

"taxation is the tyrant's rod," then in that realm let the cries be heard of Judah's afflicted sons and daughters.

His amendment to my quotation from Mr. Black would read, [no doubt, very nice to him. Let us see—"The most important—[instead of the most terrible] power ever given to any nation is that of taxation." But I am not disposed to surrender one letter of the quotation. If it is terrible to be robbed by a mob, it is equally terrible to be robbed by an oppressive and unjust law.

Next comes my three "supposed cases"—the business block, the aged party's five acre lot, and the aged lady's five acres of ground. In all these supposed cases there would appear to be a remedy, says "Justice and Law," and this is the remedy: "Unless they are able and willing to pay the taxes, let them sell out and some other persons pay the taxes." Here the gentleman sustains my assertions and puts himself on record as one who would force the poor, the aged and the infirm from their homes, possessed ever since the white man set foot within these valleys. Here his "Law" swallows up his "Justice," while justices should stand clothed in a robe covering all law. As to the three "supposed cases" let me here correct my friend. There is no supposition in the matter—three facts given by way of illustration of the inconsistency of the present system.

"Justice and Law" would have me appear as opposed to taxation in its entirety. Not so. If income is the law, let it be income only on property bringing income, but never more than 10 per cent, and taxation on all surplus property, excepting the homes of the class of poor alluded to. He says the income of the aged lady's ground is not stated. Here it is, the same as the aged party's 5-acre lot—sixty dollars, or one-third of the crop; the same in either case. If income was the law, the widow's mite would not all be swallowed up by taxation.

Finally, "Justice and Law" does not like my belief in the "great law book" referred to, and cautions me not to carry my reverence for that book so far as to lead me to believe in a higher law governing the people in the United States than the Constitution and laws sustained by the Supreme Court, from which there is no appeal, not even to that "Supreme Court of all Courts." Now, because the gentleman does not believe in any "hereafter" I am not disposed to force my belief upon him—nor do I feel like being badly scared out of my own convictions.

In short, and in accord with your correspondent "Novus Homo," purge all legislative bodies of all selfish, partisan, wealth-bought legislators! in the language of one greater than I: "Hurl the miserable sycophants from their exaltations as God did Nebuchadnezzar!" Hunt up wise men; men clothed upon with the spirit of justice, God-fearing men, if I may use the term, even if we have to go to the plow, the anvil, and the bench to find them.

I am done, and leave the question in the hands of the readers of the NEWS, also "Justice and Law."

Yours truly, again,
JUSTICE TO THE LINE.
SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 22, 1894.

UINTAH STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of Uintah Stake was held February 4th and 5th, and was one of the most largely attended conferences ever held here. We did not expect visitors from the outside, which by the way, we have not had—at least so far as Apostles are concerned—for two or three years. We would rejoice greatly at a visit from them. The reports of the Bishops and the officers of the various organizations of the Stake were of a very pleasing character, as showing a decided improvement in the spiritual condition of the people. The addresses of the speakers were spirited and impressive, and everyone rejoiced at the good spirit made manifest.

A Sunday school union meeting was held on Sunday evening which was largely attended. One of the pleasing features of the conference was the singing, which was rendered by the ward choirs of Vernal (formerly Ashley ward) Mill Merrill's and Gline's ward, separately, and not as heretofore, as one choir. We think the change a decidedly good one, it having a tendency to develop more of the musical talent of the Stake than heretofore. Monday night, the 5th, the Vernal choir under the leadership of Brother Beuler, recently of your city, gave a very creditable concert, which was greatly enjoyed by all present. Card parties and mask balls are gaining much favor among many who profess to be Latter-day Saints. In the conference President Collett took occasion to refer to them as pleasures that are prohibited by the counsels of the Church.

While the present health of the people is quite good many are still feeling the lingering effects of la grippe, which is constant in its attendance on the people. I have not heard of any one carrying in their thermometers to keep them from freezing, but I did hear that one man's thermometer was frozen upon recently very cold morning. I did not verify the report by going to see, but was willing to believe it true, as the morning in question was in my experience the coldest of the season. The snow at this date is the deepest since the settlement of the valley, 15 years ago, being 16 inches on the level near Vernal. It is claimed, however, by men working on the mountains, that the snow is not so deep but they can drive anywhere through the timber with their teams. Many of our district schools will have to close within a few weeks or run by private tuition. As our schools are all full or nearly so, and the teachers quite energetic, we all feel bad about it. What is the matter?

Respectfully,
C. C. BARTLET.

FROM RIVERDALE.

RIVERSIDE, Bingham Co., Idaho,
February 17th, 1894.

After leaving the railroad town of Blackfoot and traveling about a mile west we come to a good bridge 290 feet long which spans the fine stream of Snake river, and four miles further on down on the north side of the river is situated the settlement of Riverside, where some of the Saints are locating. Scattered here and there

over the level country may be seen good houses, fine barns, and windmills, owned by California ranchmen who own on an average probably 800 acres of land each. I am told a number of these men want to sell out. The soil is of a fertile sandy loam (wouldn't this suit the sugar beet?) Wells of good water can be obtained, the young orchards planted out are doing well, hives of bees have done well for several years. Our Bishop's name is Chas. Liljenquist. It is the calculation to lay out a town-site in the spring. The winter so far has been an exceptionally fine one, there is only three inches of snow on the level and that came on the 30th of Jan. On the 29th the ground was bare and some of the farmers were grubbing sage. For the last two weeks it has been cold and frosty and pretty good sleighing.

Lucky is the sheep man who has his sheep near here this winter, as they are doing first rate on the range. There is good feed and plenty of room, but the sheep men generally buy hay enough in the fall to feed their sheep three months, and if they don't need it they can either sell it in the spring or hold it over. Hay has been selling all winter for \$3 per ton. It seems strange to read of so much snow and such cold weather three or four hundred miles south of us and we invite the people to come up to a "more congenial climate," we have plenty of room, it is cheaper to buy a farm than to make one. I think it a good plan for two to unite and buy a claim of 180 acres and have 80 each, as it is easier to furnish \$400 than it is \$800, and part of that in trade. We have miles of red cedar on the lava beds north of us. I think you have had some reports this winter from near here that are "slightly inaccurate." The statements I have made here I am prepared to prove. I don't claim that this place has no disadvantages, but in my opinion it is as good a place to make homes in as I know of.

Respectfully,
PHILIP PACKETT.

EMERY NOTES.

SPRING GLENN, Emery County,
February 21, 1894.

We have had two cases of diphtheria in this place, one a young man of about 23 years of age, Wm. Ewell. Brother C. H. Cook went and examined his throat and then took down with the same disease, he being some 50 years of age. Both are getting better now. We had to stop the school.

We are bringing our canal near completion, and we expect to get water on our land and townsite this spring, then we look for better times in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

WILLIAM MILLER.

Evanston, (Wyo.) News-Register: Commercial drummers state that Wyoming people know nothing whatever of the hard times. They say there is no comparison at all between Wyoming and Nebraska and the States further east. Their trade has fallen off here of course as all over the country, but there are no signs of poverty, distress and suffering so plainly to be seen to the east of Cheyenne.