

EDITORIALS.

THE SENATOR AND THE SUFFRAGE.

WE learn from our Washington dispatches that Senator Edmunds, on the 21st inst., attempted to push forward his latest piece of special legislation in the interest of the Utah ring of political conspirators. The imbecillity which is manifested by the press of the country when assailing the "Mormons," seems to attach itself equally to grave and reverent Senators when engaged in the same business.

In answer to Senator Hoar, who moved to strike out the provision in the bill abolishing woman suffrage in Utah, Mr. Edmunds argued that because "Mormon" women were controlled by the men in their voting, they should be deprived of the franchise, and that taking it from them would have no reference to the general question of woman suffrage.

The statement on which this argument is based is a mere assumption. Senator Edmunds may believe it to be true, because his ears have been open to the fabrications of unscrupulous men, but he has no proof of the fact. It cannot be adduced by anyone. We deny the statement and ask for the evidence. We affirm that the women voters of Utah are as free to cast such ballots as they please as men are in any part of the Republic. One proof of this is that under the election laws of this Territory ballots may be so deposited that no one living can tell how the elector votes.

But supposing the statement is correct. Granting that the women vote according to the principles or wishes of their husbands, fathers and brothers. Is that a sound reason for depriving them of a vested right which they have exercised for a dozen years or more? Must no one be allowed to vote who is influenced by the persuasions or other influence of friends or acquaintances? On this kind of reasoning how many men in the various states of the Union would be allowed to exercise the suffrage? Who has not heard the charge that employers coerce their working people into supporting the candidates favored by the capitalists? Who has not heard of political "bosses" controlling large numbers of votes?

According to the logic of Senator Edmunds, all that the Republicans need to do for the disfranchisement of large numbers of Democrats, is to assume that they are controlled by others in the exercise of the suffrage. If women may be deprived of the right to vote because they are persuaded or otherwise influenced to vote as men desire, then, by the same rule, men who vote as other men press or persuade them must also be disfranchised. "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." The rule that would favor the Republicans when they are in power must work in a similar way for the Democrats when they come on top, and there would be a general time of disfranchisement, until nobody would remain with the right of the elective franchise but the "bosses" of the respective parties.

Senator Edmunds pretends, too, that taking away the suffrage from the women of Utah has no reference to the general question of woman suffrage. Why, even the women who have not yet been granted the ballot know better than that. They have clearly shown to the contrary in their arguments before congressional committees. And the same falsehoods used as a pretext to deprive the women of Utah of the ballot has been uttered equally against the men of this Territory. It is stated that the masses of the men voters simply vote as they are told by their leaders, without exercising their own judgment or political freedom. The statement is a lie, of course, but it has been made as much in reference to the men as to the women of Utah. Yet it is only proposed to disfranchise the women, and therefore it is clearly and intentionally a blow aimed against woman suffrage in general. It is useless for Senator Edmunds to pretend that it is not, and we do not think that he will be able to hoodwink any of his fellow Senators who are favorable to the political liberty of women.

We have used here the term "the right to vote." We do so advisedly. We do not dispute the position that, primarily, under our system of gov-

ernment the elective franchise is a privilege conferred by legislation. It is not recognized as an inherent or natural right. Laws are framed conferring this privilege subject to certain conditions and restrictions. But when that privilege is once conferred and the conditions are complied with, does it not grow into a right? The Organic Act recognizes the power of the Utah Legislature over all rightful subjects of legislation. Among them is the elective franchise. Laws have been enacted providing under what conditions it shall be exercised. When a citizen under the operation of those laws has acquired the lawful power to vote, does not that become a right? We consider it as much so as the right to hold land acquired under the provisions of law. A citizen has the privilege of pre-empting a quarter section of land under certain prescribed regulations. When he complies with the law he acquires the title and then has a right to the land. We consider the elective franchise, when legally acquired, as much a vested right as that of the ownership of land. It becomes property and cannot be constitutionally taken from the owner without "due process of law." That implies judicial inquiry and the judgment of a court, and is not comprehended in the act of a legislative body.

