

EDITORIALS.

THE MORMON PROBLEM.

THE aims and intents of the pitiful schemers who have been legging and lobbying for special Congressional legislation against Utah, seem to be pretty well understood at Washington. We clip the following, published under the above heading in the Washington *Herald* of the 31st ult:

"We are unable to get up any sympathy with the 'Gentile' delegation from Utah, which has come to Washington to urge that Governor Emery be removed and a more virulent anti-Mormon put in his place. The Mormons have now occupied Utah for more than thirty years. Over a generation ago, in 1847, before the gold discoveries had started the overland rush of emigration toward the Golden Gate, Brigham Young founded the city of Salt Lake. He had chosen for his seat an abode thousands of miles from any other civilized settlement, and still further separated from adverse institutions by vast desert wastes and ranges of mountains. That the march of events has brought a hostile population to their doors is no fault of the Mormons, and the problem arising from the settlement of Gentiles in Utah is one to be solved by practical statesmanship, and not by passion and prejudice. The Mormons in their remote and once isolated home have been frugal and industrious, and, in consequence, they are now rich. They present the rare spectacle of cities and counties absolutely free from debt. The Gentile adventurers among them see a rich placer to be worked, if those who own the property could only be disfranchised; and that is the key to the whole agitation. These enterprising Gentile politicians belong to a class more numerous on the frontier than in the East; they are utterly reckless of the rights of others and as to the means of attaining their ends, and they seek the aid of the General Government to subvert the Mormon majority absolutely to their rule. They can then, by the machinery of taxation, the incurring of debt, and a corrupt expenditure of the public money, plunder the Territory at will. It will be wise for Congress and the Executive to look with suspicion upon suggestions from this source. The Mormons have the same right to self-government that other Americans have. What the Gentiles of Utah seek is to set up carpet-bag government there."

MENDACIOUS AND MERCENARY.

THE Rocky Mountain *Christian Advocate* for April, has the following:

"The Mormon Church in theory and practice is opposed to education, and the Christian churches must give their best energies and their liberal contributions of money to its advancement."

It is pitiful that the representatives of a powerful religious denomination like the Methodist Church, cannot pursue the business of their calling without resorting to wilful falsehood for the pious purpose of getting money. The writer of the above extract knew that he was stating the exact reverse of the truth when he penned it. The theory of the "Mormon" church can be learned from its published works of authority; its practice is seen in the number of schools and the school population in the Territory, and the steady attention to the instruction of the children, devoted even in the darkest periods of the persecutions of the Church. The day schools and Sunday schools, under "Mormon" direction and influence, extending to every part of the Territory, have been steadily improving for many years, and are far ahead in every respect of similar institutions in the surrounding Territories.

In regard to the theory of the "Mormon" church we make the following quotations from the book of Doctrine and Covenants: In a revelation June 1831, W. P. Phelps is thus instructed of the Lord:

"And again you shall be ordained

to assist my servant Oliver Cowdery to do the work of printing and of selecting and writing books for schools in this church, that little children also may receive instruction before me, as is pleasing unto me." New edition p. 195.

"Seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning by study, and also by faith." p. 290.

On page 286 the Elders are instructed to acquire knowledge:

"Of things both in heaven and in the earth; things which have been, things which are, things which must shortly come to pass; things which are at home, things which are abroad; the wars and perplexities of the nations; and the judgments which are on the land, and a knowledge also of countries and of kingdoms." p. 286.

"And study and learn and become acquainted with all good books and with languages, tongues and people." p. 296.

"And to obtain a knowledge of history, and of countries and of kingdoms, of laws of God and of man." p. 303.

"The glory of God is intelligence." p. 302.

So much for the theory of the Church. Its practice is seen marked on the road of its travel from Ohio to Missouri, from thence to Illinois and on to the vales of the Rocky Mountains, schools being established in every halting place, and the printing press being set up wherever the Church rested for a season. In every settlement in this Territory the first public building has invariably been a school-house, and education has been urged by the leaders, and extended by the people as fast as means and opportunity permitted. The reports of the Superintendent of District Schools, and of the Sabbath School Union, recently published, show a most gratifying condition of school affairs in the Territory, and offer a complete refutation of the malicious and mercenary untruths told by the *Christian Advocate*. We would refer its editor to the ninth commandment, but for the belief that it would be entirely thrown away upon him while there was a prospect of collecting a dollar as the fruit of his falsehood. Is he not a very Christian (?) opponent of the "Mormons" and *Advocate* of Mammon.

TREATMENT OF THE INDIANS.

