

ceedings. When they had blackened their characters and rendered them sufficiently odious, they could then assail them with some hope of being sustained by public opinion.

With equal cunning and devilish malignity do the Judge of this District and his companions in this plot act in their proceedings against Latter-day Saints. This accusation of "lascivious and unlawful cohabitation" is as false when made against the gentlemen sought to be victimized by these dark schemers as was the charge of eating real flesh and blood made by Roman officials against the primitive Christians. It is to veil an attack upon the religious belief of the Latter-day Saints, to arouse indignation against them, to deprive them of all public sympathy, and to leave their enemies a clear field in which to operate to destroy them. Stripped of its thin disguise this is the design in all its hideousness.

Will it succeed? Did we live in another age and among another people we might fear for the consequences. But in Republican America, in the full light of the discoveries of this wonderful age of invention, with the printing press, the telegraph wire, and the rapid intercommunication of distant peoples, we have the most unfaltering confidence that the design will utterly, and for its authors, disgracefully fail. This war which is now being opened is between a ring of corrupt, plotting and unscrupulous officials and their followers, and the entire people of this Territory. On their side they have the prestige which attaches to the possession of office; they have the usurped power which they have gained by setting aside the officers of the Territory; they have the selection and arranging of juries, also gained by trampling upon the laws of the Territory; they have the privilege of ruling out or ruling in law, to say that such a law shall have force or that another law shall not have force, as they may think will best subserve their purpose; and they have the devil and those who are subject to him to blow and strike for them, to raise a great outcry, to throw dust in the eyes of the people and to manufacture public opinion to sustain them. These are their advantages.

The people of the Territory have the knowledge that they are entrenched in the right, and the strength and confidence which arise from that knowledge; they have the truth, the Constitution, the laws, the "sober second thought" of the people, and, above all, the God of heaven to rely upon.

The officials have all the advantages, apparently, to start with; we shall see how they stand when the struggle is ended. So far, with all these advantages, those who are assailed are willing to fight this battle in the Courts. The officials did not expect this. Who could expect men to submit to be tried by their sworn enemies? To go into a Court, the machinery of which had been carefully prepared to take every advantage, to strip them of every right and destroy them? As well might Elijah expect justice from Jezebel, Stephen from the High Priests, Peter from Nero, the early Christians from Domitian, Antoninus, Decius or Diocletian, or Luther from Pope Adrian after he had declared that "as a gangrened and incurable member he should be destroyed by fire." They expected flight or resistance. Either would have suited their purposes. Let any person read the dispatches sent East and West by the members of the ring, and it will be seen that an excitement was desired; they hoped to have a great disturbance. Thus far they have been disappointed. Personally we view the proceedings of the present court as we would a mob court. We think we would be justified in resisting its process as we would those of a mob. This is our individual opinion. Yet if accused on the grounds some of our friends are, we might submit to it, go before it and be tried by it, because by so doing we would show the nation that we respected its authority, and that before an illegally organized court, with a jury which in other countries men would call "packed," on a trumped-up charge, and a case already prejudged, we should not be afraid of meeting the issue, and having it decided, not by Judge McKean, but by the verdict of the country, whether religious liberty is to be proscribed, and men be degraded and denounced as criminals for their religious belief.

Evasions, disguises and pretexts cannot deceive the country, when the truth becomes known, respecting the character of this movement. It will yet be stigmatized as a crusade against religious liberty.

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

GENERAL.

The Grand Duke Alexis, soon after reaching New York, will visit Washington. He will remain here a day or two, and then return to New York, whence he will go to Niagara Falls, Chicago, and other western cities, and to San Francisco. He has expressed a desire to see the prairies about which he has read so much. He will again visit Washington during the session of Congress. Catcazy, the Russian Minister, was recently informed, by secretary Fish, that if, when the visit of the Grand Duke is concluded, he shall not be recalled, his passport will be sent to him, and that the President will not receive him unless accompanied by the Grand Duke, and, further, that the President will at no time hold conversation with him.

NEW YORK, 5.—Experts yesterday visited the new court house, accompanied by a special committee of the committee of seventy, and made a careful examination of all the furniture in the building. After adding twenty-five per cent to their estimate, they valued all at \$82,075. Other experts estimated carpenters work at \$132,000, including an addition of twenty-five per cent. Ingersoll receiving for furnishing the above \$1,400,000. The affidavits of the experts were sworn to, and handed to district attorney Garvin. Several vouchers for Ingersoll's, Garvey's and Keyser's work were unearthed yesterday by the committee of seventy. The vouchers are all for an enormous amount; and not one of them sworn us but all signed by A. Oakley Hall.