Senator Edmunds may jauntily claim for Congress those extraordinary powers which have been exercised over the Territories, but he cannot show from the Constitution any warrant for them whatever. In the District of Columbia, Congress may legislate for the suffrage, as the respective States may within their several jurisdictions, but outside of it no such powers are conferred or implied. Judge Black and Judge Edmunds occupy opposite positions on this point, but behind the former is the Supreme Law of the Land, while the latter has for his backing merely the Acts of Congress based upon assumed and usurped authority for which there is not a line of support in the acknowledged source of all its lawful powers. The exclusive right to legislate for the District of Columbia, to pass laws for specific purposes, and to do and perform various duties are plainly enumerated in the Constitution, but this right to which Senator Edmunds says everybody will agree but Judge Black, is not there, and no matter who agrees to its exercise that fact remains that it does not lawfully exist, and nothing but a new Amendment to the Constitution will establish it. Even then the truth remains that the power has been unlawfully wielded, and universal agreement to the wrong will never make it to have been right.

We shall not now attempt to remark upon the assumption of Senator Edmunds on the "real opinions" of women with whom he has never conversed, and who have in the most solemn and positive manner affirmed to the contrary of his statement, but will leave that matter as extraneous to the main question. Whether the women voters of Utah favor polygamy or not, they have the vested right of the elective franchise, and in view of the fact that the women whom he now seeks to deprive of that right are not in polygamy—his former bill having practically excluded all ladies who are or ever were in polygamy from the polls—his pretext is unsound, his argument is illogical and his whole position is untenable. It appears that the Senate viewed his bill in too light and so quietly laid it on the shelf. There let it rest.

THE HERESY OF MALTHUS REVIVED.

THERE is a philosopher in England who has gained some eminence, and whose name is Robert Giffen. He has recently made a stir among the thinkers by advocating the Malthusian doctrine. Malthus claimed that population increases in a greater ratio than the means of subsistence, and that, therefore, unless means are adopted to check human increase, the race will perish, or prey upon each other through lack of food. Giffen declares that the disproportion of population to the means of support is already causing a pressure in many nations that is deeply felt. He points to the dependence of Great Britain and other European countries on America for food supplies, and argues that this lack of self-support by encroachments upon agriculture will eventu-

ally overtake all nations, and thus the earth will be stricken with the worst kind of poverty.

This seems to us the worst kind of nonsense. It is not only vain philosophy, it is pregnant with evil suggestion. The suppression of human increase finds excuse enough already among the pleasure-seeking and care-avoiding classes, and those excessively refined and intellectual people who are without the natural affection which culminates in happy maternity and the joys of family associations.

It is true that England has fostered manufactures at the expense of agriculture, and that while she has become the workshop of the world she has to depend upon other countries for a great deal of her food supply. But if a pressure should arise to limit the spare products of those sources from which she draws this support, she has within her own boundaries over seven millions of acres capable of cultivation which now lie untilled, and three times that amount in the whole of Great Britain. In the event of the extraordinary turn in the tide of affairs anticipated by Giffen, a change of policy could and no doubt would be inaugurated, by which those untilled lands would be brought into use, and the parks and commons of Great Britain would be turned into farms and fertile fields. And by an improvement in the prevalent system of agriculture, there is no doubt that in many parts of the "old country" the grain yield could be raised considerably, as demonstrated in other places with similar soil.

The number of population to the square mile varies in different countries, and experience has shown that where necessity arises, the productive power of the land can be increased to correspond with the increase of population. On the continent of Europe there are, as in the British Isles, millions of uncultivated acres that may be subdued and made to produce food. And when we turn to Asia and America, to say nothing of the "dark continent" whose capabilities in this direction are yet unknown, we find such vast fields yet unproductive, but which are capable of bringing forth enormous supplies for the sustenance of man, that Giffen's notion fades into thin air and the foundation of the Malthusian heresy melts away from sight.

