

EDITORIALS.

A PLEA FOR SLAVERY.

THE present position of Governor Eli H. Murray is a humiliating one. The nation whose representatives sent him to Utah as Governor of her people without their consent, partakes more or less in the debasement resulting from the nauseating spectacle he now presents. Instead of staying at the post of duty and honorably discharging the trust imposed upon him, he has deserted his official position and taken to the calling of an itinerant political agitator, going over the country palm-ling off on the public abroad, through the medium of the press and by every other available means, the grossest misrepresentations of the situation in this Territory.

Mr. Murray's report to the Secretary of the Interior, if it be properly represented, and we presume it is, is a tissue of old and repeatedly exploded misstatements, mingled with a grimy discoloration of facts that are too plain to mislead the fairminded and intelligent. It can scarcely be said that the paper, so far as reported, is infused to any extent with the element of sophistry in the strictest sense of the term, as his aim is too apparent to entitle his manner of reaching it to that sort of designation. However intense his intentions might have been in the manufacture of sophisms, he evidently does not possess sufficient subtlety of intellect to render him successful in that direction. No person at all conversant with the facts as they exist would be in the least liable to be misled by his special pleadings. His report is not designed for that class, but to aid in the campaign against the majority of the people of Utah and in the interest of political slavery and spoliation.

Mr. Murray spoils himself by his overweening egotism and conceit, which he has not the good judgment to cover up even in his report to the Secretary, in which it crops out as a ludicrous and incongruous element, calculated, we should think, either to excite the risibilities or disgust of those for whom his pompously tendered counsels are intended. He assumes the role of preceptor to "Congress and the country," whom he advises, with the solemnity of an owl, not to "follow further the argument as to the right of religious belief."

We presume that by this the gentleman means that in further dealing with Utah and the "Mormons," the right of religious belief should be ignored. It should be remembered that this is the sentiment of an appointee of the United States Government, republican in spirit, form and intent, and that it is not only expressed in this free country, but in the nineteenth century. Congress is also advised not to leave the solution of the question—the taking of the local government out of the hands of the majority and giving it to a miserable and unscrupulous minority—to the processes of time and railroads. This would take too lengthy a period, and are measures too mild and natural. In fact nothing will answer the purpose but a political summerrault by which the government of fair and prosperous Utah would be landed in the slough of despair and despondency, and be carried to a decline upon the ragged edge of ruin. One would suppose that the statements of a man who advocates the manacling of the mind would be repudiated as unworthy a moiety of consideration, as they justly deserve to be. The practical application of doctrines such as he propounds would plunge the country backward infinitely in the march of progress.

As a manufacturer of stuffed scare-crows Mr. Murray is evidently a success. He advocates the making of the U. S. military available in enforcing the laws in Utah. The absurdity and effrontery of this expression are remarkable. There is no more need for the use of troops for that purpose in Utah than there is to send them to quell a disturbance in the moon. Who knows of any resistance to the processes of the Courts in Utah that needs the intervention of an armed force? We do not, and neither does anybody else. But of course the intention of this recommendation in plain. It is evidently to create a false impression abroad; to make it appear that anarchy reigns; whereas Utah enjoys the most uninterrupted serenity, the only ripples of disturb-

ance consisting of the occasional fulminations and intrinsically harmless bluster of disappointed political hucksters.

The statement that "Courts not open to all citizens and unknown to Congress constantly sit with usurped powers," is what might be termed a tremendous "whopper." The courts to which he refers are strictly ecclesiastical, and they are not open to all classes of citizens, because they are for the settlement by arbitration of difficulties between Church members. Other classes of citizens have nothing to do with them, any more than they would with the proceedings of any class of people who agree to settle grievances by arbitration in place of incurring the vexations caused by the "law's delay, the insolence of office," and interminable bills of expense. But Congress and all the world besides are quite welcome to get an insight into the processes of such courts, and any unprejudiced person who will give the subject an impartial investigation will be constrained to admit that for the people there is not a better system in existence, and where it could be successfully operated would be of great benefit anywhere and everywhere, and would doubtless be popular among all classes except those who fatten upon legal difficulties and disputes. Under any government, however, despotic, the right to settle difficulties by arbitration exists, but according to Mr. Murray and his little clique, it should be denied to the "Mormons."

There is one point in the report for which Mr. Murray deserves some credit. He asserts that the Commission have faithfully performed their duties under the Edmunds law. He put the position rather mildly when he said so, for without desiring to accuse these gentlemen of any intention of wilfully operating beyond their prerogatives against the majority of the people of Utah, we must be allowed to suggest that they certainly strained and stretched the law in that direction for all it was worth. But in vindicating the Commission Mr. Murray has trodden upon the corns of the small clique with which he identified himself here. In fact he has given them a stinging slap in the face, for they repeatedly laid the most villainous accusations at the door of the Commission, having asserted that they had sold out to the "Mormons," a cowardly insult without a shadow of foundation.

