

ister influences which have their origin in the planets, or the electrical conditions of the earth itself are out of their natural order. When such conditions exist, the elements are not alone affected. The same influences affect the minds and bodies of men. Deeds of violence are common; the more furious passions seem to rule, and, when sickness comes, it is liable to be of a type unusually severe. Astronomers pointed out, three or four years ago, that this planet was to pass under strange conditions in relation to other planets, and that there would be much disturbance on the earth during 1884 and 1885. Surely last year bore out the prophecy, and this year has commenced rudely enough. The indications point to a spring and summer in which there will be a good deal of sickness, even if the epidemic which is dreaded by so many does not come."

Now, should not the *Tribune* editor, according to his own logic, be ashamed of himself for this prediction of coming woes—"a whole list of them, either of which ought to insure a general cataclysm." "The priests in the middle ages had some excuse for their work; but this editor knows that these same prophecies have been hurled over and over again at the people." "He knows further, that these prophecies are but sorry parodies; that any bright man could take" Zadkiel's almanac or the emanations from the brain of any of the astrological cranks "as a model, and, by changing the names, could prepare a yard of such prophecies every fifteen minutes, until his inkstand ran dry."

THE PREVALENT FEELING.

We do not remember a time in the past when there was less disposition manifested by the people of the world generally to say a good word for the "Mormons" than during the past few months. The newspapers, which are supposed to express the sentiments of the public, are either silent in regard to them and their religion, or else they have something to say in denunciation of them. The many outrages to which they as a people have been subjected during the past few months, and which are notorious, have scarcely provoked any unfavorable comment; most of the papers which have mentioned them, have done so in a spirit of exaltation.

The packing of juries, contrary to law, by the open venire process in this city was quietly winked at.

The conviction of men in Arizona on flimsy, hearsay evidence of polygamous marriages said to have been contracted from twelve to twenty years prior to the passage of the law under which they were tried, though gasping a violation of constitutional law and common practice as ever was perpetrated, was passed by without condemnation, because, forsooth, the prosecuted parties belonged to the unpopular "Mormons."

The arbitrary action of the "Mormon" hating Judge who tried those cases, in sending the condemned men to a distant State's prison pending an appeal to a higher court, was laughed at, too, if noticed at all.

The recent action of the Idaho Legislature in passing laws subversive not only of the Constitution of our country, but of every right which free men hold dear, have been applauded generally by those who have noticed them as laudable, in view of the end to be accomplished—the rendering of it impossible for any "Mormon" to live in that Territory.

Look abroad, and the same feeling is found to prevail to a great extent. Anti-"Mormon" societies are organized in various parts of staid old England, and efforts are being made to prevent the Latter-day Saint Elders from preaching in that nation. Various other European nations have also banished the Elders, refused them the protection of the law or fined and imprisoned them without regard to law, pleading in justification of their illiberality that they were only following the example of the United States.

In all this the Latter-day Saints should see a fulfillment of predictions that have been uttered in ancient and modern times. They have been given to understand from the beginning that the world would be opposed to them, and that they should be hated of all men. The Savior said to His disciples, "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."

The Lord evidently designs to develop faith among the people by what they are required to suffer. When all others desert them and none seem inclined to show any friendship, they have only the Lord to depend upon, and according to the prophecies this is the position they are to be brought into. Then the Lord has promised to make bare His arm in their defense, and He will do so just as signally as He did in the case of Daniel when he was delivered from the lion's den, the three Hebrew children when they were brought safely out of the fiery furnace, or Peter when visited in prison by an angel who struck off his chains and opened to him the prison doors.

The Saints know in whom they trust, and while their actions merit God's approval they have nothing to fear. They can rejoice in the midst of their persecutions, in seeing the fulfillment of inspired predictions and the hasten-

ing on of God's purposes, and say as Paul said: "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

THE LOCAL SITUATION.

The Salt Lake *Tribune* has admitted that a conspicuous effect of the present brutal anti-"Mormon" crusade has been to prostrate business interests. This is a fact known to everybody in this region, however, independent of any acknowledgment from that quarter. Prominent, substantial, enterprising men of the community, belonging to that class which constitutes the backbone of business, have retired from view, and consequently from active operations, because they naturally have no confidence that justice is obtainable by them in view of the unprecedented parsimony of an unscrupulous District Attorney and a prejudiced court, which packs juries by open venire with the evident purpose of securing conviction, and refuses bail pending appeal. Neither would they be warranted in the expectation of obtaining fair play under an executive and judicial anti-"Mormon" missionary regime, which pursues "Mormons" only with the terrors of the Edmunds law, and notoriously allows non-"Mormons" to go scot free. The natural and plain result of the situation is that material interests suffer.

