THE UTAH CENTRAL SALE

Three Roads Disposed of By Special Master Loomis.

THEY BROUGHT $272,600

A Forfeit of Twenty Thousand Dollars Paid Over.

The Purchase Made by A. T. Rice, jr. and Isaac Untermeyer For Anthony J. Dittmar and Henry Graff, of New York—C. E. Stanton as Cryer—A Brief Description of the Properties — Frank Pierce Was the Only Opposition Bidder.

Whether or not George D. Loomis, deputy clerk of the Third district court and special master in the matter of the sale of the Utah Central, is gifted with those graces which mark the successful auctioneer, was not definitely settled yesterday, because while Mr. Loomis intended to vocalize and had fitted himself to say "third and last call" with telling effect, the fates were against him.

Yesterday morning at 11 o'clock was the time fixed for the sale by auction of the Salt Lake & Fort Douglas, Salt Lake & Eastern and Utah Central properties, but Mr. Loomis was suffering from an aggravated attack of chronic pharyngitis, and his physician, Dr. Arthur Burrows, positively forbid him from doing the shouting.

"Any undue strain," said Dr. Burrows, in his certificate, "or prolonged use of the voice, might and probably would result in an extension of the inflammation and an acute laryngitis, with temporary or permanent loss of the voice, for which I desire not to be responsible."

With this warning, Mr. Loomis proceeded to hunt up an understudy and found him in the person of Charles E. Stanton, who gave vocal evidence of the fact that he is not subject to pharyngitis, laryngitis or any trouble closely or remotely connected with them.

The sale, of course, attracted a good deal of interest, and fully a hundred gentlemen, few of whom had any interest in the proceedings, assembled at the west entrance of the capitol building shortly before 11 o'clock.

In the front row were A. T. Rice, jr., and Isaac Untermeyer of New York, representing the bondholders and who bought in the properties for the neat sum of $272,600 for Henry Graff and Anthony J. Dittmar of New York; Attorney Frank Pierce, representing the opposing interests and who was the only other bidder; Jacob Bamberger, Attorney William M. Bradley, Attorney E. B. Critchlow, Attorney George Sutherland, H. G. McMillan, Banker Frank Knox, Henry Shields of Park City and Attorney J. A. Williams.

THE SALE BEGINS.

At 11:05 Special Master Loomis, with a handkerchief around his neck and his coat buttoned up about his throat, took his position against the south wall and made this preliminary announcement: "This is the day and hour set for the sale of the Salt Lake & Fort Douglas railway, the Salt Lake & Eastern railway and the Utah Central railway. Owing to the condition of my voice and under the advice of my physician, I have appointed Mr. C. E. Stanton as crier."

ATTORNEY J. A. WILLIAMS.

Before the sale was proceeded with Attorney J. A. Williams, as a matter of form, gave notice that the property would be sold subject to an injunction had in the case of Martha U. Coombs. This is an old right of way case, the road running through a portion of Mrs. Coombs' land.

SALT LAKE & FORT DOUGLAS.

Mr. Stanton then entered upon the discharge of his duties by announcing that the first sale would be of the Salt Lake & Fort Douglas, and proceeded to read with great vigor the long notice. This completed, he asked for bids, and Attorney Pierce started the ball rolling by offering the upset price, $22,700.

Mr. Rice promptly went him $500 better, and then there was a see-saw, some of the bids jumping up $1,000 and others only $5. It was quite evident that Mr. Rice was there to get the property, and he got it, his last offer being $40,500 in behalf of Messrs. Graff and Dittmar.

Mr. Loomis blandly inquired: "Have you the required deposit of $5,000, to be paid before the property is to be sold?"

"I have," replied Mr. Rice, and he proceeded to turn over a certified check for $5,000.

This preliminary being completed Mr. Loomis said, "I hereby declare this property of the Salt Lake & Fort Douglas Railway as mentioned in the decree and notice of sale, sold to Henry Graff and Anthony J. Dittmar of New York, for the sum of $40,500 in accordance with the terms of said decree and notice."

Mr. Loomis repeated this announcement at the close of the two succeeding sales, changing only the reference to the property and the purchase price.

SALT LAKE & EASTERN.

The Salt Lake & Eastern was next on the list, and the real, spirited bidding of the day was done in the sale. Mr. Rice, who is a tall, slender young man, lifted his hat on the back of his head and sailed in, while Mr. Pierce met him calmly.

The first offer was the upset price, $115,000. On the next call it went up $1,000, and then advanced steadily until Mr. Rice bid $210,500. This was higher than Mr. Pierce cared to go and the property was knocked down to Messrs Graff and Dittmar, although before the sale was completed, Attorney Critchlow, on behalf of the Metropolitan Stone company, said that one mile of switch would be sold subject to that company's lien and Henry Shields gave notice that a portion of the track in Park City belonged to W. I. Snyder and was sold subject to that gentleman's claim.