The culmination of the report lies in its conclusion. It is the drift and gist of the whole matter. He and his clique are not satisfied with anything ordinary, but make extraordinary demands. Mr. Murray is like the tramp who appealed to the master of a house for complete relief, but did it in a singular fashion. "Mister," said he, "will you give me a drink of water, for I'm so hungry I don't know where to sleep to-night." So in asking for the tearing out of the hands of the people the entire power of local government, the establishment of a despotism or autocracy by the appointment of a legislative commission, and the obliteration of every vestige of popular sovereignty in Utah, Mr. Murray asks for meat, drink and lodgings, at one breath, for himself and a host of political birds of prey.

ITS POWER AND EFFECTS.

WE present to-day a racy communication from a Chicago correspondent. The allusions to the proceedings of the Rock River Conference are particularly appropriate, and show the strong proclivity of the "Unco Gude" to sniff the effluvia of immorality from afar, while their olfactories are unmoved by pestiferous odors of their immediate surroundings.

The statement of Mrs. Rust, that "Mormonism" holds the balance of power in the Territories," is worth consideration. Being a religious lady and speaking in a religious body it is presumable that she spoke in a strictly religious sense. In that particular she was correct. The reason for this is, that it is accompanied by the elements of religious power—the Spirit of Truth, which is obtained according to promise by those who obey its precepts.

One of the effects produced by "Mormonism," which is in reality the fulness of the everlasting Gospel, upon many previously religious

people who obtain an understanding of but do not obey its doctrines, is that they are spoiled for adopting any other. As a rule, unless they are connected with some religious body in a business capacity, as one of its exponents for instance, they generally forego all such direct association. They lose heart and interest in it. What is correct in part in relation to people who become informed in relation to "Mormonism" without any direct connection with it is wholly so regarding persons who once become identified with the Church and afterwards, for any season, out loose from it. They are done with religion of every shape when they separate themselves from that.

Another evidence of the power of "Mormonism" is shown in the fact that other religious bodies are gradually, and without acknowledgment, conforming to many of its doctrines. Principles that were advanced by Joseph Smith, that have been preached from the early rise of the Church until now, and which were at first repudiated by the sectarian churches, are gradually being conformed to and advocated by the leading lights of the religious world. The heaven is slowly working, and in course of time the whole lump will be leavened.

These effects are produced by the germ of religious power which exists in the system, being the influence of truth in letter and spirit, and is a plea in favor of all intelligent people giving it a thorough and fair investigation instead of inconsiderately repudiating it as a fallacy. There is so much that is true, beautiful and forcible in it that people once getting an understanding of it, no matter whether they embrace it or not, nor whether they accept of and then renounce it, are not attracted by any other form or doctrine of religion. It is the religious power existing in "Mormonism," that other religious bodies complain of, because of their being so potentially discounted by comparison.

Mrs. Denton's statement about many of the poor in her native State, South Carolina, being so low in the scale of being, their situation being evinced by a diet of tobacco, whisky and clay, is almost startling in its character. Unwittingly in stating that many of the mountain communities of that State were without schools or churches, and that the only religious teaching they received was from "Mormon" agents, she administered a smart blow upon the cheek of sectarianism. It was a special, though perhaps unintentional fling at the hiring priests who seek green pastures, where they can feed fat in the midst of flourishing flocks, while their unfortunate brethren in the mountains of the South are perishing for the bread of life. It was also a sad commentary on the sense of organizations who collect and spread immense sums of money to send the gospel to the heathen abroad, when they have a field so prolific at their doors.

While the hiring received from Mrs. Denton a vigorous thrust the indefatigable "Mormon" Elder, whose energy would, if his mission were not so unpopular, be esteemed by the world as heroic, received a deservedly high compliment. Endowed with the highest sense of duty, with a courage that knows no fear and a faith in God that is never shaken, he presses on in his search for those who will receive the message he bears. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who bringeth glad tidings." He goes among high and low, rich and poor, knowing and recognizing no distinction, accomplishing the object of his mission. He gathers in the honest in heart wherever he can find them. Mrs. Denton has seen the picture presented in the South. Should she desire to gaze upon its opposite, let her pay a visit to the settlements of the Saints in San Luis Valley, Colorado, where a considerable body of Southern people are located. She will find there a thrifty, sober, honest community, where the consumption of tobacco and whiskey has practically no existence, where the use of stimulants even in the form of tea and coffee is largely laid aside, and where the clay-eater is an unknown factor. After looking upon the Southern picture and then upon this, let it not be forgotten that a tree is known by its fruits. Effects so elevating, progressive and beneficial must spring from a pure source. They proclaim that "Mormonism"

is on the lead as a factor in genuine reformation.

THE DAVIS COUNTY CASE.

ON Wednesday last we alluded to a report of a very painful character regarding Mr. William Reeves, ex-collector of Davis County, which was to the effect that there was a deficit in his accounts amounting to \$3,000, and that he had disappeared. Owing to the high estimation in which Mr. Reeves was held the report appeared to be almost incredible, or at least it was hoped the apparently black aspect would be modified by unexplained circumstances.

