DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

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"EXCEEDINGLY ANXIOUS" FOR A STATE.

THE Philadelphia Call has an article on the proposition that the Idaho test oath shall be made applicable to Utah, and among other remarks says:

"The anti-"Mormon" party in Utah is exceedingly anxious to have that Territory admitted as a State, but at the same time they are anxious that their opponents should not get control after the admission when it would be too late to do anything."

Yes. And this tells the whole story of anti-"Mormon" legislation for Utah. This is the motive that lies behind the present desperate attempts to bring forward the disfranchisement bills that were shelved last session. This has only to be correctly understood to lay the fate of those anti-American measures.

The proposition is, when shorn of its deceptive and hypocritical pretensions, to take away from the large majority of the citizens of Utah the right to a voice in its political affairs, in order that the minority may gain that control which they never can obtain by legitimate means.

The polygamy pretext under which this infamous scheme was urged, no longer has any existence. It never was pertinent to the question at issue. There never was any reason why the very large majority of the "Mormon" people, who did not practice polygamy, should be deprived of the rights and privileges of citizens because of the alleged unlawful doings of others, who had been disfranchised. To urge this was as absurd as it was impudent. But the force of prejudice is so great and its effect is so blinding, that anti-"Mormon" legislators have not perceived either the folly or the wickedness of the unprecedented proposition. Now, however, that polygamous marriages in Utah have ceased, the pretext is gone and the plotters have to take another tack in their choice after spoils.

Whenever Utah applied for admission into the Union as a State, polygamy was the sole objection offered by our national legislators. The practical polygamists were excluded from voting and from holding office. The answer was "Mormons" then framed a Constitution providing perpetually for the punishment of polygamy. That made a new application for Statehood. But it was feared that these provisions would not be of necessary force while the Church held to the practice. A formal declaration that marriages in violation of law should not in future be entered into, was made by the Church in the most effectual manner known to its discipline. What now?

Why, the anti-"Mormons" are, in their turn, anxious for Utah to be admitted, while the "Mormons" have ceased trying, and most of them feel that they do not even a cap should it at present. They are not asking for admission. They are taking no steps to effect it. They understant the expenses, responsibilities and difficulties that would result from a successful application, and feel inclined to let well enough alone. And they are tired of asking for a fish and getting a serpent. But their enemies are now taking a turn and are as eager for Statehood as they were formerly opposed to it.

What is the reason? They imagine that by a strong movement they can effect the disfranchisement of the great body of the citizens of the Territory, and thus grasp complete possession of the new State. And they expect to so influence Republican Congressmen that they will lend their aid to the scheme, which promises to add one more State to the Republican list before the next Presidential election.

"Oh! but" the schemers explain, "this is not so, for there are several Utah Democrats who favor Mormon disfranchisement and Statehood for Utah." Just so. And these so-called "Democrats" would scheme to make this a Republican State, or pretend to do so and do anything else to exclude the "Mormons" from the polls, so that these political plotters might have some chance for political preferment. Some of these so-called "Democrats" are under pay from a body chiefly composed of professed "Republicans." Their politics really is pelf. Their patriotism is place. Their principle is self-indulgence, and their "morality" may be seen in their dissolute lives.

There never was a more brazen piece of effrontery, or a more despicable attempt to steal a State, than that now attempted by a portion of the misnamed "Liberal" party of Utah. And the very proposition they make, namely, to disfranchise all their opponents at the polls, that they may have an easy walk-over into the offices, ought to be enough to spoil their transparent game with every member of Congress who is not affected inwardly with anti-"Mormon" malice. We believe they will spend their time and their money for naught. The paid emissaries at Washington, however, will succeed in enjoying to the "full" what they denominate "glorious time."

ELDER WM. PALMER will deliver a lecture in the First Ward meetinghouse Thursday evening, January 15th, at 7:30 subject—"Personal Missionary Experience." All are invited.