There are immense stretches of fertile soil on this little globe of ours, that have been waiting for ages for occupation by the people who are crowded for room in the populous cities of the world. This "pressure of population" is needless in a day of railroads and steam navigation, of agricultural machinery and improved methods of "tickling the soil" that it may "laugh with a harvest." Giffen and Malthus are both "off" on this question, and it will be found that for all human needs there are means of supply, if they are only sought after and utilized when found.

Everything which affords a pretext for the modern aversion to offspring and the consequent murderous methods of arresting family increase, ought to be exposed and stamped upon. For every soul that comes into this world to breathe for awhile the breath of life, there are means at hand for sustenance, and to correspond with all its needs, physical, mental and spiritual. The political and geographical boundaries of nations and countries form no barrier to their people, who may travel here or there, and when a human hive becomes too full may swarm into unoccupied or thinly settled places and find room to dwell and elements for support. Wealth is very unevenly distributed and many suffer while a few revel in profusion. But this is not the fault of God or nature. There is an abundance for all that are in the world and will be for those who are to come, and it is folly to croak over a few facts and figures which relate to isolated conditions, when the wide earth is before its people with all its wonderful capabilities, vast extent and practically inexhaustible treasures for the sustenance, comfort and happiness of the millions of God's sons and daughters, who in His providence are permitted to sojourn for a time upon its face and obtain that experience which is to be gained only among its elements.

SHELVED AGAIN.

THE latest Edmunds bill was brought up again in the United States Senate on Friday and shelved

once more. The amendment offered by Senator Blair was the most reasonable proposition introduced in connection with it, and its rejection is good evidence that the object sought to be accomplished is not, as pretended, the suppression of polygamy, but the reduction of the "Mormon" vote in the interest of the Republican ring of conspirators in Utah. Senator Call stood up manfully for constitutional doctrine, for which he deserves great credit. It is not very likely that the bill will be forced upon the Senate again during the present session.

LITERARY NOTICES.

HARMONY OF THE BIBLE WITH SCIENCE.

ONE of the best books we have had the pleasure of examining for a long time is called "The Harmony of the Bible with Science," by Dr. Samuel Kinns, of Highbury, New Park College, England. It is a work of over five hundred pages, profusely illustrated with excellent engravings, and is written in a style to commend itself to the learned, while it may be understood by all who read. Taking up the most recent and generally adopted scientific theories in regard to the origin and formation of worlds, it analyses the Mosal account of the Creation, and shows its perfect harmony with that which has been established by science. It goes into the theories of geology, the causes of earthquakes and volcanoes, plant growth, coal formation, the effects of the sun and moon on the earth, the planets, the beginning of animal life, the advent of cattle and creeping things, the appearance of man on the globe, etc., and quoting from various parts of the Bible, proves the harmony of the sacred record with the facts and developments of reliable human learning. In the course of the work much historical and other information is imparted in a popular and entertaining manner, and the book is calculated to instruct and at the same time promote faith in the Almighty Being who planned and brought forth the universe. It furnishes powerful arguments against infidelity, and is a book that ought to find its way into every library of the Mutual Improvement Associations, as well as in the homes of those who can appreciate scientific and divine things. Price \$3. Published by Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., N. Y., Ernest S. Penrose, agent, Salt Lake City.

NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

This excellent monthly contains, among other articles interesting to the people of this locality, a paper by Richard A. Proctor, on "The Pyramid of Cheops." If we cannot agree with all the writer's conclusions, his facts are undeniable, and his argument is presented with clearness and that ability which might be expected of the great astronomer. Henry George discourses on "Money in Elections," pointing out one source of great evil in this country. R. S. Taylor writes on the "Subjugation of the Mississippi." "Gladstone" is the subject of a thoughtful article by Moncre D. Conway. Hon. Geo. W. Julian treats of "Railway Influence in the Land Office." Prof. Wm. G. Sumner of "Protective Taxes and Wages;" Elzar Wright of "Some Aspects of Life Insurance;" and finally, there is a symposium on "Educational Needs," by Prof. G. Stanley Hall, Prof. Felix Adler, President Thomas Hunter, and Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobs. Published at 30 Lafayette Place, New York, and for sale by James Dwyer.