On inquiry we learn from reliable sources that he was much too lenient with delinquent tax-payers, numbers of whom failed to settle. He also got his collector's accounts mixed up with his ordinary business from not being an expert accountant. Almost immediately after his resignation, tendered inside of the present year, he lost a coal agency he held, and the Centreville post-office, which cut off his business sources of revenue and the prospect of ability to settle. He became despondent and gloomy, and felt as if he could not bear up under the load of difficulty that accumulated upon his shoulders. Being urged by the auditor for a settlement he evidently felt as if he could not face the situation and left.

A friend of his received information concerning him to the effect that he landed in New York entirely without funds. He made the acquaintance of the captain of a ship to whom he related his circumstances, and the sailor proffered him a passage across the Atlantic, which he accepted.

The bondsmen are not pursuing Mrs. Reeves through the courts for the property held in her name, to secure themselves. They are relieved from the necessity of doing that as the lady has announced her purpose of releasing everything to them, and it is believed that this will be ample to insure them against loss. This being the case the deficit has no longer any practical existence.

We have given the above as a plain, unvarnished statement of the case in point, while our sentiments, formerly expressed in relation to official integrity remain unchanged and unalterable.

THE FLOURING INDUSTRY.

YESTERDAY we published a description of Armstrong & Co's new flour mill, at the eastern extremity of North Temple street. Its projectors, Mr. Francis Armstrong, and those associated with him are entitled to credit for having established so excellent an enterprise. It is not only thorough and complete in the ordinary sense of the term, but the establishment is, so far as we know, as perfect as any other in the world, the process being the very latest and most approved. This being the case so far as the flouring industry is concerned, in the matter of quality Utah leads most other places and is on a level with the best.

It may not be safe to predict with unreserved certainty what the effects of the erection of such mills will be, but we may be allowed to indulge in very strong anticipations. There is a growing demand here for the most perfect grade of flour produced, and this has been met by more or less heavy shipments from outside sources. The production in Utah of the highest grade known to the milling industry ought to effectually and for ever shut out all importation of that character. This will be so much outlay saved to the Territory.

Flouring mills of the highest class located in the centre of a vast wheat-producing region have a decided advantage in the more contiguous markets over those situated at greater distances. So we expect that Utah will soon seize upon all the markets of this vast Rocky Mountain region as the source of supply for the staff of life. If the railroads will act favorably and magnanimously, there appears to be nothing in the way of this being accomplished. This will give a fair outlet for wheat, which has, for several years, been almost a drug, on the market. To ship it away to distant places in its original form

has not proved profitable, the avenues of export for it some time been all but closed. It can be taken out to much advantage in the handler form, and we expect that the advent of the milling industry, by the establishing of Armstrong & Co. in this city, and Mayor Ogden—the latter also having described in our columns, beneficially felt to some extent at least by the agricultural community.

THE CORRECT VIEW.

It must be pleasing to the relatives and friends of Edward Hunter, to observe a tribute paid to his character pure minded, honest, man. The eulogiums pronounced upon him have not been confined to those who held the same views. Differences of every kind were unanimously laid aside, and the people, without exception, dependent of the varied opinions, united in paying a mortal moulded in the cast of mind. Sectarianism was, for the occasion, thrown to the outer darkness of ignorance and the generous impulse of humanity brought into conspicuousness.

This exhibition of creditable to those who testified it, indicating that were not narrowed to the limits of party interests and would be a good thing for generally if there was breadth of such generalments. In this instance, was lost sight of excepting the dear of the character of the on whom so many well comments were bestowed.

We felt as if kindly could be regarding the esteemed though much has been more could be in same strain of comments were needed. We have given expression to our sentiments, but heartily and endorse all the good things emanated from others regarding probity and nobility of man, his guileless disposition to unusually keen perception.

The passing tribute memory of Bishop Hunter many different quarters of an unconscious tinge of the system with which lied during the half of time. But few men have opportunities for becoming with the nature and what is termed "Mormonism," besides being intimately associated with Joseph Smith, ment by whom it was founded. No one of sincerity of Bishop Hunter identifying himself with the lity of Saints and adherents most tenacious faithful doctrines taught by him. To take any other at the veteran of the entertained and expressed. One of his chief the unflinching which he stood convictions. This is a strong base upon which individuality stood in our grandeur, clad in the of native simplicity. The connection of such an any organization or system, the result of personal could not be entertained ment. Neither could ed to a liability to Bishop Hunter was perceptions leading to conclusions of fact in epicurean in his company universally acknowledged. His fidelity to "Mormonism" certainly have been something in the nature of its effects in the the exceptionally upright of his mind. Had the union been absent between the system and the have been inevitable.

A STAND ON TEMPERANCE.

THE bursting out in full technical and intellectual the Federal Judges in sources of intemperance and heretofore sober