

THRIFT FOLLOWS:

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# SNIPS

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## A Word to Parents.

Teachers' Institute convenes next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. While the teachers will be highly gratified to see as many parents, as can attend, present at all of the sessions, they especially desire that all the parents of the county who can possibly get there, will be present on Monday Evening, at the Stake Academy. The program for that evening will consist of talks by teachers on subjects of interest and importance to every parent.

This will be an extremely favorable opportunity for the parents of St. Johns to show whether they are in sympathy with the work of our teachers.

The education of the rising generations is the most vexing and at the same time, most important question before the American people. It has become the habit of the parents in many neighborhoods, and some have hinted that this is one of them, to leave the entire Education of the children with the teacher. Two questions that will be discussed at the above mentioned parents' meeting will be: "What the teacher has a right to expect of the parent;" and "What the parent has a right to expect of the teacher." These questions will be discussed by Profs. J. W. Brown and A. C. Peterson, two well known and popular teachers. Let the house be filled with parents on that evening.

## APROPOS OF THE STORM.

During the last week the valley of the Little Colorado has received quite a downfall of moisture. If the winter can keep up this gait, next year will be a hummer for stockmen. Even as it is the country is in far better shape than it has been in for years.

One point may be brought out right along here. If the forest cranks who claim that the grazing of stock on forest lands causes drought, knew that this

increase of precipitation had followed immediately upon an order, from the Interior Department which is the same as exclusion, wouldn't these cranks howl about such a victory for Forest Reserves. The very fact that stock are practically ordered off the reserves would seem to them to have caused the increase in rain and snowfall.

Forests in some countries may cause rain-fall, but in the plateau regions of North America this will not hold: And there is a growing doubt, among thinkers on this subject, throughout the world as to whether the forest has more influence on the climate than the climate has on the forest. To our minds, it is strange that any one should ever have thought that the forest were the producers of rainy climates. It would be perfectly natural to infer that our great forests were produced by moist climatic conditions.

## And Still Another Road.

A new railroad project for Arizona, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico, backed by \$50,000,000 has been launched at Denver. The road contemplated does not touch Phoenix, but traverses other sections of the territory, which will open up some wealthy mining and agricultural country. It enters Arizona from Utah near the border of New Mexico and Colorado, running directly south, touching Fort Defiance, and crosses the Santa Fe at Winslow. Here the road branches, one section running due west and the other a little east of south, passing Fort Apache, Morenci and Clifton. Here the road changes its course to a westerly direction, passing through Globe, Fort McDowell, Gilberts and Congress, joining the main line near the Colorado river. The main line passes through Jerome and Prescott.—Copper Era.

Douglas had to postpone a Christmas Carnival because it was feared that the crowds could not be accommodated.

## A GOVERNMENT CRUSADE Against Marriage.

By Alfred Seton.

Postmaster-General Payne, if he is gifted with common sense, should rescind before the first day of the coming new year the Turkish firman he issued on the first day of the last month of the second year of the twentieth century against marriage—the marriage of all women who are employed in the great department of Federal administration over which he presides. The order of this chief of a party which claims to be, and let be admitted is, in the front line of the vanguard of modern progress, reads like an excerpt from the records of the ages when women, the very highest of them, were only a little more elevated than were the serfs who waited upon them, and did the bidding of their masculine lords and masters.

But, considerations of all this kind apart, Mr. Payne's mandate is essentially and fundamentally un-American. It infringes upon personal liberty, that is the right of every man, every woman, to do what to him, or her, seems right to do, provided it does not infringe upon the equal rights of others. In the question under consideration, there is to be sure, the element of contract, which should be sacredly observed on both sides. The women in the employment of the Postal Service undertake to perform certain duties. They have fitted themselves for the discharge of those duties by education. They have passed examinations prescribed by the Government and as a reward of merit, they have won. Did the question of marriage, while in office, ever enter into the examinations? And if not, as it did not, by what authority, by what warrant of law except that he assumes to be a law unto himself, does Postmaster-Gen. Payne arrogate to himself the autocracy of an Eastern potentate? He can not produce it. By the Supreme Court the decision has been made that acts preventing or obstructing lawful marriage are "contrary to public policy" and hence illegal.

Postmaster-General Payne is

not, however, the only obtuse official who has entered upon this sort of mediaeval warfare against women and marriage. The prehistoric school board of one of the greatest of American cities has joined the crusade against marriage, and decreed dismissal against all the women under its

control who venture to look upon the marriage ring with all the sanctity that invest it. A very practical question here suggests itself which is this: To whom would parents prefer to entrust the education of their children the unmarried or married, even if the married are still in the halcyon period, which soon passes away, of their new found bliss? To the experienced to ask the question is to answer it.

In the complex problems of our new century civilization and from every American point of view, this question of marriage is of the most supreme importance. The home is the corner-stone of the Republic. Uproot it and little worth preserving remains. France at the present time, furnishes a lesson that should not be lost upon all who adhere to the old American ideal of hearth and home, which, in great measure, have made us all that we are—the first among all the nations which have yet come into being.

To come back to Mr. Payne, and his "firman" against matrimony, there can be little question that he has transcended his authority, that he has taken a step beyond the law, and that, if appeal is made to the higher courts, the decision will be against him. The great Declaration reads that we are all entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Postmaster-General Payne makes exception in the case of the women employed under him. As an official he should be in the latitude and longitude of the Bosphorus and not of the Potomac.

The United States civil service commission announces that on January 6, 1903, an examination will be held at the usual places for the position of scientific assistant, United States commission of fish and fisheries; assistant chemist in the supervising architect's office; inspector of hulls in the steamboat inspection service; custodian marine biological station, Beaufort, N. C.