

EDITORIALS.

A BETTER SYSTEM REQUIRED.

WHEN the late President Brigham Young pointed out the defects of the present public school system, and its tendency to make boys and girls think labor beneath them, a terrible outcry was raised, and his remarks were interpreted as "hostility to education." He advocated instruction in those branches of industry which would fit pupils for the battle of life and make them useful to society, and would have trades taught in connection with ordinary "book learning." For this he was greatly ridiculed and traduced, and pious preachers of various sects have taken great pains to inform the public that Brigham Young and the Mormon leaders were "foes to education."

The statement was false and those who uttered it knew well that they were misstating the facts. For "Mormonism," so-called, inculcates the necessity of acquiring knowledge, proclaims intelligence as "the glory of God," and declares that no one can be saved in ignorance. However, many of its principal exponents view the common system of public education as faulty and defective and based upon incorrect notions, and would rather introduce a better way into our incipient State than follow in the beaten track, which bears the imprint of many follies and the proofs of many evil results.

We have noticed lately the declaration of similar sentiments to those of President Young by public men and several able writers. Just now we are attracted by some remarks of the *Bloomington (Illinois) Bulletin* on this subject, for which it has been taken to task by one of its local contemporaries and accused of being an enemy to the public schools. The *Bulletin* responds as follows:

"The *Journal* cannot deny that the teachers in our high schools and the professors in our colleges disparage labor by teaching either directly or indirectly the vicious lesson that all young male Americans should strive to become lawyers, doctors, preachers, merchant princes, or railroad men, with the ultimate object in view of attaining the presidency or at least the gubernatorial office or a seat in Congress. This vicious lesson has a tendency to make Guiteaus, who become swindlers, thieves and murderers because they believe the work of the mechanic or day-laborer to be disgraceful. This vicious lesson also teaches young female Americans that they should be authors, or the wives of millionaires or of presidents or governors or officeholders or professional men, and in this way often make a frivolous or bad woman of a girl who might have become useful to the world as a cook or washerwoman, or dressmaker, or mother of some honest workingman's children."

Our teachers must learn to teach that labor with the hands is as honorable as brain labor—that the blacksmith is as necessary a member of the community as the lawyer—that tailoring is as honorable a calling as doctoring—that boot-making, the sole business, is as honest as preaching, which is a soul business of another kind—that cooking is as little to be deprecated as making a painted ship float upon a painted ocean. * * * If popular education cannot teach respect for labor—then education is a bad thing and our school-rooms will become rogue-manufactories.

We cordially agree with the *Bulletin* in these sentiments, and will add, that unless morality and a belief in the Supreme Being, with the consequent doctrine of human accountability for individual acts, and of divine judgment with adequate rewards and punishments, are also taught in connection with secular learning, the public school system will prove worse than a failure, society will become more and more corrupt, and decay will overtake the greatest Republic the world has ever seen.

This is a subject worthy of the profoundest thought of our best minds. The Latter-day Saints must establish and support a system of education of their own, which shall include physical, industrial, moral and spiritual training with the intellectual instruction which goes by the name of education, or our children will not be fitted and prepared for the mighty work which will very soon be rolled upon their shoulders.

A FAR-FETCHED ASSUMPTION.

WE have refrained from noticing the report of the death of the confessed villain and murderer Klingensmith, and the absurd comments made by the press as to "Mormon" responsibility for his sudden taking off. But the reports concerning the affair are so widespread that we take the opportunity of referring to them that it may not be stated truthfully that we dare not say anything about it.

Klingensmith, it will be remembered was an apostate who figured in the trial of John D. Lee, and by his own confession was as bad as the man whose life paid the forfeit for his terrible crime, after being convicted by a "Mormon" jury. Klingensmith's testimony was utterly unreliable, because he told so many different stories, made so many false pretenses and was evidently so bad a man that his oath was not worth any more than his reckless, unsworn word. After the trial he pretended that he was afraid of the "Mormons," but proved by his actions that his claim was nothing but vain pretence, and that he not only had no cause for such an expression but that he did not believe it himself. If the "Mormon" had desired to injure him they had ample opportunity to do so both before and after the trial at which he was a witness.

