

## EDITORIALS.

## A DAY FOR ALL TO CELEBRATE.

On Saturday, July 24th, the anniversary of the entrance of the Pioneers into this valley, there is to be a juvenile assembly in the Tabernacle. The Sunday schools of this Stake, with their superintendents and teachers, will meet and hold appropriate exercises. They will be such as are considered suitable to the occasion and the situation, the day and the times. It is desirable that everybody who can, will attend and aid by their presence and influence in making the occasion memorable and impressive.

That this may be possible, it is needful that there should be a general holiday. As the anniversary occurs this year on a Saturday, some business men may think it a hardship to close up their establishments, as Saturday is usually a trading day. But any consideration of this kind ought not to prevail, in view of the law and the occasion, and means may be adopted which will relieve the matter of any hardship or serious hindrance to business.

By Act of the Legislative Assembly, March 9, 1882, "the twenty-fourth day of July commonly called Pioneers' Day," among other days specified, was "designated and declared" a legal holiday in this Territory. The Act was duly signed by the Governor and is a law in Utah. That day has been commemorated from the year 1847 as one sacred to the Latter-day Saints, and to be respected by all classes of citizens in this Territory. To the "Mormons" it noted the opening of a new era in their eventful history. To all people who have made a home in this then desert region, it marked an occurrence which has had an important bearing upon their lives and fortunes.

The entrance of the Pioneers into this valley, and the determination to make this spot the chief place of settlement of those noble Pioneers and the thousands who were to follow them, happening on that day, made it one to be honored and remembered by all future generations who should dwell in the vales of the Rocky Mountains. It was the turning point in the destiny of this whole mountain country, and of the millions who are to enjoy the bounties it has yielded and that are yet to be brought forth from hill and valley, from mountain and plain, from flowing stream and subterranean treasure house. The whole people, then, should celebrate the day, and due credit should be awarded to the Pioneers who opened a path through the wilderness and laid the foundations of States yet to shine in the constellation of this great republic.

That no real loss may be incurred through the suspension of general business, those who are in the habit of making purchases and attending to weekly details on Saturdays can, for once, make Friday the end of their business week. Purchases and the settlement of accounts can be performed on Friday, this week, and thus no serious inconvenience be occasioned to anybody. Storekeepers and others will lose nothing in the long run, by showing their sympathy with the popular sentiment as regards Pioneers' Day. While there is a religious element in the celebration of the day by the majority of the people of this Territory, the minority can find enough in its memories and consequences to make it a time of interest and importance apart from those considerations.

All who are interested in the juvenile assembly on the twenty-fourth should use their influence to make it successful. Parents should see that the little folks are made ready in time to be at the Tabernacle a little before 10 o'clock. There will be room in the galleries for adults who get there on time. It is not intended that the ceremonies shall be protracted. The heat of the summer and the youth of the larger part of the assembly, render it advisable that the proceedings be brief, varied and attractive and we have no doubt that all who attend will be well repaid for their presence. We anticipate a pleasant and profitable celebration of Pioneers' Day, by the children as well as the whole community on its thirty-ninth anniversary.

## THE FALL OF THE BASTILE.

A DISPATCH from Paris on the 14th of July, a day memorable in French history, says:

The celebration of the 97th anniversary of the fall of the Bastille, was opened to-day by salvoes of artillery. The ceremony of distributing provisions and money to the poor was conducted on a scale of great generosity. The Arc d'Triomphe and the Trocadero were splendidly decorated. Fairs were held in all the city squares.

This brief notice of the commemoration of the capture and demolition of a building whose name has become synonymous with tyranny, oppression and the power of might over right, suggests the query, when will Utah celebrate the suppression of her Bas-

tile and the triumph of constitutional liberty?

On the bench southeast of this city is an establishment that is a standing disgrace to the Government under which we exist. It is to-day a place of torture and extreme cruelty. It is scarcely fit for a hog pen. And a swine-raiser with any feeling of compassion for pig-flesh and regard for economy in his business, would take care that his mud-loving charges were not exposed to the heat and unsanitary conditions in which honorable men are now confined on account of a principle of their religion.

Added to the burning rays of the sun in the unsheltered adobe-walled yard that by courtesy is called a penitentiary, is the foul atmosphere of the board bunking-huts in which the unfortunate prisoners are crowded from evening till morning, and which become so foul that inexpressible nausea is the regular consequence. Then, we learn, that recently the bread doled out has been so sour that it could not be eaten, and the sight of the food has sickened all beholders. We do not mention this by way of blame to the Warden or his assistants, who probably do as well as possible, all the circumstances being considered, but the whole place is a reproach to the Government and unworthy the civilization of the age.