SHOULD NOT DEMAND IMPOSSIBILITIES.

SOME of the gentlemen who are taking an active part in the law and order movement in this city are, in our opinion, working on a mistaken base. The protest against the present official slackness in enforcing the laws and the encouragement given to the worst forms of vice cannot be too pronounced. Extreme and impracticable suggestions as to the appropriate remedial means, will, however, do injury to the cause of morality. This is the time to agitate the total abolemnition of the saloon, however much such a consummation might be devoutly wished. Hence, prohibition speeches are not consistent with the present movement in favor law and morality.

To prove this it is only needful to direct attention to the fact that the object of the agitation is to induce, by popular pressure and other proper means, the city officials to enforce the laws, not with a view to the extinction of vice and crime, that being an impossible feat, but to reduce these deplorable conditions to the smallest practicable proportions.

As there is no prohibitory law in this Territory, which applies to Salt Lake City, to ask for prohibition is worse than useless. To request of the officials anything which they have not the legal power to enforce is inconsiderate. The point of attack for prohibitionists is not officials who have no power to enact a prohibitory ordinance and have no authority to enforce that which has no existence. The legislature is the body which can alone act in the premises. The gentlemen who believe in prohibition should await the next session of the Territorial lawmakers and make their assault on them. Until then they would do well to enforce their operations to seeking to mould public opinion in the direction of their views. They will do no good to the present movement by acting and speaking as if they expected a practical application of their prohibitory opinions to the present era of highway robbery, whisky drinking and other debasing vices.

There has, in the past, been one of the most determined struggles against the reign of the saloon and its accompaniments in Utah that has ever been fought. But the odds—not in numbers, but official authority—have been against those who struggled on the side of morality. As an instance, in the city of Logan, which was a model city for sobriety and good order, there existed an ordinance forbidding the issuance of liquor licenses. For many years the Council stood by it and refused to pass an act of an opposite quality. But men with liquor in defiance of municipal law, and we think, also in opposition, at that time, wrecking the Logan city exchequer, of Territorial sanctioned. A popular vote was taken on the question in order to fairly test public sentiment. The result was that the people pronounced overwhelmingly in favor of no saloon. A United States Court, however, gave judgment in favor of whisky, and the Council passed a liquor ordinance. The ground has throughout been stoutly contested, but those who should have sustained a healthy sentiment and good morals, operated in the wrong direction.

Again recently, there has been no impediment made vet in the way of dealing this city with dram shops and other dens of vice. Advantage has been taken of the easy regime, and drinking, gambling, burglaries and the lowest vices are rampant. Now the only thing that can be done practically is to have the saloon curtailed to the closest limit of the law, and to enforce the statutes against all who are engaged in criminal practices. To talk prohibition in connection with the present movement will do no good, but harm, as it will stamp the agitators with the genius of ultra-ism.

We say this with all respect to the gentlemen referred to. Intrinsically their views are good, but they are not applicable to the present situation. We are not opposed to prohibition, as there can be no doubt that if the manufacture of intoxicants was wiped out of existence, it would be a sunny day for poor, suffering humanity.

GET ONE WITH HIS HEART IN IT.

THE Libby resolutions adopted at the law and order meeting held in the Methodist Church on Monday evening, provide that a committee wait upon the Mayor and City Attorney and make a tender of assistant counsel to aid in fighting in the courts, the issuance of a license to sell liquor to the basement of the variety theatre. It is proposed to supply this legal aid free of cost to the city.

We do not know whether or not the originators of the resolutions overlooked the fact that Mr. Varian had already been employed by the city to assist Col. Merritt in the conduct of the case in question. There is one point, however, that ought not to be overlooked in the event of the offer embodied being accepted—the man who should act as attorney, who cares "a snap" whether or not the license is granted.

When a man's heart does not engage in a struggle but probably lags in the other direction, his brain is more than liable to follow suit.