It is now claimed that he is dead, and that in some unexplained manner the "Mormons" killed him. As a specimen paragraph we take this from the *Philadelphia News*.

"There is no reasonable doubt that the Mormon authorities inspired the murder. Of course, this will not be proven, and even the murderers will with difficulty be caught and convicted. And yet all are morally sure as to the real responsibility. This evil of Mormonism, murderous and corrupt as it is, must be dealt with. It is a fearful reproach to the country. It violates our laws. Its polygamy is a crime. Yet it artfully extends its political influence, and grows unchecked. Sooner or later rigid measures must be taken. It must be rooted out. Its crimes afford an ample reason for direct and repressive laws. The sooner they are enacted, the better. In the meantime such laws as we have are being rigidly enforced. They are sufficient, if vigorously pressed, to stop the growth, and seriously cripple the influence of the Mormon church."

Is not this a splendid sample of newspaper reasoning and consistency? Klingensmith, it is said, was found dead in Sonora, Mexico. It is not clearly established that the body found was that of Klingensmith. He was such an arrant liar that he may have started the story himself. But supposing he is dead and was killed, where is the connection between his decease in Mexico and the "Mormons" in Utah? There is none, except in the vivid imagination of some anti-"Mormon," who has started the absurd hypothesis, and it is seized at once by shallow writers ready to "pitch into the 'Mormons,'" on the shortest notice. There is about as much connection between Utah and Sonora as there is between Philadelphia and Peru. And then the "Mormons" are not a killing people. If they were given to deeds of blood, as falsely reported, there are infamous scoundrels right close to home who would be made to bite the dust. The fact that they are unhung is proof that the "Mormons" are entirely undeserving of the reputation for violence so lavishly manufactured for them.

Without any reason for saying so, without a single item of evidence for the assertion, the *Philadelphia News* states the "Mormon" authorities inspired the murder, and then goes on to argue on the ground of its unsupported supposition, that "Mormonism" must be "rooted out." Because it is supposed that a man has been killed by some "Mormon" or "Mormons" therefore the "Mormon" Church must be "crippled" and "direct and repressive laws" must be enacted and "vigorously pressed" so that the system may be "dealt with." Logic with a vengeance! Evidence most conclusive! Conclusion most profound. Really it appears that the statement made recently by a distinguished American that half the people he meets are insane has some truth in it, and it is very evident that among the lunatic half are those editors who make an attempt to air their hallucinations on the subject of "Mormonism."

CRITICAL CONDITION OF THE PRESIDENT.

TO-DAY'S dispatches from the Executive Mansion at Washington, concerning the condition of President Garfield are of such a character as almost to exclude hope of his recovery. There has been, for the past twenty-four hours, the most intense excitement in Washington, and the eminently critical situation of the President has not warranted the issuance of bulletins calculated to allay this feeling. The White House and the grounds have been literally besieged with reporters and others seeking the latest reliable information as to the condition of the Chief Magistrate, and every one seen emerging from the White House has been closely questioned, and even the intelligence of his slightest symptoms is eagerly sought after. Of course, rumors of all kinds are rife; but the fact that Attorney-General MacVeagh has abandoned all hope is very significant. The Doctors are very reticent and avoid interviewing as much as possible, but all admit that the case, to say the least, is very serious, more so than at any time since the President was shot. The latest authentic dispatches inform us that the President's pulse is still high, but that his temperature has fallen below the normal, which latter fact is conceded by the attending surgeons to be a dangerous symptom.

"A STRANGE FATALITY."

THE *Providence Star* quotes from the *Paris Gaulois* some paragraphs, showing the ignorance of French journalists of American politics and general affairs. The *Star* says:

"There is some strange fatality about foreign journalists the moment they attempt to dilate upon American politics. Some of their assertions are as amusing as they are ridiculous. * * * When editors of European newspapers are so ignorant of ordinary American affairs, what ought we to expect of the great majority of their readers?"