GEN. CROOK has been holding councils with the Bannack Indians. It will be remembered that their ponies were taken from them but subsequently returned under the General's orders. An attempt has evidently been made to stir them up to hostility, for the purpose of creating an opportunity for their extinction. In the interviews the chiefs showed Gen. Crook that they had in the late wars refused to take part either with the Nez Percés or the Sioux, but their men had acted as scouts for the white soldiers. Yet now they have less than half the rations given to the Sioux, and are not permitted to leave their reservation and hunt buffalo in the Big Horn Mountains. The annexed is clipped from an account of the interview given by the Omaha *Herald*:

"So long as they were permitted to hunt buffalo the question of subsistence did not give them much concern, but now that they are forbidden to leave their reservation they find it difficult to manage with the insufficient rations, as the country in the immediate vicinity of the reservation is filling up with Mormon and other settlements. They repeated that if the Great Father would only furnish seeds and have them taught farming, they would behave themselves as well as anybody, but they must have enough for their women and children to eat until they can raise enough to support themselves.

The number of Snakes and Bannocks in the reservations represented at the council is between 5,000 and 6,000, distributed among three agencies, (1) that at Fort Hall, (2) the Lemhi agency on the river of the same name, a branch of the Columbia, (3) the Camp Brown agency in the Wind River Valley, on the east side of the Rocky Mountains."

The policy pursued towards the

red men is a reproach to the nation and a disgrace to the government. The late Sioux war cost the country \$2,312,530 besides a large number of human lives. The Sioux commission pronounced it useless, expensive, dishonorable to the nation, and disgraceful to those who originated it," and they told in this respect nothing but the truth. They further said: "Our government has expended more money in this war than all the religious bodies of our country have spent in Indian missions since our existence as a nation."

Is it not time that a change of policy was pursued towards the primal owners of the soil, and that their rights should be regarded, treaties with them be observed, and swindling agents be punished or prevented from robbing the Indians of their annuities. The nation will yet learn the truth and wisdom of the late President Brigham Young's motto, "It is cheaper to feed the Indians than to fight them."

MORE QUARTETTE NOTHINGS.

THE Fourth Chapter of the quartette's "revelations" contains little worthy of comment. The testimony of the Probate Judge of Salt Lake County seems to commence in the middle, and is so garbled as to cover up an important point, which is that in purchasing the land for the right of way for the Utah Southern, the portion not actually needed for the road was sold at a profit, and the transaction, altogether, cost the county in the end little or nothing.

It is shown that in borrowing the amount of \$10,000, the sum of \$20,000 in county orders was given as collateral. But the quartette conveniently repress another important fact, that is, that the orders were endorsed "not negotiable," so that there was no danger of any loss to the county by the transaction.

Certain amounts of interest paid are charged up to certain county officials. The quartette fail to explain that those officers received those amounts, not for their own benefit, but to pay to the holders of notes, and that they were charged against those who received them as disbursers for the county.

So far, all that has been brought forth amounts to nothing improper when properly explained. Not a single point has been advanced showing anything corrupt or fraudulent. The report would be unworthy of notice if it had not received a fictitious importance from its recognition by a stupid Judge.

PRIVATEERING.

WITH the prospect of war in Europe comes an opening for that questionable sort of warfare, privateering. There are two kinds of privateering which have been acknowledged by international law: First, by private vessels of the subjects of a belligerent Power. Second, by private vessels of subjects of a neutral Power. In either case letters of marque were issued. These are commissions from a Power at war, authorizing those who receive them to prey upon the commerce of the nation against which it is arrayed. The first kind was admitted for many years as the right of any nation in hostility. The second has been abandoned by the chief governments of Europe, at least in theory, and an agreement to that effect was incorporated in the treaty of Paris after the Crimean war. The United States, however, declined to sign the engagement to surrender the practice of privateering, unless an amendment was inserted in the declaration, exempting from seizure, on the high seas, the private property of the subjects of a belligerent by armed vessels of the other belligerent, except contraband of war. England objected to this provision, so the United States did not sign.

During the war of the rebellion, England, in violation of the spirit and letter of that treaty, permitted her ship yards to fit out privateers for the Confederate service, and at the close of the war was compelled to pay the United States heavy damages in preference to fighting over the dispute.

Unless this nation should form an alliance with either of the belligerents in the expected war, we should have no right to permit privateering by American vessels. The only way it could be done without such an alliance would be to adopt the same dishonorable tactics as England resorted to, as explained above, and for which she had to make ample satisfaction. But if Russia should engage in privateering to any great extent, the effect would be very beneficial upon American commerce, for the dangers that would be incurred by British ocean traffic would drive the trade to vessels under other flags, and the American shipping would come in for the principal part of the business.

However, war is not yet declared. There is still a bare chance of a settlement without resort to arms, and the dove of peace may yet perch on the vessels of England and Russia, and spread its wings over those who go down to the sea in ships. But should the threatened rupture occur, as soon as the Lion and the Bear spring forward to the struggle the ocean will be reddened with the blood of naval warriors, and terror will be spread upon the great deep by the depredations of privateers.

THE FENCE LAW.