All over the Territory improvements are suspended, pending a change in the unsettled state of affairs. Drummers who scour the Territory on a hunt for orders for goods are almost invariably met with the response to their solicitations—"We cannot talk business with you till matters become more stable."

The Salt Lake *Tribune*, whose falsehoods we have over and over again exposed in these columns, aims to keep up the agitation which causes business stagnation. It has, on questions of local interest been in the habit of interviewing prominent men and publishing their names. But when it wishes to make a point which it cannot substantiate, it resorts to anonymousness, and behind it palms off on the public alleged opinions of conspicuous citizens that were never expressed. This cowardly and unscrupulous course has evidently been pursued by it in relation to the present anti-"Mormon" crusade and its effects. After the manner of manufacture resorted to in formulating the notorious "Red Hot Address" delivered by a "Mormon" Bishop named West, who had no existence, it claims to have interviewed many of the non-"Mormon" business men of this city, and without giving any names, which we have no idea it could produce, credits them with stating substantially—"D—n business;" go on with the raid. That is what the alleged expressions amount to.

To carry the effect of this subterfuge through the country, the wires are resorted to; the *Tribune* article containing these statements is dispatched, presumably by one of the editors of that paper, who does the lying by telegraph for this region, and it appears in various leading journals.

Evidently the whole thing is an unmitigated hoax, to bolster up, by manufactured public opinion, the illegal and brutal doings of the crusaders. Business men among the non-"Mormons" are here solely on monetary considerations, and whatever injures their prospects in that direction is in conflict with their interests. This is a plain proposition. Any person who believes that they are men who are going to say in all honesty, "D—n our own personal vital interests," is in our opinion laboring under a hallucination. So far as many of them are concerned we happen to know that they are inwardly cursing the operators in the crusade, and, at least where their expressions are not heard by the raiders and their sympathisers, freely denounce them. But it is not all men, we have found to our regret, who, like the "Mormons" as a rule, have the courage to stand by their convictions.

If there are any who feel as the *Tribune* expresses—"D—n business;" go on with the raid," they are impecunious persons who have nothing to lose; those also who are hungering for political preferment, or for a chance of forcing a "Mormon" exodus in the hope of getting a grip on their property at a small price or at no cost at all. But they never will. Mark that; let it be permanently borne in mind.

What does the continuance of the crusade mean from a national standpoint? It has already brought business to a sitting posture, from which it cannot be lifted by any lever-power short of the raising of the raid. The prolongation of the present onslaught means that business will be pushed from even its present position and laid flat on its back, where it will remain pending a restoration of confidence by a cessation of the present illegal and one-sided proceedings. This is no chimerical idea; it is a plain unvarnished fact staring every sensible man in the community in the face. It is not susceptible of either being reasoned, ridiculed or lied out of existence. Our position is simply incontrovertible.

Now let us consider who is going to be crushed under the wheels of the corruption-carrying cart on which the

crusaders are riding? Let the business effect already produced continue contemporaneously with the raid, only to an intensified extent, and what kind of an exodus will be the next, following more or less close upon the heels of the comparatively few who have temporarily disappeared to escape injustice? It will be that class which will, by the course of events, be thus clipped of the means of subsistence. Those prospective migrants are not "Mormons." The latter are here to stay; let there be no mistake upon that point. Those who are here simply for money-making considerations will not remain when the sources of the accumulation of wealth are frozen over by any cause whatever.

The "Mormons" have not been, in many respects, a prudent and self-protective people, but we have good reason for holding the opinion that they are learning a lesson of experience now that may prove of great value to them. If the non-"Mormons" really feel to "D—n business" and let the raid go on, then the "Mormons" against whom the assault is exclusively directed would be foolish indeed not to let business go to condemnation so far as their trading with that class is concerned. If the latter are willing to remain under the imputation cast before them by the *Tribune*, the entire withdrawal of business patronage would be perfectly consistent with good sense. We are in a position to positively state that a feeling of this self-protective description is gaining ground. It has even sprung up spontaneously in a quarter where it might not have been looked for. Some of the young people's improvement associations have already passed resolutions to the effect that so long as the vindictive crusade continues against their parents and friends the members will not only abstain from spending a dollar with any non-"Mormon," but they will use their influence to persuade others to take the same course.

