

The foregoing plainly proves that our correspondent is correct regarding Mr. Pierre's aversion to facts when the opposite better serves his purpose. He speaks of the payment of tithes by the Latter-day Saints to the Bishops as if it were a crime for a religionist to contribute a portion of his substance for religious purposes, such as the support of the poor, the erection of Church buildings, and other charitable and religious objects, these being among the leading uses to which the funds contributed through the ecclesiastical officers are put. Had Mr. Pierre lived in the days of Abraham, he doubtless would have reflected on the conduct of the "Father of the faithful" because he paid tithes to Melchisedec, the great High Priest.

One financial phase common with other bodies is not found among the "Mormon" people—selling church pews at auction to the highest bidder and passing round the contribution box.

The speaker stated that "Mormonism" was not quite as popular in Utah as formerly. It has never been popular with men of his class, but it has not been regarded with greater reverence by its genuine adherents than at the present time, this sentiment of esteem for it being increased by the opposition which it encounters from the opponents of truth, to which class Elder Pierre evidently belongs. The dropping away of a few weak-kneed members of the Church is no detriment but rather a benefit to the organization, having a purifying effect. The statement to the effect that few people outside of Salt Lake now belong to the Church is most extraordinary, as the bulk of non-"Mormons" reside in this city and Ogden. There are many counties in Utah, where the people are almost entirely members of the Church. This falsehood on the part of Mr. Pierre seemed to be necessary in order to exaggerate the labors of the refined young ladies to whom he had reference. He states correctly, however, that the only hope, slender as it may be, of the alleged reformers lies in the children, people of mature age having too much judgment and experience to be induced to repudiate something substantial and valuable for a comparative chimera.

The alleged absence of educational facilities in this Territory is utterly untrue, there being a common school system embracing the whole of Utah, besides a University and numerous parochial education-

al institutions. The statement about parents being opposed to the education of their children is a base and inexcusable slander, the direct opposite being the case. Any person who cares to ascertain the educational status of the people of Utah, who are overwhelmingly "Mormon," can do so by referring to statistics on the subject. This Territory is in advance of all the other Territories, and a majority of the States in the matter of education.

The speaker made reference to Teachers visiting the people on every block. His intention was evidently to convey the idea that these religious teachers were the only ones who instructed the people. True, their duty is to see that no wickedness or ill feeling exists in the church, and to instruct its members in their duties, because they are not teachers of ordinary secular education, being purely ecclesiastical officers, who have no connection with the school system.

The "Mormons"—who are the pioneers and settlers of this Rocky Mountain region—in their labor of redeeming the wilderness, have, in founding nearly every town, made it one of the first objects to erect a schoolhouse, thus showing a remarkable disposition, under trying circumstances, to give education the first place in the development of their civilization.

Our correspondent placed a proper estimate upon the usucarpulous Pierre.

MONEY AND WATER.

It is presumable that the question of the sale of the water and waterworks system by the City Council to a private corporation is virtually settled. Two potent arguments on the no-sale side of the proposition were offered at a session of the Council held June 10. One was the monster petition, which was in two sections, the number of signatures attached aggregating seven thousand.

That was an argument that ought to carry weight; but there is another that is particularly striking. It was embodied in a communication from Christopher Diehl, assessor and collector of water rates. Besides embodying some valuable practical suggestions that should be adopted, it contained the following:

"On the 1st of January last there were 2,847 houses or business places supplied with water. Since then there have been added in February and March, 126; in April, 74, and in May 91, making a total of 3,138 at this date. The extensions of water mains will add more every month, and it can be estimated that before the end of the

present year at least four thousand houses will be supplied with pure water.

"With the present rates and a strict assessment as per the schedule, the city can derive an income of at least fifty thousand dollars per annum from its water system. That amount would be an interest at 5 per cent. on \$1,000,000 while the whole plant cost only \$500,000."

The question now pending before the council purports to be whether the water and its system shall be sold to a private party or corporation. Why not name the proposal so as to make it consistent with the statement made by the assessor and collector of rates. If this be done—we see no reason why it should not—it will be stated thus: Shall or shall not the Council pay to a private company or corporation \$50,000 per annum of the people's money, that being the amount of profit that would be derived from the system of waterworks according to the computation of Mr. Diehl? The consummation of such an act could not by any process of reasoning be properly sustained. It would have all the appearance of a steal.

This phase of the subject, so appropriately exhibited by a city official, ought of itself to cause all applications of the kind referred to to be permanently tabled. Any company that could secure such a bonanza would at an early date be able to greatly increase Mr. Diehl's computation of profits by watering its stock.

GIVE US THE PROOF.

"What we charge is that there has never yet been a convention of that kind that some one in the convention has not had a list of the men to be nominated made out and given him at headquarters, and that list has invariably made up the ticket."

So SAYS the perpetual retailer of anti-"Mormon" falsehood. Of course that is what you charge. And that is what we deny. And then you say, "the News does not deny" and "the News will not deny." Now produce your proof. Don't say "a truthful woman" or "a reliable gentleman, told us so," but give us something definite.

We say it is not true. More than that, we say it is a lie. Now cease trying to make us prove a negative, and make at least an effort to prove your affirmative. Cease your imaginary "admissions" and concocted "complaints" of nameless individuals about things that never occurred and, to come to something specific, prove that "a list of names" was furnished by anybody to the last municipal conven-