We will back the editors of Eastern newspapers against any Frenchman for writing boldly on a subject which they are entirely uninformed. Everything that can be said about Parisian folly in dilating upon American institutions, is equally applicable to editors in the United States when they touch upon "Mormonism." And there is some excuse for the French writers. They speak another language and live in another country. But these home journalists are not thus situated. They could learn the facts if they chose to put themselves to a little exertion. But they do not seek for correct information. They adopt the views and repeat the statements of violent and prejudiced anti-"Mormons" and, as might rationally be expected, they assist in spreading error manufactured in malice and designed to deceive.

It is funny in the extreme to read the comments of American journalists upon "Mormon" peculiarities which have no existence, the arguments which they raise against "Mormon" doctrines which the "Mormons" do not believe any more than the writers do themselves, and the rash remedies which they suggest to the Government for evils that are only imaginary.

American editors should post themselves on our creed, doings, objects and condition before they attempt to explain or "expose" them to others, and hold their peace on the "Mormon" question until they knew something about it, before making fun of the excusable mistakes of foreigners. To paraphrase the words of the *Star*, when American editors are so ludicrously ignorant of "Mormon" affairs, about which they write so frequently, "what can we expect of the great majority of their readers?"

A SUGGESTIVE INCIDENT.

NEW YORK papers tell suggestive stories of the condition of the commercial metropolis of this great country, in their reports of daily occurrences. For instance, the *Express* speaks of a robbery which was committed in open daylight on the 10th inst., in a part of the city popularly known as "Hell's Kitchen," and in which very horrible broth appears to be brewed. As a muscular laborer was on his way

home, he was passing "Hell's Kitchen," when a woman suddenly confronted him and demanded his money or his life. He declined parting with either, whereupon the woman blew a whistle, and three other footpads appearing in answer to her call, the man was set upon, and two of the thieves pinioned his arms while the others rifled his pockets.

It appears that the police are thoroughly familiar with the character of the savory quarters with the suggestive title, but these deeds of violence are not prevented. New York is a "Christian" city, and better things might be expected of it than the terrible crimes and offences which are reported in the daily papers. And we really think that instead of its preachers and editors concerning themselves about the "Mormons," who, if let alone can manage their local affairs so that peace and good order will prevail and crime be suppressed or kept in check, those educators of the public would do well to employ their talents in correcting the evils of their own society, and protecting peaceable people against the encroachments of the violent and vicious classes.

If one case like that described above was to occur in Utah, or if in any "Mormon" town there was a locality devoted to lawlessness, the whole nation would resound with a demand for the "rooting out of the evil," and it would be set down at once as the effects of "Mormonism." Let Gotham cleanse the inside of its own filthy platter before it troubles itself further over Utah's plate, which is untarnished except in the vain imaginations of the self-righteous.

Sweep out and fumigate your "hell's kitchens" and cellars, your hell's parlors, saloons, chambers and palaces where vice riots clad in velvet and silk, scented, painted and glittering with jewels and gold! Let other "Christian" cities join in the work of renovation, and none of you will have any time to waste in hunting for moles in the eyes of "Mormon" society.

A BURSTED BUBBLE.

THE Brannan colonization scheme, particulars of which were published some time ago in the *DESERET NEWS*, seems to have entirely flattened out. The grant of the Mexican Government to Brannan has lapsed and possession cannot be legally enforced. In addition to this obstacle the Yaqui Indians who occupy most of the land are warlike, though industrious, and refuse to vacate. It is said that the reason the grant was made to Brannan was more with the desire that the country would be settled by Americans who would overcome the Indians, than from any feeling of gratitude to Brannan for services rendered the Republic.

It is now stated that the Mexican Government, having been officially informed by the Governor of Sonora that the surveys and subdivisions which were one of the conditions of the grant, had not been complied with, and the grant having thus lapsed, it could not be enforced. Therefore the Mexican President has formally abrogated the contract and the whole colonization scheme is at an end. Sam will have to turn his wits in another direction.

SUCCESS WITH THE SILK WORM.