Mr. Rice turned over a certified check for $10,000 on this deal and the sale was closed.

THE UTAH CENTRAL.

Mr. Rice had it all his own way in the bidding for the Utah Central. He offered the upset price of $21,600, and there was no other bid. The road was declared sold to Graff and Dittmar and Special Master Loomis received his third certified check, the amount being $2,000. Then the crowd dispersed and the principals to the transaction adjourned to the master's office.

AMOUNT REALIZED.

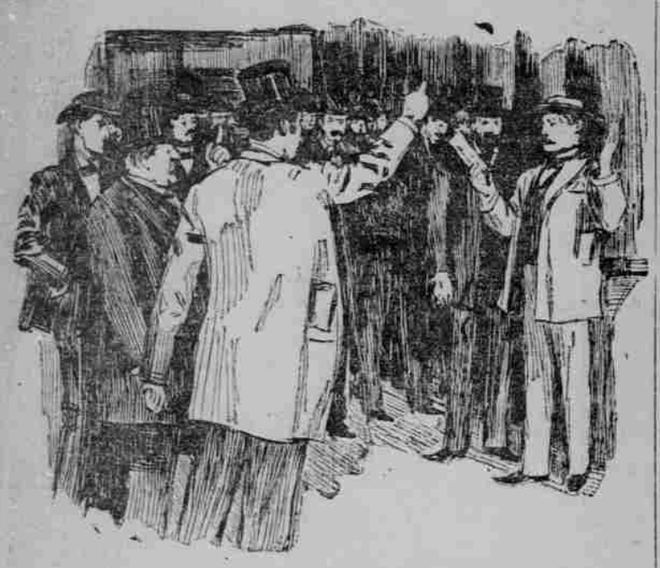
The three properties brought exactly $272,600, and $20,000 is in the master's hands as a forfeit in case the buyers fail to take the road.

The payment of the full amount is to be completed upon the delivery to the purchasers by the special master of a certificate of sale, which may be issued by him at any time.

IN THE STOCKHOLDER'S INTERESTS.

It is generally understood that the property was bought in the interest of the stockholders, although some believe that the Rio Grande Western has some interest in the transaction, which may appear later. It was also thought that J. E. Bamberger would be a bidder, but he stated that his interests were in no way interfered with and there was no occasion for him to bid. Both Mr. Bamberger and Mr. McMillan seemed to be entirely satisfied with the result.

Messrs. Rice and Untermeyer left for New York on the Rio Grande Western last evening.



SPECIAL MASTER LOOMIS SELLING THE ROADS.

FUTURE OF THE ROAD.

It will take some little time to determine exactly what will be the future of the road, but for the coming half year Mr. McGregor will in all probability manage it.

THE PROPERTY SOLD.

The line of the Salt Lake & Fort Douglas begins at the tracks of the Rio Grande Western on Eighth South street and runs east to Seventh East and then south one block to Ninth South and then east one block to Tenth East across the Jordan & Salt Lake canal. It then proceeds in a northeasterly direction past the Salt Lake City Brewing company's works to a point where First South and Thirteenth East intersect, then north to First street and then easterly to and across the reservation to the stone quarries in Red Butte canyon with one branch to the quarries at the mouth of Emigration canyon and another branch to the mouth of Big Cottonwood canyon, or rather the right of way for a branch for the latter as the track is not all laid there.

The Salt Lake & Western begins at Sugar House Ward and runs thence through Parley's canyon and Parley's Park to Park City, a distance of about 25 miles. It also includes the right of way of the Salt Lake & Eastern from Park City to Kamas prairie, a distance of about 25 miles.

The Utah Central begins at the junction of North Temple and Fourth West and runs south on Fourth West to Eighth South, thence west to a junction with the Rio Grande Western. Over the same route as the Salt Lake & Fort Douglas to the intersection of South Temple and Thirteenth East, a distance of about nine miles, including the Y spurs and sidings. Also beginning at the intersection of Ninth South and Tenth East and running south to Sugar House and then to Park City over the same route as the Salt Lake & Western, from thence east to Moon's mill in Wasatch county, a distance of perhaps 2 miles, thence east and southeast to Wolf Creek pass and to the Duchesne river and Lake Fork in Wasatch county; then east by way of the Uintah river and Ashley river to the Colorado state line in Snake valley, a distance of about 76 miles. Also a right of way for a branch from the Davis ranch on Provo river to a point near Heber City and a branch from Sugar House to Sandy through Union Fort and Hollidaysburg; also from North Temple and Fourth West to the lake near Black Rock and thence north to the old Island road.

Railway Notes.