THE CENTURY.

The Century Magazine for March is a fine number. Its frontispiece is a portrait of Gambetta, in another part is a likeness of the statesman's father; numerous other illustrations, beautifully executed, adorn the pages of the magazine, which contains the usual amount of entertaining, instructive and unexceptionable reading matter in poetry and prose. "The Migrations of American Colonists," by Edward Egglestone, will prove an attractive essay to students of American history and progress, and politicians will find food in "The End of Foreign Dominion in Louisiana," while lighter reading is provided for the multitude, in plenty. Scribner & Co., New York.

FUNERAL OF BISHOP BRINGHURST.

SPRINGVILLE, Utah County, Feb. 21st, 1893.

Editor Deseret News:

Yesterday was a day of mourning for the people of Springville. Business being suspended by all classes, and public buildings draped in mourning, in honor of our departed Bishop.

At 10 o'clock all the relatives, friends and citizens assembled in vast numbers at the family residence, when the grandest procession ever witnessed here was formed under the direction of W. H. Kelsey, J. L., F. C. and P. H. Boyer, consisting of the mourners, and friends, Presidency of the Stake, A. O. Smoot, David John and H. H. Cluff; also many of the Bishops and friends from the surrounding wards, the quorums of the Priesthood, the civil authorities and citizens led by Mayor L. S. Wood. The procession marched to the meeting house which was elaborately and mournfully decorated for the occasion, the house being filled to its utmost capacity.

The services consisted of singing, prayer and consolatory remarks, in which the Presidency of the Stake, Bishop L. E. Harrington, W. H. Kelsey and H. and F. C. Boyer participated, after which the remains were viewed by the vast audience. The procession was then reformed and marched to the cemetery where the services were closed by the dedicatory prayer offered by J. L. Boyer.

J. M. PERKINS,
Branch Clerk.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

NEPHI CITY, Feb. 21st, 1893.

Editor Deseret News:

You will greatly oblige your many friends by publishing the Resolutions enclosed, the presentation of which was a very touching and affecting scene. A deputation of the Priesthood, headed by our worthy President Wm. Paxman met at the office of President George Teasdale on Monday morning, when the "Token of Respect" was read to him. Those present will ever remember that solemn meeting. President Teasdale was so overcome by the sentiments expressed on this occasion, that he entirely broke down and for a few moments lost all power of speech. When he recovered himself again, he in very affectionate words thanked his brethren present of their manifestation of gratitude. His emotion and expressions brought tears to all present, and the affair will long be remembered with pleasure and satisfaction. The Resolutions were drafted in haste and express only in part the true sentiments of the whole community.

Respectfully Yours,
GUS. HENRIOD Secretary,
for Committee.

NEPHI CITY,
February 19th, 1892.

A TOKEN OF RESPECT TO OUR BELOVED, PRESIDENT GEORGE TEASDALE.

We, the following, your affectionate brethren, realizing with intense regret, that we are called upon to part with you as President of the Juab Stake of Zion, feel to express (but only in weakness) some of our sentiments on this occasion.

We feel this loss keenly and deeply; for you have ever stood first in our affections as a champion of truth, a man of integrity and an example worthy of the noblest of God's servants.

Words fail us to express our gratitude and confidence in you, while you filled your position so honorably. Language cannot describe our feelings of regret in parting with our dear friend, so true to your trust, a strong supporter of our most holy faith and a kind and generous father to all our home and Stake institutions.

Therefore be it resolved, That, realizing in the providence of God, duty calls you to other fields to occupy other positions, we beg of you to be assured that you carry with you our affection and the memories of your fatherly and efficient labors, your kindness and faithfulness to the sick and needy, your consoling words to those who have been called to mourn the loss of dear ones, your wise counsels to the Priesthood, and in fact to all our organizations too numerous to mention.

We fail to express the extent of