Now it ought to be easy to find an attorney who cares "a snap" on this subject and who has both legs on one side the fence, as the sympathies of every upright man ought to be against the encouragement of a conviction universally regarded as one of the most damnable concomitants of demoralized modern civilization. It consists of a combination of three of the most encrusting social agencies, whose capacities for evil are increased tenfold by being operated in unison. Besides, no man can conduct legally an important piece of work in which he has an enthusiasm, and in the result of which he takes no personal interest amounting to a "snap." For instance, it would be absurd to engage the services of a salonkeeper to deliver a lecture on the evil results of intemperance.

THE ENLARGED SEMI-WEEKLY "DESERET NEWS."

THE Semi-Weekly DESERET NEWS is now issued in an enlarged and improved form. It contains eight columns to a page and these are wider than formerly. This the increase will reach about twelve columns of matter, which subscribers will receive without additional cost. The semi-weekly will continue at the low price of Three Dollars a year. Considering all things, it is the cheapest and best semi-weekly paper published in this region and it has the largest and most complete circulation. We invite attention to the variety and quality of its reading matter, and suggest to advertisers that it offers the most valuable opportunity they can find for reaching the people of Utah and the adjoining States and Territories. Correspondence, brief and to the point, is solicited for this paper from friends wherever it is distributed. The progress of the Semi-Weekly DESERET NEWS has been rapid and continuous, and we may be pardoned for expressing some pride in its appearance, merit and increase. All advocates of truth, justice and equal rights should aid in still further increasing its very extensive circulation.

INFORMATION ABOUT MEXICO.

THE subject of "Mormon" colonization in Mexico has been treated on so extensively by the press of the country that it will probably be not out of place to refer to it again in these columns. That some of our people have taken up their abode in the Mexican republic is pretty well known. That more will probably join them may naturally be expected. But that there is any intention of vacating Utah for the benefit of persons who, if they had the courage and the power, would drive us from our possession that they might enjoy the fruits of our labors, is a large and injurious mistake.

Apropos of this subject, the New York Globe which usually contains an "interview on current questions with some person of prominence, has one with Mr. W. D. Johnson Jr., who is well-informed as to the condition of those portions of Mexico where our people reside, and as that paper is reliable and does not descend to the usual tactics of the common "interviewer," we reproduce the account, which contains much valuable information. It is as follows:

Colonization in Mexico is attracting public attention just at present, and the work of the Mormon Colonization and Agricultural Company, which began six years ago, is assuming such a shape that success in its enterprise is an assured fact. Situated in one of the richest spots of Mexico are the four colonies. The natural advantages of the place are many, affording, as they do, all the means for comfortable homes and easy fortunes.

W. Derby Johnson, Jr., who is personally in charge of one of the colonies, "Colonia Diaz" by name, has recently come from the South and talked freely with a representative of the Globe about the country.

"We have four colonies in Mexico," said Mr. Johnson. "The largest two are "Colonia Diaz" and "Colonia Juarez." They are situated in northwestern Chihuahua. The former is named after President Diaz. The latter gets its name from Benito Juarez, the Washington of Mexico. Both are on the Casas Grandes River, the latter about seventy miles south of the former. The other settlements are Pachera and Francisco. They are situated west and east of Juarez. The inhabitants number about 2000, and are principally Americans. It is an excellent agricultural country, and the grazing is the finest in the world. The facilities for raising fruit, we consider equal, if not better, than California, because the climate is more even. There is an abundance of water, native springs existing in such great volume on the plateau, that water force sufficient to operate mills now in existence, and other factories which may hereafter be established, is afforded.