General Agent Marsh of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, with headquarters at Omaha, arrived here last night and will remain in Salt Lake several days.

General Manager Bancroft of the Short Line was in New York yesterday, but left that city last night to return to Boston, where he has been since May 1. He is not expected to arrive in Salt Lake before about the end of this week.

The Rio Grande Western has made a rate of a fare and a third, on the certificate plan, to the following meetings: At Pittsburg, May 18-24, Baptist anniversaries; St. Paul, June 16-24, annual meeting United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America; Buffalo, N. Y., June 22-28, annual meeting American Institute of Homeopathy.

The U. S. Gov't Reports show Royal Baking Powder superior to all others.

Accident on the Santa Fe.

Pueblo, Colo., May 8.—Passenger train No. 5, eastward bound, on the Santa Fe railroad, due here at 7 o'clock this morning, went through a bridge over the Arkansas river at Lamar at 3 o'clock this morning. The engine, mail car, baggage car, chair car and smoker all went into the river, two sleepers only remaining on the track. Engineer John Magan, who stuck to his post, had one rib broken. Two tramps, names unknown, who were stealing a ride on the pilot, one arm broken, the other a leg broken. Nobody else was injured. The flood was caused by heavy rains, which undermined the foundations of the bridge.

ITS POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Double Barreled Mission of the Committee to Invite McKinley.

CANNON, BARTCH, LANNAN

'TIS SAID WILL WORK FOR BROWN'S DETHRONEMENT.

Senator Rawlins and Congressman King Practically Ex-Officio Members of the Committee — Stories That Have Greatly Disturbed the Utah McKinleyites.

Some of the Republican chiefs are engaged in a way in fixing up a gigantic political scheme. So far as is at present known the methods employed are perfectly legitimate. Conditions chance to be more favorable just now than they have been for some time, and it is not strange that they should be taken advantage of. Just who is the chief architect is not known. It may be that it is the work of several master minds. The plan is to overthrow one or two political bosses; relegate a few more to the ranks; promote the success of the g. o. p., and, if possible, boost a prominent citizen into the United States senate. It all hinges on the proposed visit of President McKinley to Utah on the occasion of the celebration of the Semi-Centennial Jubilee in July next.

It has been generally conceded for some time past that ex-Senator Arthur Brown was to have absolute control of the federal patronage for this state. The rank and file of the party have been so thoroughly impressed with this idea that the ex-senator has been besieged with applications in great number for every office within the gift of the present Republican administration. This does not mean that the ex-senator's authority has been acknowledged by all the Republicans in this state. The Tribune in particular has been very much opposed to this arrangement, and never has been willing to allow the ex-senator to have things his own way. The Tribune manager is very persistent and never says die until the last glimmer of hope has vanished. Numerous messengers and messages have been sent to Canton and Washington since the last election for the purpose of persuading Mr. McKinley that it would not be wise for him to permit Mr. Brown to have absolute control of the federal patronage of this state. Up to date all efforts have proved fruitless.

ADMINISTRATION'S ATTITUDE.

The president and Mr. Hanna, especially Mr. Hanna, have given it out that they did not propose to treat with people who had been opposed to their combination in the last election. It is said Mr. Hanna assumed the dignity of an autocrat and was very autocratic in his expressions, saying in substance that the Republican party had been successful in the last election and that it was the height of presumption for anyone who had not supported Mr. McKinley to make a demand for pie. Mr. Hanna even suggested that it might be well to discipline some of the Republicans of this state who had followed off after the silver idol, in order that when the next election rolled around they would be humbled enough to follow the lead of their party. The 51,000 majority for Bryan in this state was referred to and Mr. Hanna suggested that while there were, apparently, a few Republicans in the state of Utah, that if a little bit of discipline which he proposed be administered to those who had strayed away, it would have a very beneficial effect. He even argued that to concede anything to those who had opposed the election of Mr. McKinley in this state would have a very damaging effect upon the party, and that if things were not just exactly as desired when the next election rolled around there might be another general desertion. Mr. Hanna seemed to be imbued with the idea that faithful servants were the ones to be rewarded, and he could not see the benefit to be derived in placing a man in a lucrative position who had opposed Mr. McKinley in the last election and turning down some faithful follower who had shouted for McKinley here in Utah, where it required the utmost courage for him to do so. All this had its effect and many were inclined to give up the ghost and allow what is known as the McKinley wing of the Republican party here in Utah to have all the spoils.

To be successful in almost any undertaking requires perseverance and in this instance those who have opposed the Brown combination have displayed a most wonderful amount of perseverance and stick-to-it-iveness.

M'KINLEY WILL BE WELCOMED.