If men are to be imprisoned for conscience' sake, there is no need to imperil their health and lives and place them in constant suffering from the horrors of this latter-day Bastille. A fair shelter from the almost torrid heat of day and a decent cell to occupy at night, may be claimed for the worst of malefactors. The Utah penitentiary is no place even for capital criminals. And for men who cannot be justly called criminals at heart, but who are made offenders by a special law aimed at their religion, and many of whom are only technical offenders, made so by forced and strained applications of words by the common meaning of which they could not be convicted, the hell-hole on the hill is an outrage as infamous as the terror of France which the enraged Parisians demolished in 1793.

Perhaps some rabid "Mormon"-eater, with more lip than brains, will shout "treason!" and say that we are inciting violence to destroy the Utah Bastille. But everybody with common sense will understand our meaning, and comprehend that we seek no wrong, morally or legally, but only hope and speak for better things. If the Government intends to put men in prison for honoring and associating with their wives, it should erect a decent place in which to confine them. The present structure and mode of imprisonment are worse than a storied slave pen, and justice, decency, and humanity cry aloud for their abolition. We trust that the time is not far distant when Utah will be able to celebrate the fall of its Bastille and also the triumph of civil and religious liberty.

## AN INTERESTING QUESTION.

THE following letter has been received in this city, and we publish it verbatim, suppressing only the date and name and address of the writer:

Hon Mayor:

SALT LAKE CITY,  
Utah Ter.

Dear Sir:—I write you for the following information, to-wit:

Say a man is married and wants to quit his wife can he come to Salt Lake City and bring another woman and live with her as man and wife without being molested. Further can he live anywhere in Utah Territory with said woman and not be bothered.

There are several in this part of Texas would make such a change if they would be safe in so doing. If you have any legal information upon the subject you will confer a favor by furnishing me with said information. I have been informed that such a thing can be done if I am correctly informed I can be the means of a great many in other states as well as Texas making such a change.

Please furnish me with such legal documents by return mail and oblige yours, etc."

In answer to the above query we have to say that, as the law is administered at present, it is quite likely that scoundrels of the class represented by the writer of the question could live in Utah without being "bothered" by the representatives of the National Government. The Edmunds law is understood to be framed specially against the "Mormons." It is not probable that such creatures as described in the letter would be molested, particularly if they agreed not to call the women "wives." But they need not think that they would be looked upon with favor by the community. They would be regarded by the "Mormons" as moral lepers, unfit for the society of decent people.

The "Mormons" believe that it is right for some men, under religious regulations and principles, to have more wives than one. But they do not think it is right for a man to discard and forsake one wife for the purpose of taking or living with another, either in or out of "the marriage relation." That they regard as bigamy, and bigamy is a crime." If any man called a "Mormon" acts in that way or in that spirit, he does so in violation of the principles

of his religion and is culpable according to the degree of his wrong.

The legal principle as latest laid down by the Supreme Court of this Territory, which at present is the final judicial authority, is that if a man has a legal wife living and undivorced, and cohabits or associates with another woman whom he acknowledges as his wife, he is guilty of unlawful cohabitation and is liable to fines and imprisonment to an indefinite extent, according to the whims of a grand jury in finding indictments, or rather the degree of vindictiveness of the Prosecuting Attorney who arranges such matters. There is no certainty, however, in the meaning of the law any more than there is in its penalties. They are subject to change, according to such definitions and rulings as the courts may please to make.

But men can forsake their wives in Texas or elsewhere, and live with as many women as they please in Utah as man and wife, if the marital relationship is not acknowledged. It is not the offense against morality or decency or the crime against a deserted wife, that counts with those who prosecute under the Federal laws; it is the recognition of the relation of husband and wife that stirs their bile and excites their indignation. The admirable and delicate moral distinction cannot fail to be recognized by virtuous minds.

If the dishonorable Texans who want to forsake their wives cannot find a congenial spot in which to practice their unlawful desires and doings within the confines of their own State, we would not advise them to come to Utah. There are enough scoundrels here now, who, while of the same kidney as the writer of the above letter, would like to put every "Mormon" to prison, or to death for marrying, honoring, acknowledging and living with more wives than one by mutual free consent.

The District of Columbia, right under the noses of Messrs. Edmunds, Tucker and other anti-"Mormon" bill makers and promoters, would be a far safer and more suitable place for the Texian wife-forsakers and women deviders than the Territory of Utah.

## AN APPEAL ALLOWED.

THE hogs appointees of the late Governor are expecting that "next Thursday the writ of remittitur in the Territorial cases will be handed down for execution." The Supreme Court of the Territory is to meet on that day, and they anticipate the issue of the remittitur to the lower court, which is to authorize measures to force on the people's elected officers and force in the alleged officials whom the people do not want to meddle with their business.