CURIOSITIES OF LOGIC AND LITERATURE.

By way of preserving specimens of extraordinary logic and curious literature we reproduce the following from the Salt Lake *Tribune*:

"A broad-minded man is now editor of the *News*. The District Attorney tells THE *TRIBUNE* that a certain statement of facts was never established in the grand jury room, and the *News* editor with a wise air cries out that THE *TRIBUNE* knows too much of the work that is being done in the grand jury room; too many grand jury secrets. If the *News* is right, the same order of reasoning will apply to other secrets. For instance, should the present editor of the *News* declare that he does not know where the editor-in-chief of that paper was a week ago, that statement ought to be conclusive that he must know where he will be a week hence. Our position is just as sensible as is that of the *News*, for there is not a bit of sense in either. There are evidently some leaks in the grand jury room, but they are all one way. The result is a falling off in present if not in possible future population. We refer to the matter merely to call attention to the gall and ingratitude of the *News*. After its chief editor has started out to write, from actual observation, a book of travels, through getting a cue from the officers, the *News* turns around and intimates that we know too much. How rare is gratitude in this old world!"

And as if the foregoing were not enough for one gigantic effort to annihilate us, this appeared in another part of the same paper:

Because the *Tribune*, noting facts which have been established thoroughly by study and observation, ventures to tell its readers that the signs indicate a good deal of sickness here this season, even if the cholera, which is on the march, and which will naturally reach the United States next summer, does not come, the sapient editor of the *News* is sure that we are attempting prophecy. It is like him. He seems incapable of reasoning from cause to effect to save his life. He charges us, too, with "a tendency to voluminous verbosity," and to prove it quotes one passage from Shakespeare and one from Milton to establish the fact. This shows the kind of men that Milton and Shakespeare were. There is nothing like it except a reversal of a Supreme Court decision by Elder Penrose."

This should be cut out and pasted away in scrap books for reference, as the memory of the reader might need refreshing in regard to there being "nothing like it—Milton and Shakespeare—except a reversal of a Supreme Court decision by Elder Penrose."

THE WAR IN SOUDAN.

The news which has reached us during the past ten days from the Soudan has been of the most startling character, and we may easily imagine what intense excitement it must have produced in Great Britain.

The British connection with the Egyptian business has been unfortunate all the way through, and the wisdom of the policy pursued by the present administration has been severely censured not only by the Conservative party in Great Britain but by foreign

powers generally, and even by many of Gladstone's own party—the Liberals. Indeed, had the Prime Minister been a sensitive man he must have resigned long since, as he probably will have to do yet over the feeling caused by the vacillating course which has been taken.

The rebellion in the Soudan has been treated too much as a trifling matter. As evidence of this, it is only sufficient to refer to the sending of General Gordon there almost alone to quell it. True it was the wish of that eccentric hero that he should be allowed to go in that manner, and a great many persons as well as he believed that his personal influence with the will, nomadic tribes infesting that region would be more effective than a large army in suppressing the rebellion.

That General Gordon was a brave man there can be no doubt; and that he was fanatical is also equally apparent, but that the English Government should yield to his whim in the first place and follow such a dallying policy since it was proved that he could not effect what he expected, is scarcely consistent in a government like that of Great Britain, which hopes to retain its prestige as one of the ruling powers of the earth.

Khartoum after having been gallantly held by General Gordon for so many months was, through the treachery of some of his Egyptian officers, captured by the Arabs, and there is now little doubt but General Gordon, whom so many in the British nation regarded almost with veneration, was put to death. The scenes of carnage, torture and debauchery which occurred at the time of the capture of Khartoum, in which the inhabitants, men, women and children, were made to suffer by all the means which fiendish ingenuity could invent, are too horrible to allow the mind to dwell upon, and we need not be surprised at learning that the news has aroused a desire for vengeance among even the most lethargic in Great Britain.

And now comes the news of still further bloodshed, in which General Earle and other English officers are said to have fallen victims. There is no help for it now; England must quell the rebellion at any cost, and the cost of sending a large army of European soldiers into that region now, when the hot weather is coming on, is fearful to contemplate. It has already proved a very dear war for England, not only in the loss of brave men and almost countless treasure, but also of her prestige among other nations, and it will likely prove even more so before she gets through with it.

There is a strong probability that the success which El Mahdi has met with of late will incite a general uprising not only of the Mohammedans of Lower Egypt but those of British India as well. It has already been noticed with alarm that these latter have manifested a great deal of sympathy with the rebels of the Soudan, and if they, numbering as they do, 50,000,000 in the northern provinces alone, should break out in a revolt, it will be sure to eclipse in horror anything that has ever yet occurred in that country, or perhaps in the history of modern warfare.