It was very natural that a visit of the president of the United States should be suggested on the occasion of the celebration of the Pioneer Jubilee. This is very appropriate and proper and no well meaning citizen of Utah will do aught to prevent the president from paying a fraternal visit to the people of the mountains on that occasion. They will all rise up as one man, and laying aside political considerations, will welcome him as the chief magistrate of the nation, and each and every one will be proud to do him honor. Democrats will vie with Republicans in their efforts to make the president's visit a most enjoyable one. This spontaneous welcome on the part of the people of Utah will in no wise interfere with the political significance of the president's visit. Had Mr. Bryan been chosen chief magistrate he would doubtless have visited Utah on the occasion of the celebration, and although Republicans would have joined most heartily in welcoming him, there is no denying that it would have been of great benefit to the Democratic party, and so it will be with Mr. McKinley's visit.

HAVE A DOUBLE MISSION.

When it was proposed to invite the president to come to Utah in July next those having charge of the preparations for the celebration very promptly accepted this suggestion, and whether by design or accident no Democrat of the state was selected to go to Washington. It is true Senator Rawlins and Representative King were made a part of the committee, but they were named simply because they chanced to be members of the Utah delegation in congress, and not because they were Democrats. In fact, it goes without saying that the real committee of invitation was the one that was appointed to go from this state, the congressional delegation being made ex-officio members only. The gentlemen selected to make the journey to Washington especially to invite the president are all representative citizens and can most worthily represent the people of Utah in this undertaking, and in that particular they will doubtless perform the duty very acceptably to all concerned, and so far as the mere invitation of the president is concerned, they cannot be accused of any political designing. The formal presentation of the invitation—which, by the way, it is said, was written by the editor-in-chief of the Tribune—will not require very much time, and should it be accepted the committee will receive the hearty commendation of the people of the state for a duty well performed. This done, the official mission of the committee will have been discharged, and then will follow the political mission, which will require a great deal more tact and diplomatic skill, and if well managed will be far more significant in its results so far as the people of Utah are concerned.

TO DETHRONE BROWN.

As has been said, one purpose has been to depose an alleged political leader in the person of ex-Senator Brown, and here is where the shoe pinches. Besides representing the people of Utah as a whole, Messrs. Cannon, Lannan and Bartch go as the representatives of the anti-Brown Republicans of this state, and if all goes well it is hoped that the result will be a reunion of most of the discordant elements in the Republican ranks. In order to bring this about it will be necessary to convince the president, and especially Mr. Hanna, that the well-being of the Republican party in Utah requires such a combination as will be proposed. The object of the combination suggested will be to place an administration senator in the United States senate from Utah, and give the manager of the chief Republican organ and his friends the control of the federal patronage in this state, consequently the dethronement of ex-Senator Brown as a political boss.

If conditions are favorable Mr. George Q. Cannon will be a candidate for United States senator before the legislature in 1898. Before that can be brought about, however, it will be necessary for the Republicans to have control of the legislature, and therein rests the power of this combination. It is thought that it will not take very long to convince Mr. Hanna that one element of success for the Republican party in Utah is to be found in the undivided support of the Salt Lake Tribune, and another is to be found in the earnest efforts of Mr. Cannon for the success of the Republican party in the next election.

A STRONG ALLIANCE.

There is no disputing the fact that an alliance between the Tribune and Mr. Cannon for political purposes is a very strong combination. Add to that the influence of the federal administration and it will certainly be a very formidable combine. Mr. Hanna in particular will be given to understand that there will be very little hope for the support of the Tribune in case ex-Senator Brown is given control of the federal patronage. It will be a showdown between the Tribune and Brown and Mr. Hanna will have to elect which in his opinion will be the most influential in a political campaign. Add to that the active co-operation of Mr. Cannon in a political way, and there is no doubt but what the arguments of this special committee will be very potent.

BARTCH AND DORSEY.

Judge Bartch is said to have strong influence with prominent politicians in the state of Pennsylvania, who are very close to Mr. Hanna and the president. Ex-Congressman Dorsey of Nebraska and Utah, who happens to be in Washington just now is also very influential with this administration, being a warm personal friend of President McKinley. It is said that when he goes to the White House the latch string is always out and that few men have precedence over him when he wishes to see Mr. McKinley. Mr. Dorsey has become convinced, that the wise thing for Republicans to do in Utah is for so many of them as possible to get together and while it may be necessary to sacrifice a few, his idea is to drop out those who would be of the least service to the party. Of course, there is Senator Cannon who has not been taken into consideration, but it is said that the administration has nothing whatever to hope from the senator. He does not attend the Republican caucuses and is not counted as a Republican, in fact. Administration senators are at a premium now and will be during all of McKinley's term, therefore, it is not to be expected that the president or Mr. Hanna would look with favor upon a proposition to re-elect Senator Cannon to the senate. Those who are familiar with the matter do not hesitate to say that Hon. George Q. Cannon is very much inclined to look upon Mr. McKinley and his administration with the utmost favor, and should the president throw his powerful influence in favor of Mr. Cannon, sr., for senator from Utah, it would not decrease his regard for Mr. McKinley.