But those anxious office-seekers are a little "too previous" again. They have been far too eager all along. From the first their anticipations have run away with their judgment, and their premature rejoicings have been continually turned into angry disappointment. A little piece of news that we have had for a day or two, but which we thought would keep nicely until Thursday, when a surprise party might have been had for their delectation, has leaked out, so the tidings may as well be further told, for the good of the public.

Justice Miller of the Supreme Court of the United States has granted an appeal to that Court in the case of the Auditor, so the anxious aspirant will not step into Mr. Clayton's shoes just yet, but will have to air his patience and toast his toes in the sun a little longer. The case of the Treasurer is under consideration by Justice Harlan. It involves similar points to that of the Auditor, and it is not unreasonable to expect a similar decision. However, Attorney General Gariand has filed a brief in opposition to the appeal in this case, and although it is exceedingly thin, there is no telling what effect it may have on a Justice who is understood to be particularly pronounced on the adverse side of the "Mormon" question.

Although the appeal was denied by the Supreme Court of the Territory, the act of 1885 very clearly gives the right of appeal in cases like these. It provided for appeals in the first place when the amount in dispute is \$5,000 and upward; and in the second place when the validity of an act of Congress or an authority exercised under the United States is called in question. It is not the amount of salary belonging to the office, merely, that is to be covered by the minimum sum of \$5,000, but the amount "in dispute." In this case it involves a much larger amount than \$5,000, so large indeed that while the case was pending in the Utah courts the Treasurer had to file a bond in \$75,000. And that an authority exercised under the United States is called in question, appears from the fact that the aspirants who commenced the suit claimed the offices by virtue of an appointment from the Governor, acting under Federal authority.

Whatever action Justice Harlan may take, the propriety of a fair hearing of these cases before the court of last resort must be apparent. The question at issue is a Federal question. It comprehends the power of the Executive of the Territory and also the rights of the people under the Organic Act which is a Federal law. Questions of such great moment and of this character were clearly intended by the Act of 1885 to come

within the purview of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the strong attempts to prevent that adjudication are evidence of the wrong intended against this Territory.

The granting of the appeal of course has no bearing upon the merits of the case. It does not even settle the question of the jurisdiction of the Court in relation to it. That will no doubt be argued when the cause comes up for hearing before the full bench. This cannot be until October, and it may not be heard so soon as that. It is in the power of the Attorney General to get it advanced on the calendar, otherwise it would be a long time before it could be determined.

No harm can come to anyone through the appeal to the court of last resort. The people, who are chiefly interested, are satisfied with the officers whom they have elected and do not wish any change, particularly that which would be caused by forcing upon them persons whom they would not choose, to transact their public business. The Territory will not be injured by the delay, and no one will suffer in the least except the disgruntled aspirants, who will have to reflect upon this version of an old adage—The way of the office-hunter is hard!

## "GO UP HEAD!"

MOST American towns delight in becoming famous. They put forth various claims to notoriety. One is the "boss" town for one thing, another the "banner" town for another. This place "beats all creation" for this, that "takes the socks off everything," for that. There is an Iowa town, however, that bids for supremacy in a curious particular. It boasts of being ahead of all others, according to population for suicides. There's glory for you! Must be ahead in something.

It is a small but pretty place called Durant, and is situated twenty miles west of Davenport. Its population is but five hundred, and they are all said to be wealthy, but within the past two years no less than thirteen persons have shuffled off "this mortal coil" by their own hands, in this lovely, rich and quiet village. One and a half percent of suicides per annum is a startling rate of *felo de se*, and Durant may take the cake and "go up head" on that test.

The reason for this disposition to cut the brittle thread of mortal existence is not apparent. The suicides were all residents of the pleasant looking little place, and there is nothing unusual, so far as discovered, in earth, air, water or surroundings, that would incite a man to self-destruction. Whatever of excitement has been created by these self-inflicted fatalities does not prevail in Durant. The living residents take the matter very philosophically, and say, "If the fools want to die, let 'em."

A scientific investigation is to be had, not in Durant, however, but at Davenport, where the Medical Society is quite interested in the causes for this peculiar freak. If these can be discovered the country will like to know what they are, and, meanwhile, we do not think any obscure town ambitious for fame, will desire to dispute the claim of Durant as the boss place for suicides.

## A WATERY SUBJECT.

WATER is one of the greatest luxuries and necessities on earth. When it is pure it is the purest of earthly elements, if that is a proper term to use in this day of scientific analysis. It is surprising that more filters are not used in civilized society. Good, cold water, divested of the organic and inorganic impurities which experiments have proven to exist in most streams and fountains, is invigorating and refreshing when used in moderation, and is beyond value, although we can generally get it without money and without price. (This is not specially intended for perusal by the "dry beuchers.")

