

there in great numbers to be operated upon, and that cries and shrieks were of constant occurrence. Another witness testified that the late Dr. Griggs, a well-known physician, confessed on his death-bed to having procured 2,500 abortions in the city. Other evidence was taken, showing that many dark crimes had been covered up—young girls from other cities dying from the effects of abortion in houses provided by operators, and their remains being interred hurriedly under false certificates of death, giving assumed names. It is believed that several irregular practitioners will be indicted.

The city of Detroit is not singular in its sin. The same practices which prevail there are common in all the great "Christian" cities of the age, particularly in the United States. This crime of pre-natal murder cries aloud to heaven. It will bring down the vengeance of Almighty God upon the people. It is not an offence peculiar to the poor. It is more common among the rich. Delicate society ladies, members of fashionable churches, who move in the highest circles and affect horror at "Mormon" polygamy, engage in this horrible, unnatural and devilish device, to rid themselves of a responsibility conferred upon them as a blessing from heaven.

Will there be a petition sent to Congress for the suppression of this Satanic vice? We grow not. Congress will be asked to enforce laws and inflict pains and penalties upon the votaries of an institution which promotes life and increase, while many of the supporters and signers of the document are participants in the damning sin which curses Detroit, but which is winked at or encouraged by the pretended pietists of the times. Stamp out polygamy, but cover over with velvet and satin, and sprinkle with glittering jewels the foul and bloody but fashionable practice—the destruction of incipient human life. This is the policy of the latter-day Pharisees.

#### "FIRST PAPERS."

WE have received numerous inquiries in regard to the length of residence in the United States required, previous to making declarations of intention to become a citizen, or, as it is popularly called, taking out first papers. It is generally supposed among those unfamiliar with the naturalization laws that three years residence is necessary before "declaration of intention" can be made. This is an error, and it arises doubtless from a hasty reading of section 2155 of the U. S. Revised Statutes, which says:

"An alien may be admitted to become a citizen of the United States, in the following manner and not otherwise:

"First. He shall declare on oath, before a circuit or district court of the United States, or a district or Supreme Court of the Territories, or a court of record of any of the States having common law jurisdiction and a seal and clerk, two years at least, prior to his admission, that it is bona fide his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and to renounce for ever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty, and particularly, by name, to the prince, potentate, state or sovereignty of which the alien may be at the time a citizen or subject."

Now seeing that five year's previous residence is necessary to qualify an alien to become a citizen and that the declaration of intention must be made at least two years before application for naturalization, it is supposed that three year's residence is required before taking out the first papers.

But it will be perceived that no term of residence is specified in the statute as a qualification for declaring intention to become a citizen. An alien may take out first papers just as soon after arrival in the United States as may be convenient. And the declaration may be made not only before any Court having common law jurisdiction, but the clerks of the Supreme and District Courts, are authorized by an Act of Congress, approved February 16, 1870, to receive these declarations, and issue certificates without the appearance in open court of the applicant. The depu-

ties of these clerks are authorized by Territorial statute to attend to the duties of the clerks, when duly appointed.

It is very important that all aliens who come to this country with the real intent to become permanent residents, should obtain their first papers as soon as possible. By doing so they may obtain the benefits of the land laws, and when five years after their arrival has elapsed, they will be prepared to obtain a full certificate of citizenship. This applies with equal importance to female as well as male aliens.

By act of Congress, the Territories are empowered to confer the right to vote upon those who have declared their intention to become citizens; but no such law has yet been passed in Utah, as the Governor, who holds the power of absolute veto, has refused his signature to any such legislation.

We hope the foregoing will be easily understood by our readers, and that they will take occasion to explain this matter to those who do not read and are therefore not likely to understand without explanation.

#### LIFTING THE CURTAIN.

TALMAGE, the Brooklyn divine—after the modern order—has been visiting the haunts of sin in New York, and regaling his congregation with accounts of what he saw. The gentleman is credited with being fond of witnessing such sights, having made similar nocturnal visits while in Washington, and "taking it all in" under the shadow of hired detectives. But as the Rev. gent does it in the cause of religion, of course his entrance into those dens of infamy is not to be considered in the same light as the sinful trips of those who only go to "see the elephant," without the sanctified motives of a modern clergyman.

Mr. Talmage turns his nightly tours to double advantage: He is not only able to warn the youth against being enticed into those haunts of vice, but he makes money by his vivid descriptions. He draws such large audiences at the Brooklyn Tabernacle, that the delighted deacons—three of whom accompanied him on his peregrinations—have raised his wages from \$7,000 to \$12,000 per annum.