This matter has all been thoroughly discussed by a few leading Republicans at least, and, while it is rather early in the campaign for a movement of this kind, there is nothing unreasonable in connection with it, provided the well laid plans work out satisfactorily.

It is said that a very powerful factor which will influence the president in his determination to visit Utah this summer will be the desire to build up a more friendly feeling for his administration among the people of the western states. It is certain that his visit to Utah will not be marked by any unfriendly demonstrations on the part of our people. While the people generally do not look upon McKinley and his administration as being friendly to the best interests of the west, they are perfectly willing to concede that he was duly elected president and as the chief magistrate of the nation is entitled to their respect, and as the guest of the people of the state everything possible will be done to make him feel that he is most heartily welcome.

BROWN KNOWS ABOUT IT.

Senator Brown is evidently aware of the preparations being made for his overthrow, for it is said that he is to leave for Washington in a few days. It is very natural that he should object to anyone but himself having control of the federal patronage. Precedent is in favor of his position. He cannot understand why the administration should disregard his wishes, especially as he stood for the gold standard in the St. Louis convention and was an ardent supporter of Mr. McKinley during the last campaign. It is a rule with Republican administrations to allow the United States senator or senators from the state to control the federal patronage in that state, provided they are of the same political faith and are in harmony with the administration. In case there is no senator from the state in congress who is in sympathy with the president and his policy then, if there is an ex-Senator who agrees with the president politically and supports his administration it is customary to allow him to control the patronage, and there must be some extraordinary reason for a disregard of this rule. It is to convince the president and Mr. Hanna that an extraordinary reason exists in this particular instance that this special committee of Republicans from Utah will have to deal.

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STILL TALKING GAS

E. W. Taylor Concludes His Argument Before Special Committee.

HE MAKES A STRONG CASE FOR A THIRTY CENT RATE.

The Committee Said to Be Divided, Some Favoring Thirty Cents, But the Majority Think a Fifty Cent Rate Should Be Adopted.

Attorney E. W. Taylor, before the special council committee last night, presented his final argument why the gas rates in this city should not exceed 20 cents per 1,000, with a minimum charge of $1. It was decidedly the most interesting session the committee has had since the gas fight commenced. It is but justice to Mr. Taylor to say that in defense of his position he overwhelmed the committee with arguments that can not easily be pushed aside.

One of the strongest points, added to the long array of evidence previously submitted in favor of the 20 cents rate, which Mr. Taylor made last evening was a statement from the geological department at Washington, showing that not a single city in the United States using natural gas had a higher rate than 25 cents per 1,000. As the table was compiled for the years 1896-1897, it was somewhat of an eye-opener to the committee.

All the members of the committee, with the exception of O'Meara, were present, and City Attorney McKay was also there. Of the people's committee there were E. W. Taylor, Engineer Owen, J. B. Milner and James Anderson.

Mr. Taylor opened his argument by demonstrating scientifically and from practical tests that with the prevailing price of coal as a basis, gas should be sold at 23 cents per 1,000 cubic feet. In every city of any consequence the prices on artificial gas is being reduced. In Glasgow the rates are 40 cents for heating and 60 cents for lighting. In Boston, where the price of coal is about the same as here, artificial gas is sold at 75 cents. In Chicago the charges are 60 cents for lighting and 40 cents for heating purposes. In Denver the city council has now passed a resolution establishing Chicago rates.

LOW PRICES FOR NATURAL GAS.

Mr. Taylor then directed his attention to natural gas charges. He produced a letter from Chief Day of the geological department at Washington, in which Mr. Day cites every city in the United States using natural gas. The schedule shows that for manufacturing purposes the rates are from 5 to 15 cents per 1,000. For domestic purposes the charges are from 10 to 25 cents per 1,000, the rates in no city exceeding the latter figure. In cities similarly located as Salt Lake City with regard to gas fields, population, etc., the charges were from 18 to 20 cents.

The citizens of this city, the speaker contended, could not afford to pay more than 20 cents per 1,000, and if the members of the council should insist upon the 50 cents rate the present consumers would be compelled to dispense with the use of gas. He also drew the council's attention to his belief that the Salt Lake and Ogden Gas and Electric Light company did not intend to develop the gas industry; that their only object in asking for a 50 cents rate was to continue supplying to a few consumers with the effect that all other competitors would be barred. Mr. Taylor declared that if the Salt Lake and Ogden Gas and Electric Light company would give up its gas franchise, he would guarantee the formation of a new company that would sell gas at 30 cents per thousand.