CARSON, Nev., 5.—A gentleman from Columbus, who arrived at Aurora this evening states, that the officers on the track of Jones and Burke found the dead body of Jones in an old cabin in Fish Lake valley. Cockerell, who has not been heard from since the break, seems to have joined Burke and Jones near Round valley and it is supposed that the three had quarrelled and Jones was killed. The officers are after Burke and Cockerell. It is now certain that Morten and Black were lynched in Round valley; young Roberts is so badly wounded it is thought he cannot live. R. Dedman, the brave prisoner who so nobly fought to stop the break at the State prison on the 17th of September and to protect the lives of Lieut. Governor Denver and family, was yesterday pardoned and restored to citizenship by the board of pardon commissioners. Officer Harris of Rocklin, California, is expected here in the morning with a prisoner, supposed to be Thomas Flynn, one of the escaped convicts who was captured near Rocklin.

PORTLAND, Oregon, 5.—The cars on the O. & C. R. R. commenced running to Eugene city on Monday. The Harrisburg bridge just completed is 670 feet long, with a draw of 240 feet, and cost \$60,000.

NEW YORK, 5.—At a meeting of Democrats last evening, the committee adopted a resolution that they would never, under any circumstances, support a candidate nominated by or having connection with Tammany Hall. Judge Barnard was thanked for his charge to the grand jury and promised assistance in his efforts to suppress illegal voting.

Eight persons narrowly escaped death from a kerosine explosion on the pleasure yacht *Jennie Lee*, on Monday night, about nine miles off Montauk point, Long Island Sound. The passengers were O. B. Jerrolds, Arizona, wife, and three children, servant, and two seamen. Jerrolds was passing through the cabin at midnight, and was thrown against the table by the lurching of the yacht, which upset the lamp, which exploded and set the vessel on fire. The youngest child with the nurse sank with the yacht, but the others were saved.

NEW YORK, 7.—The confession and restitution last night by Keyser is deemed a most important step, and wholly unexpected and as a means of enabling the committee of seventy to obtain other proofs, it is regarded as the most promising occurrence that yet has happened. His admission is that in several years' employment by the city he has received a quarter of a million dollars, for which he has done little work, but he declared that his signature to many vouchers for exorbitant sums has been forged. In many instances he had been compelled to assign his claims before he could receive his pay. This confession will probably secure him immunity from punishment. Others, implicated

tradesmen, are expected to take a like course. The committee, following out their determination for the prosecution of thieves, demand the governor to forthwith order the attorney general to commence the required proceedings. They will employ counsel to assist in this work. The late county auditor Watson is supposed to be the person who altered Keyser's vouchers. The opinion is gaining ground that Judge Barnard will dismiss the present grand jury. Unless this is done, proceedings against the perpetrators of fraud will result in nothing. Besides the fact that the grand jury is a packed one, the officials, upon whom develop the prosecution of suits, are under Tammany influence. Evidence of a most startling character is accumulating, but the committee of seventy find difficulties in their way. Parties giving evidence expect it will cost them their salaries, and desire to be provided with other salaries. This the committee hesitate to do.

DAVENPORT, 7.—Ebenezer Cook, vice-president of the R. I. & P. R. R. Co., one of the earliest settlers of this State, and long identified with its history and financial interests, died suddenly this morning of congestive chills.

MILWAUKEE, 7.—The news from the northern fires to-day state they are raging worse than ever. A man just arrived from Fort Prescott says thirty men were burned to death at that place, with part of the town and one mill, and thinks the rest is gone by this time.

CHICAGO, 7.—The greatest conflagration which ever occurred in this city, broke out about an hour and a half ago, and having already swept over six entire blocks is still raging with almost unabated fury. The fire started in a large planing mill, situated between Clinton and Canal, and Van Buren and Jackson Streets, about the centre of the block formed by these streets. The wind was blowing fresh, and the flames spread with incredible rapidity. In a few minutes the entire structure was a mass of fire. The immediate vicinity is built up with small wooden tenement houses and two-story frames, occupied as groceries and saloons. The inmates of many of the houses startled from their slumber had barely time to rush from the houses in the scanty attire of the night, leaving their household goods to destruction. In several instances children were hastily wrapped in blankets and quilts, to break the force of their fall, and thrown from the second story windows to the ground.

When the alarm sounded for this fire, another of considerable magnitude was burning on Wells Street, near Adams, and several engines were necessarily kept at work upon it. The rest of the engines in the city were soon on the ground; but before they arrived the fire had spread over so large an area, and was so rapidly spreading, that the effort seemed of little avail. Between Canal Street and the river were several lumber yards, which are destroyed. At this hour the fire has made a clean sweep from Van Buren north two blocks to Adams, and west to Clinton, two blocks from the river. The wharves between Van Buren and Jackson are burning, and the woodwork of the western approach to Adams street bridge is destroyed. A large coal yard, containing a thousand tons of soft coal, and situated between Chicago and Alton, and Pittsburg and Fort Wayne R. R. tracks and the river, is on fire and burning furiously. The immense grain elevator of Vincent, Wilson & Co., one of the finest in the city, is immediately adjoining, and though intended to be fire-proof, there seems little doubt that it will be destroyed, as the intense heat to which it is subjected will crack the slate with which it is covered on both roof and sides. It contains many thousand bushels of grain of all kinds. The depot of the Pittsburg and Fort Wayne and Chicago, Alton and St. Louis railroads is situated north of Adams, and between Canal street and the river. One of the buildings, a light wooden structure, occupied as an express office, was in flames at midnight, and is undoubtedly destroyed.