Mr. Talmage, after seeing a few of the sights only, pronounces New York "the vilest sink of iniquity to be found on this continent." Here are a few extracts from one of his discourses, as reported in the *Graph* etc. Speaking of the gay metropolis of this Christian land, he says:

There is an immigration there twice every year of merchants from every part of the country, and they do not return home, many of them, without first visiting some of the gilded palaces of sin. (Looks of surprise in every direction.) I am told that at one of these resorts there was recently a masquerade ball, and that the prince and princess were gray-haired men and heads of families. (Suppressed giggles are heard among the audience.) A police officer informed me that these homes of damnation were chiefly supported by men of wealth, and that some of them even church members. I could call names, and perhaps before I get through with this series of sermons I shall call names. (This announcement fell like a thunderbolt, and was followed by prolonged applause.) I am informed that many police captains are paid large sums of money by the proprietors of these places for immunity in their crimes, and receive besides a percentage on every bottle of wine sold there. \* \* \* Men of means dole out a beggarly pittance to their families, and spend thousands for diamonds, silk dresses and equipages for the inmates of these palaces. (Sensation and expressions of surprise.) In one of these places a policeman pointed to one creature and said: "That young lady belongs to a wealthy family on Madison Square!" (This was the only item of actual personal experience given in the whole discourse. The rest of the speaker's remarks consisted of moralizings on a certain form of vice in a general way.) New York City is one vast sink of iniquity! Beneath it lie the slumbering fires of Cotopaxi, Popocatepetl and Vesuvius! (Prolonged applause and laughter.) \* \* \*

But bad Brooklyn people visit the haunts of vice in New York City! And I am told that there are dens of iniquity there wholly supported by men from Brooklyn! (Expressions of doubt, and cries of "Oh!")

We have on a few occasions drawn attention to the vices which prevail in the great centres of population in this country, and suggested that the preachers and editors in the East could, with more propriety and consistency, lift their voices and wield their pens for the suppression of the evils in their own vicinity, than in raising a hue and cry against the social system established in Utah, which, no matter how much it may be misrepresented by its enemies, cannot be compared for evil with the corrupt and shameful practices prevalent in those cities of churches, Bibles and armies of paid preachers.

Some have argued that the vices of those "Christian" cities are only exceptional. But here is one of their own hirelings who proclaims to the contrary, and when he lifts the curtain only a little, discloses scenes which would put to shame the revelers in the ancient orgies of the heathen.

And note how his remarks are received. They create no horror, and bring no solemnity nor sorrow to his audiences, but make merriment and hilarity, and the house of prayer resounds with laughter, while he speaks of the secret sins of "respectable" church members. And Talmage is doing more damage to the young people who listen to his exposures of vice, than even the vile books that are written in the interests of those sinks of iniquity, and which Anthony Comstock is worthily trying to banish from the realms of literature.

This is an evil, corrupt, adulterous, and above all a hypocritical generation. For while these evils of which Talmage talks for money, are honeycombing society, the pious prudes of Christendom are pointing the finger of scorn at Utah, and pretending to be scandalized because some men here marry more wives than one. No wonder that Satan laughs as he wields his chains about them, and the anger of the Almighty is kindled, while the angels are waiting to reap down a world that is ripening in iniquity.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The papers which talk about a certain young lady, who has formed the chief figure in the Miles case, being "lured from her home," had better read up a little before commenting, and they should all be cautious about accepting the yarns and exaggerations flashed over the wires.

Last week Captain Smith, while in San Clemente Cañon, California, killed the largest grizzly ever seen in that section of country. It weighed 1,600 pounds. It was a regular cow-killer. The Captain did not slay it with the deadly rifle or festive revolver, but with poison disguised in honey.

It makes all the difference whether a "Mormon" or a "Gentile" is misrepresented. Wilful lies sent over the wires about the "Mormons" make fun for the public. But a falsehood about a "Gentile" is monstrous and becomes the subject of indignant oratory from the bar in open court. We have no fault to find with the scarification inflicted upon the despicable dispatcher, but we point attention to this new illustration of the difference it makes when our ox is gored.

A clever imitation of a hundred dollar greenback is being used as a powerful argument against the "flat money" insanity. It bears lithographs of Butler and Kearney, and these words: "The United States will pay to borrower, One Hundred Dollars, absolute money, in nothing, at no time, and by nobody." On the reverse side this note is said to be "Secured by a never maturing mortgage on all the property of the United States." This will serve to bring the folly of the new financial theory home to the minds of many who could not be convinced by reasoning.

A girl who will sit with a fellow all night on the stairs at a ball, with no clothes on above the waist worth speaking of, would faint away dead if the same fellow were to meet her on the stairs, muffled from head to foot in three night-gowns. Curious, isn't it?

#### Correspondence.

##### Church Records.

BEAVER, U.T.,  
October 29, 1878.