In summing up, Mr. Taylor asked the committee to maintain the rate at 30 cents in view of the fact that the chamber of commerce and the citizens by resolution had protested against the increase; in view of the fact that no city in the United States had a higher charge for natural gas than 25 cents per thousand; in view of the facts and data submitted to the committee in support of the lower rate.

"I want to tell you, gentlemen," the speaker continued, "that if you increase the rate to 50 cents per thousand, the citizens of this community will look upon you as going contrary to the will of those you represent. In view of the organization of the Deseret Light and Power company, the purpose of which has been shown you, I caution you that it is your duty to keep awake to the danger threatened by these monopolies, which, if not checked, the people will soon become a prey to."

ENTITLED TO NO CONSIDERATION

Mr. Taylor maintained that because the gas company had wilfully disregarded its franchise it was entitled to no consideration. While it was the duty of the council to protect corporations to a certain extent, he maintained that the interests of the people at large should first be considered.

After considerable discussion on the points brought out by Mr. Taylor, the committee invited Mr. Owen to speak. He responded briefly, showing that the 25 per cent of gas claimed by the company to be lost on account of leakage in the mains was more than sufficient if sold to pay the cost of operating the entire plant.

NO AGREEMENT REACHED.

At the conclusion of Mr. Owen's talk, the committee went into executive session. No agreement was reached, and none is likely to be reached, as the committee is divided. Councilman Mulvey will head the fight for a 30-cent rate, while a majority of the committee favor allowing the company to charge 50 cents.

Judging from the general feeling among the councilmen, it seems quite likely the 50-cent rate, with $1 minimum charge, will be established.

WITH THE COFFEE.

HEN the Pioneer Jubilee parade passes the reviewing stand, it will be incomplete if there is not one float made of the crystals of salt from the lake to represent the temple" said Manager Heywood, of the Inland Crystal Salt company yesterday. "It would be the most beautiful conception one could imagine and a most appropriate one too. The expense of making it would be but little more than that incurred in making any other float and the result would be highly satisfactory. The process is easy and the materials cheap. All they have to do is to go to the lake and there is 80x40 miles of salt to work with. I see that some one, probably with a view to securing a cinch on that sort of work, has secured letters patent on depositing salt crystals on wood and other substances, but that patent wouldn't last a minute in a suit. One cannot patent a natural process, for if that was the case a man might tie up the right to let water run over a wheel and turn machinery. There are more ways than one of depositing crystals on wood and fixing them so they will stay and any one with sense can do it. Now if there was a big float of the temple; make it especially large, those little crystals would shine like jewels and the dazzling whiteness of the affair would be superb in its effects. I would favor the temple, the tabernacle and the assembly hall, all on one float done in salt. It would be a world beater too."

* * *

There is a unanimous opinion almost, prevailing to the effect that as the work is soon to be done anyway, according to the general understanding, during the time of the jubilee the wall which surrounds the temple block should be taken down and free view of the buildings and grounds inside given the people who will be here at that time. The enclosure will not accommodate the vast numbers which will want to go inside and all difficulty in handling the crowd could be obviated by substituting a neat iron fence for the wall; then the visitors could gratify their curiosity by looking through the pickets.

* * *

A new nickel in the slot machine made its appearance in the city yesterday and was placed on exhibition at one of the hotels. There were three or four colors to play, all of which gave a man a chance to win from 10 cents to a dollar and the boys patronized it liberally. No one lost any money and the crowd fairly fell over itself getting in to play combinations to beat the machine. One dropped his nickel in the slot and two came out in the box; sometimes a check for a quarter, sometimes a half, and quite frequently a dollar. Finally a fellow turned the crank when there were no nickels in the slot and down came the usual "two for one" just the same. He tried it again and lo, more money rattled into the box. Then there was a scramble. He got a friend to take the money from the box while he turned the crank. Just to show they were good fellows they dropped one nickel in each time and the results were simply tremendous. After they had accumulated several dollars and were in a fair way to break the machine, the man who acts as agent happened in. He noticed yellow winning when black was played and green paying dividends when red was gambled on and he made a protest. The game was stopped and with a screwdriver he managed the internal workings of the device until in five minutes the player couldn't win 15 cents with a dollar and a quarter. But the wise boys who had been playing dropped out of the game and last night the members of a certain set were enjoying much beer and lunch around the town. The box is still ready to do business.

* * *

The nickel in the slot business is becoming quite an industry. You drop a nickel in the slot and listen to "Write Wings" and you drop a nickel in the slot when you want a street car ticket. If you win you get two, if you lose you walk home and wonder how it is a man will make a mule of himself when he lives 12 blocks from the postoffice. You drop a nickel in the slot to see whether you will have one beer or a pair and then ask the bartender to permit you to quench your thirst "until you come in again." You drop a nickel in the slot and get chocolate drops and tutti-frutti and you drop another nickel and hear the Issler orchestra saw away at something which makes your feet ache. By and by it is presumed that one can drop a nickel and get a shoe shine, or a shave, or a hair cut or any old thing he wants.