The scenes in the vicinity of the conflagration are indescribable. Half of the population of the city seems gathered there. The tugs on the river are engaged towing to places of safety the vessels in the neighborhood, while locomotives are hastily pulling out the great number of cars standing on the track in the path of the flames. At this writing it is impossible to give an estimate of the losses, but they are already very large. The flames appear to be scarcely checked, so far as could be ascertained, when the reporter left the scene of the fire. No lives are known to be lost.

When the last dispatch in regard to the great fire was sent at 12:30 o'clock this morning, it was stated that its progress appeared to be stayed. This proved to be true, the firemen, by the most extraordinary and daring exertions, having succeeded in keeping it within the bounds it then occupied. Within this area, however, which covered not less than twenty acres of ground, the flames still raged upon the piles of lumber and coal which filled a considerable portion of the space, and at four o'clock this morning the glare was visible all over the city. By daylight part of the wearied firemen were relieved. Everything combustible within the fated district had been swept away this morning, though clouds of smoke still arose from a portion of the ruins, and here and there piles of coal still glowed with the intense heat which was rapidly consuming them, and a number of steamers were still playing on such points as retained enough fire to be dangerous. It was evident that the great conflagration was over. The subsidence of the fire makes it impossible to give a more correct statement. The losses are very much less in amount than at first supposed during its progress, while the amount of personal suffering caused by so many poor families losing their all was not at all exaggerated. The highest estimate of the total loss is now half a million dollars, the lowest half that sum. The larger sum is no doubt nearest the actual loss. The aggregate insurance, so far as ascertained, is \$122,540. Vincent, Wilson & Co's large grain elevator was saved, or the loss would have been double what it is. The following are the principal losses. Lull & Holmes' planing mill, where the fire originated, \$20,000; insurance \$12,000; Fosters' Box Factory, \$30,000; insurance \$15,000; F. Wiegles' vinegar works \$12,000; insurance \$9,000; Racine House, loss small; Union wagon works, \$17,000; insurance \$6,000; Sheriff & Son's lumber yard, \$65,000, insurance \$35,000; Chapin & Foss, shingle factory, \$50,000, insurance \$12,000; B. Holbrook's coal yard, \$36,000, insurance \$25,000; Wilmington Coal Co. \$30,000, insurance \$20,000; Blacksmith shop of Pittsburg, Fort Wayne, and Chicago R. R. loss \$4,000; Baltzer & Co. wagon makers, \$8,000, insurance light; a number of tenement houses, occupied by the poorer class and owned by H. Ellsander & Randall, Hon. C. B. Farwell, and Alanson Watson, on Clinton Street, buildings old, loss not heavy, except to the occupants, ten houses owned by Alanson Watson on Jackson Street, occupied by twenty-eight families, who lost every thing; and dwellings and shops, numbering 27 to 67 on this street, loss \$20,000, about one quarter insured; four buildings in Van Buren Street, of small value; the iron viaduct leading to Adams Street bridge, damaged a thousand dollars; tracks of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne, and Chicago & St. Louis R. R.'s, which run through the burnt district, damages two or three thousand dollars. The saddest result of the fire was the burning to death of Mrs. Margaret Hadley, who, being suddenly surrounded by the flames, was unable to escape. Her remains, burned to a cinder, were found to-day near the place where she was last seen in her house. It is impossible to learn to-night the exact amount of insurance and the names of all the companies that are victims. The entire amount of insurance is probably not less than \$350,000, about two-thirds of the amount in Chicago offices. The outside companies which suffer are Teutonia, Hibernia, Cleveland, Buffalo City, Western and Buffalo Fire and Marine, Alps of Erie, Andes of Cincinnati, Pacific and Union, of San Francisco, Knickerbocker, Philadelphia.

Tremendous Conflagration in Chicago—Three Miles by a Mile and a half burned up—Fifty Thousand People Homeless and Destitute!

CHICAGO, 9, noon.—The whole business portion of the city is in ashes, from Harrison St. north to Chicago Avenue, and east of the river to the lake, an area of three miles in length and a mile to a mile and a half in width. Every hotel, bank, express office, with all the wholesale houses in the city are totally destroyed. Many thousand dwellings and the water works are destroyed. Early this morning, the wind was blowing a perfect gale from the south-west with a sky o