illustration is furnished by the Philadelphia cloth merchant who retired from the business and had to tell his junior partner how to discriminate and set values on the different cloths brought to the place of business. The older merchant was an adept in the discrimination of the discrimination of the cloths; in fact, had become wealthy by means of the skill he possessed in being able to simply glance at the fabric and let it run through his fingers and tell its value. But when he came to instruct his partner in the art he so well knew was totally at a loss. He did not know the first principle of education, or instruction, for he, after hesitation for methods of explanation, said, "Why, all you have to do is to feel of it and look at it," which did not make the work any plainer than if he had said nothing. So often in schools we find one trying to teach, who understands well the subject in hand, but is not able to intelligently communicate the knowledge he has to another.

Instead of telling the child "to