* * *

Alluding to nickel in the slot machines directs attention to the several phonographs there are in various portions of the city. Readers may tax their memory and see if they can recollect any piece of band music they ever heard in a phonograph which had anything which sounded like a drum. Never. The phonograph will not record the roll of a drum. It will place where suffering humanity can hear it the efforts of a fellow who is just learning to play a flute; will reproduce with fidelity the last alleged joke of some ham fatter minstrel, but a drum knocks it cold. At least that is what the man says who attends to the changing of the rollers.

AND THE HORSE KICKED.

SAN FRANCISCO MAN AND COMPANION GET A SHAKING UP.

Backed the Buggy Into an Excavation Where the Horse Smashed it and Bruised the Occupants Up in Merry Style—Neither Party Seriously Injured, Although Both Have Many Bruises and Contusions.

When J. C. St. John of San Francisco started towards Wagner's brewery yesterday, accompanied by a female friend, he had no reason for believing his horse would act funny, or that he would come home in a dilapidated condition.

Neither had the woman.

But it so happened. The pair went out and drank in the beauties of Emigration canyon, admired the grand and rugged scenery, had a good time generally and then started to come home. It appears that somewhere out in that neighborhood there are some improvements going on which necessitated excavation. St. John wasn't aware of that and in his delirium of delight backed the buggy into it. The horse made a kick at such treatment; in fact, he indulged in a succession of kicks, and when he had finished, the buggy and harness were a sight, while the man and woman were two more sights.

At the Walker House, where he lives, it was stated last evening that St. John had not returned home, although where he had been conveyed no one seemed to know, and the utmost reticence was displayed concerning what had happened. However, it was stated the buggy was broken up worse than either he or his lady friend, and that neither would be the worse for the effects after the discoloration resulting from numerous bruises had worn off sufficient to permit St. John to make an appearance on the street.

The name of the woman was not learned, but whether it was Maud, Jessie, Mabel or Pearl will make no difference for the purposes of this narrative.

DAMAGED BY FROST.

Strawberries in the Country Quite Seriously Affected.

Reports from the outside are to the effect that the cold weather of Friday night has damaged the strawberry crop to such an extent that it will be very light this season and the early variety, of which the people are so fond, will not appear, save in cases where it is shipped from the south, where the cold wave did no damage.

At Mill Creek and Draper the vines were very badly touched by the frost and were perfectly black in many instances. Peaches too suffered some, although other fruits were not badly damaged and if the cold snap does not continue, there will be no danger of shortage in apples, cherries, plums and the like.

Other crops were not injured at all and if a repetition of Friday night is not had, no apprehension need be felt concerning the future.

RESUMING LOANS.

A Big Philadelphia Concern Begins Operation Again in Salt Lake.

Mr. R. T. McCarter, president of the Philadelphia Mortgage & Trust company, spent yesterday in Salt Lake, visiting his agents here, Heber J. Grant & Co., and looking over the investment field. The Philadelphia concern is one of the large loan companies which placed considerable money in Salt Lake residence property through Grant & Co., in 1893-4, but which has suspended its loans here recently, owing to the general distrust of western securities. Mr. McCarter was so well pleased with what he saw in Salt Lake yesterday, that he instructed Grant & Co. to resume receiving applications up to a certain figure for residence loans; needless to say the local company is specially gratified by this evidence of returning confidence in Salt Lake realty.

Grant & Co. also report that the demand seems to be on the increase for the best class of local stocks, which can be counted on as steady dividend payers. During the past week they have made sales of Deseret National Bank, Z. C. M. I., Utah Sugar company, and Co-op Wagon & Machine company stock at fair rates.

AN ALLEGED SEDUCTION

Sophia Heding Says Nephi Pratt Owes Her Ten Thousand.

ALLEGES THAT HE AGREED TO MARRY HER, BUT WILL NOT.

She Wants Damages For His Conduct—He Was Infatuated With Another Girl and Threw Her Over — Has a Bundle of Letters He Wrote Her While She Was in California on a Visit For Her Health, Which Are Said to be Positive Evidence.

Another $10,000 seduction case holds the boards, the defendant this time being a single man, in which Nephi J. Pratt is charged with having seduced and debauched Sophia Heding, a pretty Scandinavian girl, who wants him to pay her the sum alluded to, or else marry her and make her an honorable wife.