THE injustice of the fence law has been presented repeatedly by several of our correspondents, and still needs to be agitated by the people of Utah. The time has come, in the settled portions of the Territory, when the farmer must receive protection against damages from stock, and the expense of preventing such damages or the consequences thereof fall upon the stock raiser who recklessly seeks to shirk the cost, while he pockets the profits of turning out animals to range near cultivated fields. The following which we clip from the *Prairie Farmer*, touches pertinently on this important question:

The fences in the United States are estimated to have cost \$1,200,000,000, or more than half the national debt, and to be worth two-thirds that enormous sum, or \$800,000,000. The yearly expense to keep them in good order and cattle proof, is about \$100,000,000, or \$2.50 to every man, woman and child, white, black and red, in the country. This is the result of the unjust system of fencing every man's stock out, instead of compelling every man who owns stock to keep it fenced in, so it cannot trespass on any of his neighbors'. Every owner of cattle should care for them himself instead of compelling his neighbor, who probably owns none, to do so. This is the law in all European regions, and also in Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska.

STILL THAT REJECTED REPORT.

THE unofficial "report" which Judge Schaeffer was foolish enough to file in his court dawdles along and dwindles as it goes. The latest chapter is a repetition of the report of the grand jury last year in relation to divorces in the Probate Court, and an allusion to further applications before the Court, on which the quartette are unable to say whether any action was taken or not. This is a wonderful piece of non-information, and considering that the law under which abuses in the divorce business has been repealed, is eminently useless. It is supplemented by the recommendation that the County Court House be disposed of for university purposes, and a new one be built on the vacant ground adjoining the City Hall. Ignorance and impertinence are proportionately blended in this statement of nothing, and obtrusion of stupid advice, and Judge Schaeffer, by whose permission the unofficial story is published, must be charmed at the yards of nonsense which, without right, reason or precedent, he has made a part of the records of his court.

Torpedoes are being made at the Woodwich Arsenal, near London, England, which will travel at the speed of 40 miles an hour. Great Britain is availing herself of all the modern "improvements" in the art of human destruction.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Yale College has received a petrified crocodile, forty-six feet in length, which was exhumed near Como station, on the Union Pacific Railroad. The finders are authorized to hunt for more.

Dwyer is always ahead with the magazines. The monthlies and weeklies come to hand through him at the earliest dates. *Harper's Magazine* for May is a splendid number and is now ready at Dwyer's.

A fatal accident, unique of its kind, has occurred at Brighton, England. A little child swallowed a toy squeaking bladder, which, slipping through the glottis with the bladder downward and the mouthpiece upward, was inflated with every inspiration, and thus produced death by suffocation.

Misfortunes never come singly. The other day a man was walking along First South Street with a paper of tacks in his coat tail pocket, a basket of eggs on his arm, and a tall hat on his head. When he sat down the tacks stuck into him and the eggs broke and run over him. When he tried to get up his hat fell off and he sat down on that, and just as he ventured on one little oath his bishop came along and overheard it.

We have received a copy of a new Business Directory of the Pacific States and Territories for 1878. It contains the names and addresses of the principal business men of the chief towns in California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Utah, Montana, Idaho, Arizona and British Columbia, also brief sketches of the towns, with population, etc. It contains 894 pages and over 30,000 names, and the lists are arranged in alphabetical order. Twenty pages are devoted to Utah. It is a work of great utility for business men, and is published by L. M. McKenney, 109 Montgomery Street, San Francisco; price, two dollars.

Brother Daniel Tyler has something to say to the members of the Mormon Battalion in another column. A full account of the incidents attending the unparalleled march of that body of men, and the services they rendered to the country, would be exceedingly interesting and make a very valuable work. We hope Elder Tyler will be assisted in his labors by all who can afford him any information. He can glean many valuable items from a work, recently published, called "The Conquest of New Mexico and California," which devotes considerable space to the travels of the Mormon Battalion. It is written by Gen. P. St. George Cooke, and can be had at James Dwyer's.

Quoting the passage, "And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth beneath," (Acts 2, 19), the *Varden*, a paper published in Skien, Norway, gives an account of which the following is a translation: "From the farm 'Proethold' in Nes, as well as from other places, (but on a smaller scale), were seen, reflected a battle or warfare from 10 a.m. until night on Monday the 4th of March, close to the cliffs towards the south or rather the south-east. One would think that he was seeing troops marching, who, coming in contact, attacked one another, and, with apparently terrific struggles, slew each other. This disappearing, it was reproduced, the phenomenon continuing all day, and a similar wonder has been observed since the day above mentioned."

The story in Roman history that Romulus and Remus, the founders of the great city, were suckled by a wolf is generally ridiculed in this matter-of-fact age. But the following from the *Three Springs*, published in Hart County, Ky., nearly parallels the old Roman legend: "We have here, in Hart County, Ky., a man by the name of William Bowman, who was thrown away in the Apalache Mountains, North Carolina, when an infant, and was found by an old bear and adopted as a cub. At the age of 10 years he was captured, tied hand and foot, and then his captors found out that he could not talk, nor could he be persuaded to take any food but milk, which he sucked from a bottle, showing that he lived solely by the nursing of the bear. Bowman is now a farmer near Omega, and any one doubting the truth of his statement can have it verified by seeing him."