

Tribune editorial of this Dec. 11 calls for "confirmation or denial," and we respond.

It is not true that any shareholder in the Ogden Junction company was ever assessed for stock he did not hold. It is not true that the editor of the *Junction* made any "confession" as stated above. It is not true that "the Council had appropriated, at different dates, some thousands of dollars in all, to pay assessments on Junction stock."

We do not believe that any "gentleman" brought the *Tribune* such a story as it tells. Some one may have given it information which it has garbled and twisted, as it did the alleged "facts" imparted by "a gentleman from Tooele," which turned out to be sheer fiction without a shred of truth.

It is true that in 1876 Weber County was part of the Third Judicial District. It is true that a member of the grand jury called upon the then editor of the *Ogden Junction*, who was secretary of the publishing company. But it is not true that the editor made any "confession" of any kind concerning the city or any other corporation or person. The grand juror made some inquiries about the stock of the company, and was informed that it was not a public corporation and therefore was not under any obligation to explain its affairs to the grand jury, to which the juror assented. But the secretary produced the company's books, ledger, stock book and all, and the juror had full opportunity to examine them. If there had been anything therein that was damaging to the City Council of Ogden or that could have been construed to that effect, we have no doubt the grand jury would have used it to the full extent.

But there was no business connected with the company's affairs that was not straightforward, square and open, and there was no need for concealment of any of its transactions.

So much for this new story brought by a "gentleman." Either his memory is a little defective or his "item" has been *Tribunized*. We suppose the matter will be harped upon until the reading public become nauseated, but we do not propose to keep up a contention with an adversary that dodges from hole to corner and never fairly acknowledges an error.

JOHN AUGUSTUS KUNZLER, a native of Switzerland, was admitted to citizenship in the Third District Court this morning.

BELIEF IN THE SECOND ADVENT.

WHAT is called millenarianism is sweeping over the religious world like a huge tidal wave. It is spreading in every direction in this country and in Europe. Some of the leading minds of the age in matters of Bible theology are imbued with its theory, hence the deep interest that has been taken in the late pre-millennial conference held in the city of Brooklyn, attended by many eminent divines.

The tenet is, put in condensed shape, as follows: Christ's second advent will be previous to the millennium instead of after it; it may now be looked for at any time, and is certain within a century or so. It will find the world steeped in iniquity and the church in general cold and indifferent, and the advent of Christ will be the beginning of a revival which will bring on the millennium instead of being the wind-up of a great apostasy after the thousand years. Hence the name premillennialists. For all this they have abundant Scripture, of course, and the signs of the times—the wars and rumors of wars, financial revolutions, socialism, "coldness in the churches" and other symptoms—are pointed to.

In Europe there are many advanced thinkers who believe in the doctrine, and expect the speedy coming of the Lord. Hence it is not a matter that ought to create surprise that the Indians should look for the coming of a Messiah. Their faith in the appearance of a deliverer comes in a crude shape, associated with rites and ceremonies that are adapted to the condition of a people fallen to a degraded position in the scale of intelligence. But in essence their belief is identical with that of many leading Christians, with the exception of the nature of the work which the Savior is to perform. With them it is to be their redemption and not that of the whites, and the introduction of a millennium of peace and plenty exclusively for the Indians. It is the same idea of Christ—including the identity of the personage—as that entertained by leading men who profess to be teachers of Christian doctrine, only in a crude and limited shape.

What is the cause of this sudden outburst of an expectant faith in the second advent of Christ? Is it not an illustration of the old adage that "coming events cast their shadows before?" The cause is not visible, and may be due to spiritual force

operating upon minds that are open and unsusceptible to impressions regarding important events of the future. Is it not the Spirit of light and truth, operating upon men to induce them to prepare for great things that await the peoples of the earth? The anticipation of the second coming of the Lord has spread wonderfully in the Gentile nations within a short space of time; the same expectancy has taken hold upon an uncivilized race, and doubtless the belief of Christ's coming will continue to spread. When it shall seize the Jews, interesting times will be reached, as the predictions of the Prophets clearly point to the time in the latter days when they "also shall begin to believe in Christ," and shall re-people Palestine and rebuild Jerusalem.

ONE MORE SLANDERING MENDICANT.

ONE more of the "preachers for hire" with which among other woes Utah has been afflicted, is plying his trade in the East, and making defamation of the "Mormons" his means of gathering funds. His name is Abiel Leonard, he assumes the title of "Rev." and he has been passing round the plate in Massachusetts. The *New Bedford Mercury* gives a brief report of his remarks before "an audience of fair proportions" in Grace Church. His theme was missionary work in the Territory of Utah; his object the usual one of his tribe—the raising of funds. Here is a portion of the report:

"He thought the condition of the people was greatly improved with the touching they were receiving. When the missionary work was commenced the people didn't even know the fundamental principles of our government and this was not strange as they have no papers except those published at home, and the leaders of the Church kept them ignorant as possible to make them contented with their lot. Twenty-three years' effort has had its effect, and now the boys and girls who formerly were driven out of the Territory for daring to think for themselves are having their own way, and much good is being done."

Notwithstanding the many falsehoods that have been told about the "Mormons" by professed ministers of Christ, when they wanted to get money from Christian people in the East, we cannot help being startled now and then at the wilful lies such men will tell, and feeling surprise that intelligent persons can be deceived by such stories into giving their money to these shameless traveling mendicants.

Every statement in the paragraph