##### Editors Deseret News:

I was not a little amused a short time since in reading in your valuable paper an extract from a Richmond, Missouri, paper giving the reasons assigned by our friend David Whitmer for retaining the copy of the original manuscript of the Book of Mormon. I trust your readers will not charge me with intimating that Mr. Whitmer is a bad meaning man. On the contrary I understand that not only David, but the Whitmer family have the reputation of being and having been honorable citizens wherever they have resided, but as "accidents will happen in the best of families" so friend David has shown great weakness and some wrong doing in this matter. When Oliver Cowdery wrote the copy now said to be in the hands of Mr. Whitmer, he was Joseph Smith's scribe or clerk. He did not write it for himself, but was appointed by revelation to do that writing under the direction of Joseph as the foundation of a great and marvelous work which was destined to revolutionize the world. It was the beginning or starting point for the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, over which Joseph Smith presided at the time and for several years after that document was wrongfully taken from the custody of the Church by excommunicated members. It was morally and legally Church property. Professor Orson Pratt, the present Church historian, should he go out of office to-day would have just as good a right, both in law and equity, to take with him all of the Church documents in his custody, as such historian, as for David or John Whitmer to retain documents put into their hands by Church appointment. Nay, more, the secretary of state, of war, of the navy, of the interior, or any other trust might just as legally take all government papers with them when they go out of office, and each successor clear his department of the papers of his term of service. "When the light that is in a man becomes darkness how great is that darkness." D. T.

##### Evanston Items.

EVANSTON, Wyoming,  
October 29th, 1878.

##### Editors Deseret News:

Our Ward, under our kind and fatherly bishop, Wm. G. Burton, is in as good a condition as can be expected, considering the great amount of outside influence that has to be contended with. The Saints with few exceptions are up and alive to their duties. Although we can not boast of as large a membership as our neighboring wards, I think our efforts in striving to keep pace with the progress of the kingdom of God, is not one with behind those of our neighbors.

Our Sunday School under the able superintendency of Brother Carpenter, assisted by Brother Francom and a corps of teachers, is in a good and flourishing condition, giving the juveniles a tuition that will prove an inestimable blessing to the same, and prepare them to be instrumental in the hand of God of furthering his purposes here upon this earth. Many thanks are due Bro. Carpenter and all his assistants from the brethren and sisters of this Ward for their untiring energy in the interest of our Sunday school.

On Monday the 28th our Y. M. M. L. A. convened for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing term. After a few remarks from H. C. Martin, O. C. Bluemel and I. Cashmore, in which they eulogized the conduct of our retiring president, who on his part was well merited, the following officers were elected: Wm. Francom president (re-elected); O. C. Bluemel first, and J. Whittle second counselors; A. L. Blackburn, secretary; I. Cashmore, treasurer. All the officers and some of the members expressed their determination to work with a zeal well befitting the cause. The prospects are bright for some very enjoyable and instructive sessions during these winter nights. I remain yours in the gospel covenant. A. L. B.

SNOWVILLE, Boulder County,  
Utah,

##### Editors Deseret News:

Snowville is growing. We have the county surveyor busily engaged, and to-day we completed a survey of a ditch which will bring the waters of Deep Creek out on several thousand acres of splendid and as yet unclaimed lands. What we want is 50 more families to take this good land and help us to convert it into a grain field. Our town will be laid off into lots ready to give to those that wish lots. A good well of water was dug on my lot, and at the depth of 33 feet splendid water was found, but the curious thing about it was that the bone of a buffalo horn was found at the above depth in a state of good preservation. We also found, in a well dug last winter, about one mile from the above well, the rib of an animal, supposed to be a buffalo, at the depth of 25 feet, in a good state.

Our crops have been good, from 40 to 60 bushels of wheat and barley to the acre.

The health of the settlement is good, and general peace prevails. Your brother in the gospel.

ARNOLD GOODLIFE.

#### A Snake Story.

One day this week, while Mr. Boone and Mr. Kim Thomas were out in the woods, near town, engaged in chopping, Mr. Boone saw a large black snake run into a log. He told Mr. Thomas about it, and the latter went to the end of the log to take a peep at his snakeship. Just about this time, the black reptile dashed out, and before Mr. Thomas could think, was securely coiled around his neck, with his head in front of his, licking out its tongue ferociously at him. Although nearly choked, he seized it near the head, and with the aid of Mr. Boone, who had gathered enough of courage to take hold of the tail, the business of unwinding was successfully performed. The snake was about six feet long. Mr. Thomas will not explore any more hollow logs for a while.—Plattsburg (Mo.), *Lever*.

The late Erastus Smith of Hartford, Conn., used to be very neglectful of his personal appearance, and wore a soiled coat very much the worse for wear. One day Mr. Richard D. Hubbard, now Governor of the State, met Mr. Smith wearing a beautiful rose in his button-hole. "Is not this rose a beautiful one?" said Mr. Smith. "Now, Mr. Hubbard, can you imagine where I got it?" "It might have grown there," was the reply.

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