OUR friends in Utah who are engaged to any extent in sericulture will be interested in the experience of a young lady, only fourteen years of age, who last year received the diploma of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society for her success in this business. Her name is Nellie Bossiter and she resides in Philadelphia. She thus describes her mode of procedure:

"When I first started I had about 300 worms, which I procured through a friend of my father's; in a few days I shall probably possess 100,000. I have made \$300 this year, and I hope to treble that sum in the next twelve months. It requires careful watching to keep the worms in good health. They require constant feeding, and somehow they always need attention at 4 o'clock in the morning. They only eat mulberry or Osage orange leaves. I have a permit to pick those leaves in the Park. When I cannot procure a sufficient

amount of foliage to feed all the worms I expect to be hatched, I freeze as many thousand eggs as I cannot provide for at the time. Eggs thus frozen will live for over two months, and on being restored to a heated room readily hatch. On the other hand, the worms die unless always in a temperature of 70 to 75 degrees. This morning I sold 10,800 eggs, fixed on a card like this (showing a card covered with little globules the size of pinheads), for \$1.75. Had I kept them for another fortnight I could have sold the little worms for 75 cents a hundred, but then I have thousands and thousands of eggs. I have offered and have received permission to give instructions in silk culture at one or two orphan asylums in the city, and President Garfield, General Grant and ex-Vice President Wheeler are subscribers to the little book I have published on Silk and the Silk-worm, in which I give all necessary information."

A FANATICAL PROPOSITION.

THE activity of Mormon missionaries in Northern Georgia has become the subject of a bill in the Legislature of that State. The bill provides that any person who shall, in public or private assembly, counsel or advise another to commit the crime of polygamy or bigamy shall be deemed guilty of a felony and be punished accordingly. There is to be a debate on the question. There is always some member in a legislature who thinks constitutional liberty is in danger, and needs propping up with an elaborate and "powerful speech."

The above is from the *Louisville Post*. It is not surprising that a State stained with the blood of innocence, spilt by murderous hands which have been held guiltless of crime, should be given over to folly and left to proceed on the way to destruction. The standing murder is a standing reproach to Georgia, and the stain upon its soil marks it for a righteous retribution; which, in all probability, will come by its own unwisdom.

The bill in question has been introduced for the purpose of preventing the preaching of the gospel by our Elders in Georgia. It is designed as a trap. If it should become a law it will have no more legal effect upon our missionaries than the "statutes of William and Mary." "Mormon" preachers are not sent to Georgia, or any other place, to advise people to commit bigamy or practice polygamy. They go on missions to proclaim the gospel; to call sinners to repentance; to warn the world of impending judgments; to bear testimony of the re-establishment of Christ's Church upon the earth; to administer the ordinances of salvation; and to prepare the way for the coming of our Lord.

Although under the Constitution of the United States and the ruling of the Supreme Court, they have a perfect right to preach polygamy in any part of the Union, this is not their calling. If any one wishes to learn the views of the Latter-day Saints on marriage, they are ready to explain. But they are not required to advise any one to enter into that system, or to break any law of God or man, of a sovereign State or of the United States. If they say nothing about plural marriage, in their ministry, their opponents accuse them of keeping it secret for sinister motives; if they openly proclaim it, they are accused of trying to gain recruits to re-inforce the ranks of polygamy; they will therefore be blamed which ever course they take. So they might as well attend quietly to their legitimate business, regardless of blame or praise.

But Georgia may take the proposed step towards the abolition of that liberty of speech which is one of the glories of our country, and yet, in a just court and with an impartial jury, find no means of condemning our missionaries. Because such advice or counsel as is contemplated in the bill, will not be offered by any "Mormon" Elder in Georgia, who has common sense and the spirit of his calling. But arguments drawn forth by leading questions may be construed against them by anti-"Mormon" tribunals, and some trouble be caused if the bill should become a law.

Yet the authorities of Georgia may be sure of one thing. Whatever they do will not stop the preaching of the gospel of the kingdom, nor its reception by the honest and truth-loving in that State. If "the