FIGHTING THE WIND WITH A FEATHER.

OUR editorial article of last evening, on "The local situation," has put the *Tribune* editor in a rage. This fact is fully attested by the following in this morning's issue of that sheet:

"Last night the *News* opened its editorial columns to a writer who, while pretending not to be a Mormon, loves to get down and do Mormon scavenger work; who, while parading the fact that he is foreign-born and foreign-bred, and scorns any American allegiance, joins a political club and talks more and says less than any other man in the outfit; who, through the years past, has assumed to have no other desire so great as to have the courts here do their duty, that Mormon church rule might be legally strangled; but who would now make the people believe that any attempt to enforce the laws is unheard-of persecution. A natural snarler; a natural would-be-boss; a natural cross between an idiot and a full-fledged crank, he can not write even a nasty article to oblige a knave (who can not sufficiently express his own inexpressible meanness) without weaving his own photograph into the woof of the article, thus betraying himself as clearly as ever did the bird which hides its bill in the sand and thinks itself concealed."

The reader may be pardoned for asking what that ridiculous rigmarole means. It signifies that its writer, feeling utterly incompetent to formulate a logical reply to the *News* article on the anti-"Mormon" raid and its inevitable effects, fell to fighting the wind.

The *News* did not open its columns to any writer outside its regular staff; we are a "Mormon;" do claim allegiance to this country, and love its institutions; we do not and never have belonged to any political club. Besides, all the other statements of the paper we have quoted are utterly false, except slightly in part, where reference is made to "scavenger work." We regret that in writing the article that has put the *Tribune* in a passion we had to introduce, in the course of the argument, a certain amount of filth from its columns, for which we ask pardon of our readers.

But suppose the foundationless assertions of our rabid and abusive contemporary had been true, what bearing would they have had upon the merits of the article in the *News*? Not the slightest. The fulminations of the *Tribune* only serve to show that the propositions of the article which sits heavily upon its editor's stomach cannot be overturned. Let him stop gnashing his teeth, and contemplate, if he can, with coolness, the fact of the establishment of a prominent non-"Mormon" mercantile firm in this city presenting, as a rule, of late, an appearance of having been deserted except by anxious clerks worn out by waiting for customers. Let him consider that the same firm has been compelled to recently discharge a number of employees and reduce the wages of a good many of the remainder. Let him go to that firm and ask its members if they fee as the *Tribune* pretended to express for them—"D—n business;" go on with the anti-Mormon raid." Or let the editor send his local falsifier to propound the question and see whether it will not be more apparent that the scribbler would be the objective point of comparative malediction in place of "business." From the situation of this very extensive firm, can be estimated that of the smaller merchants.

We reiterate the position we have already assumed—if the anti-"Mormon" raid continues, it will reduce business to a paralytic state, and instead of solving any "Mormon" problem, it will solve the "Gentile" problem by rendering a non-"Mormon" exodus inevitable. An absence of business means an ultimate absence of "Gentiles." The "Mormons" will stay.

MR. MEEARS SPEAKS.

AFTER the article in this issue, "Fighting the wind with a feather," was in type, we received the following, which refers directly to the same subject:

Editor *Deseret News*:

In the *Tribune* this morning, an editorial writer asserts that I am the author of the editorial of Friday evening's *News*, and then proceeds in his usual way.

In so far as the statement reflects on me, and in every other respect to my knowledge, it is entirely without foundation.

The writer of the article simply emphasizes thereby the fact that he is a liar and a scoundrel.

GEORGE A. MEEARS.
Salt Lake City, February 14, 1885.

As the *News* article which called forth the vindictive abuse of the *Tribune* upon the head of Mr. Mearns was in the fullest and most complete sense our own, that gentleman's denial of authorship is not made for our information, but for that of the public. We trust that Mr. Mearns will not feel too much hurt at the inexcusable attack made upon him, as he can consistently and philosophically feel that abuse from the source from which it came is equal to a compliment from a fair-minded man, while praise from the same quarter would lay a person open to suspicion that he was not exactly what he ought to be.

The statement embodied in the last paragraph of Mr. Mearns' note is not news, but simply an assertion of a thoroughly established fact.

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In the senatorial balloting at Salem, Oregon, yesterday, there was no material change. Hirsch gained one and lost one, making his vote 29.

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