The complaint was filed in the district court yesterday and alleges that on Sept. 26, 1893, Pratt promised to marry the plaintiff within a reasonable time, and that she, confiding in that promise, remained single and is still, and that now defendant refuses to fulfill his part of the agreement.

It is further alleged that on Oct. 28, 1893, after the promise to marry was made, the defendant, with force and violence, indecently assaulted plaintiff and wickedly seduced and debauched her, by reason of which seduction and debauchment plaintiff has been sick and completely broken down in health and unable to attend to the ordinary business affairs of life, to her damage in the sum mentioned.

REFINED AND INTELLIGENT.

Miss Heding was seen by a reporter for this paper yesterday. She is a slight built little woman, and is apparently refined and intelligent. She says she came to this country when but 15 years of age and has worked for a living ever since. She was alone so far as parents were concerned, and had but few relatives here. She was out walking with a girl friend one evening when she met Pratt. He was with another young man, who was an acquaintance of the girl she was with, and an introduction followed.

From that time on Pratt continued to keep company with her, and one evening overcame her. Since that and for nearly two years he has called her his wife; lived with her in three different houses and apparently bestowed upon her all his affection, until last July he abandoned her for a young lady named Pettet, whom he has been going with for some time, although Miss Heding says he told her he had no intention of marrying his latest flame; said he wouldn't marry her for a million.

ENDEARING LETTERS.

For a period of nine months during their acquaintance the plaintiff was in California, visiting a sister, and while there Pratt wrote her on an average of three letters each week. These missives were of such an endearing nature that she kept them all and now has a very neat little bundle of correspondence, which will be introduced in evidence. The letters make several promises of weddings to come and how happy they will be in the future when they are united, and according to plaintiff's attorneys make out a dead sure case.

HIS LOVE GREW COLD.

Miss Heding says Pratt began to treat her coldly some time last fall and when she remonstrated with him he told her he wanted nothing more to do with her. She appealed to him to give her her rights, but he declined, and then she consulted her attorney. Pratt has had several consultations with her and her counsel, but each time refused to do her the justice she sought, although his parents advised him to do right by the girl, marry her and avoid all the shame and scandal attaching to a suit in the courts.

The last attempt at securing a reconciliation and marriage was made on Friday evening, when the girl and Pratt held a meeting at the office of her attorneys. He laughed at her and defied her to get anything, declaring he had nothing she could get hold of in the way of property. That seemed to be a source of satisfaction to him. However, he has some valuable mining claims, which will be attached at once.

Young Pratt is 24 years of age, while the girl is one year his senior. She declares she thought more of him than any man she ever met, and does yet, and would marry him now if he would consent, in order that the disgrace she has incurred might be removed from her name.

SHE IS NOT RESENTFUL.

Miss Heding is broken in health and looks pale and wan. She evinces no animosity towards her seducer, but professes sorrow at what has happened, claiming that had she loved him less her condition would not be as it is.

It is expected that Pratt will be made defendant in a criminal proceeding, although her attorney said last evening that nothing of the sort would be attempted, unless the prosecuting attorney first made a movement in that direction.

Half Rate East via Union Pacific.

For the accommodation of a large number of teachers and their friends the Union Pacific, as usual, will make a rate of one fare for the round trip to Missouri river, Chicago and St. Louis. Tickets on sale June 5, 6 and 7, good until Sept. 5. Call at Union Pacific ticket office, No. 201 Main street, for any additional information.

FREE TO EVERY MAN.

THE METHOD OF A GREAT TREATMENT FOR WEAKNESS OF MEN.

WHICH CURED HIM AFTER EVERYTHING ELSE FAILED.

Painful diseases are bad enough, but when a man is slowly wasting away with nervous weakness, the mental forebodings are ten times worse than the most severe pain. There is no let up to the mental sufferings day or night. Sleep is almost impossible and under such a strain men are scarcely responsible for what they do. For years the writer rolled and tossed on the troubled sea of sexual weakness until it was a question whether he had not better take a dose of poison and thus end all his troubles. But providential inspiration came to his aid in the shape of a combination of medicines that not only completely restored the general health, but enlarged his weak, emaciated parts to natural size and vigor, and he now declares that any man who will take the trouble to send his name and address may have the method of this wonderful treatment free. Now when I say free I mean absolutely without cost, because I want every weakened man to get the benefit of my experience.

I am not a philanthropist, nor do I pose as an enthusiast, but there are thousands of men suffering the mental tortures of weakened manhood who would be cured at once could they but get such a remedy as the one that cured me. Do not try to study out how I can afford to pay the few postage stamps necessary to mail the information, but send for it, and learn that there are a few things on earth that although they cost nothing to get they are worth a fortune to some men and mean a lifetime of happiness to most of us. Write to Thomas Slater, Box 225, Kalamazoo, Mich., and the information will be mailed in a plain sealed envelope.