These remarks are suggested by reading an account of an analysis of hydrant water supplied to the inhabitants of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and which furnishes food for reflection if not a rich literal diet to the consumers. A microscopical examination of a glass of water drawn fresh from the hydrant, disclosed the following as exhibited by Dr. Gardner before the Kent Scientific Institute:

- 1st—A fresh water shrimp with many legs.
- 2d—A Gabriel, or trumpet-shaped fellow, with a little bell on his nose.
- 3d—A multitude of fellows of divers colors, shaped like the bottom of an old shoe.
- 4th—Some beautiful creatures slowly coming from a cup, granules green.
- 5th—Worms with rows of spines and flat heads resembling a tadpole.
- 6th—A specimen with a horned tail.
- 7th—A piece of skin from some animal, with the hairs very distinct.

It is a mercurial dispensation of Providence which endows the human eye with powers to perceive, naturally, only the larger objects of the physical creation. If man had a microscopic eye, and could discern all the germs, microbes, spores and animalcules which swarm among the lower forms

of life and mingle in that which he eats, drinks or breathes, what a shuddering time he would have in his struggle for existence!

There is no doubt that many disorders common to summer time, might be traced to the immoderate use of water unboiled and undistilled. And yet we would prefer taking our chances with such water than to adopt the habits of some people and pour down the liquid death with which many persons fire their already heated blood, breed disease in the tissues of their bodies and debilitate their brains to the weakening of their mental powers. The alcoholic germs which science has discovered in the spirit that inebriates, are far more deadly than the burned and spined and shrimp-like denizens of Michigan hydrant water. However, we would like to take our water "straight." And we believe that filtration would relieve the public of many things, living and dead, that are now taken into the stomach unconsciously. Why do not some enterprising mechanics get up a cheap filter? Are all the potters extinct? Have we not plenty of gravel in the country. Is not charcoal easy to be obtained? We believe a lively business could be worked up in this line. Every family with a good filter and a little ice in summer, could have comparatively pure and pleasant water to drink, and the health and comfort which would be the consequence cannot be computed in figures or calculated in dollars and cents.

## A WORTHY EXAMPLE.

WHEN Mr. Hipple-Mitchell was elected in Oregon to the Senate of the United States, surprise was a mild term to express the amazement of the country at his success. His reputation was of such a kind that virtuous people sniffed and turned up their eyes, while profane folks indulged in epithets that would not bear reproduction in these columns.

The means by which the election was secured may not be fully known, but it seems that the Oregonians resented the matter to the full. Their sentiments have been expressed in a manner that cannot fail to speak far louder than words. It appears that not one member of the Legislature of either branch who voted for Mr. Hipple-Mitchell has been re-elected, with the single exception of a member from the extreme south, who was returned in the liquor interest. If this is not a rebuke to the man and the methods employed to secure his election, we do not know what course could be construed to have that signification.

The people of Oregon have determined to show their power in opposition to machine politics and the influence of great corporations, and have succeeded. When the people of this great nation can free themselves in a similar manner, and, making up their minds to cut clear from the existing corrupt and demoralizing methods of political bosses, unite in choosing good and wise men to conduct their public affairs, there will be some show for Justice, Honor and true Liberty in the land.

Politics now is a gambling game, and some of the worst elements of society are engaged in and mixed up with the government of the greatest nation on earth. There is trouble ahead if the drift continues in the present direction. A corrupt people will have corrupt rulers. A careless and indifferent people will become the prey of schemers and demagogues. And only by the creation of earnest interest in public affairs among the good, true and honest portion of the population, can the country be redeemed from the destruction that stares it in the face. This may be called croaking, but it is as sure as fate and as inevitable as the plunge of the stream that flows over Niagara.

## THE MORMON QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Post:

It is understood that the Democratic caucus held on Thursday evening appointed Messrs. Carlisle, Morrison and Randall a committee to select such measures as they deem most necessary to be passed at the present session. There is now on the House calendar a very elaborate bill, reported by the Judiciary committee of the House, as a substitute for Senator Edmunds's bill on the subject of the Mormon church and other matters in Utah. This bill, as well as Senator Edmunds's, is open to the objection that it more or less touches on very debatable ground, because it involves serious constitutional questions of religious rights. There can scarcely be time for its serious consideration at this session and it ought not to be taken up and passed without ample and careful examination. It will hardly do to treat the passage of this bill as a political necessity for the fall campaign, and probably there will be no such purpose. A race between the democrats and republicans to gain popular favor on the subject of polygamy would end in a necessary protest within the ranks of the democratic party, because the laws already passed on the subject are quite sufficient, and all that is now necessary is that the Supreme Court of the United States should be empowered to give a final