"The valleys in which the colonies are situated are covered with a carpet of the finest indigenous grasses known in America, vine mesquite, curly mesquite, and black, red and white grama. On these grasses many thousands of cattle can be herded. The herd cannot be satisfied, and if a superior breed of cattle were introduced the herds in this section would be superior in size and weight to any cattle known to the West. One very peculiar feature in cattle and sheep raising in this part of Mexico is the fact that the following process of the herds begins at the inception of the winter and continues until the rainy season, which usually occurs from June to September. At present, when search for fat cattle is made during the winter it is usually made on the eastern slope of the great Sierra Madre Range. The advantage of such raising here is, that when fattened out, in the winter, the grasses have the highest strength and nutritiousness, the slopes of the Sierra Madre outside the snow-belt furnishing pasturage. At this time of the year herd cattle on this range, although of inferior breed, will compare favorably with the best fat cattle of Kansas, Nebraska and other eastern sources of supply.

"In the mountains there is an abundance of timber, including pines, varying from two to four feet in diameter, walnut and several species of oak and one peculiar to the climate. These building materials are easily obtained.

"It is a living proof, which may be seen by any citizen today, that the Mormons settlements of Diaz and Juarez have demonstrated that, with the improved implements of agriculture and the perfected industry of our country, crops of corn and wheat, small grains, fruits and vegetables, are beyond pronunciation of the native inhabitants. So that there is no question that with the gifts that nature has bestowed upon this country, industry unknown, the reward for labor is greater than in any other section of the continent.

"Should a system of dams and reservoirs be established on the Casas Grandes River, which is sure to follow the settlement of these valleys, there will be many thousands of acres of as fertile land as can be found on the continent brought into a state of the highest cultivation through the energy, skill and industry of these people. Here the experiment, for example, between the country lying in the basin of San Luis and that of the valley of the Casas Grandes River, will be seen that the advantage in favor of the latter for permanent homes and a rich and inexhaustible return for labor is far superior.

"It must be borne in mind at the same time that this valley, according to the many reports of the most distinguished experts, is bordered on either side, in the mountain ranges, by inexhaustible mines of gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc and other valuable minerals. In order that the public may understand as to why these mineral wealths have not heretofore been undeveloped or utilized, it is sufficient to say that the entire range of the Sierra Madre has been for the last two centuries, until within the past few years, occupied entirely by a populated race of Indians made hostile to every civilization, by the way in which they have been treated, and hence the section of the country may be said in fact to be a mere unexplored.

"Along the line of the proposed railway, at the base of the Sierra Madre and from the Rio Grande River, there are dumps of refuse ores amounting to several million tons, which, according to the opinion of experts, will range in value from $5 to $40 per ton. According to a proof of this fact, in the mining operations of the Corralitos Company in the most prominent mining section of that district, all ores extracted from their mines which do not get at least $75 per ton go into the dump and refuse ores accumulated for the past seventy years.

"This is a specimen only of various mining enterprises in operation in that section for many years past. For instance, under the crude method of mining as practiced at now owns that company at least $15.00 a ton to extract the ores from the mines $4200 per ton for a long wagon haul to the nearest railroad depot, and $2.00 per ton for railroad transportation from that point, San Jose, to El Paso, Texas, where the ores are smelted at the large smelting works there at a cost of $6.00 per ton. These items do not include commissions, custom house dues, duty on lead, as has now been ordered by the Treasury Department of the United States, and various other charges. It will thus be seen that any ore extracted from these mines ranging in value below $40 are incorporeable and therefore cast into the dumps or the aggregate of refuse ores.

"The country is open for settlement to every class. It is not confined to Mormons. In fact there is neither intention nor possibility of introducing the practice of polygamy in Mexico. That is as impossible under Mexican laws as under those of the United States. Besides, the proclamation of President Wardroff disposed of the question finally to all the Mormon settlements by requiring obedience to the laws of the land on the subject. The colonists will be subject to Mexican laws. Our towns are laid out in blocks twenty-seven rods square, and are divided into four lots, so that each settler can have one on a corner. The streets are six rods wide and give ample accommodation for all kinds of travel. In the principal colonies about 50,000 fruit trees and nearly 200,000 vines besides a great many ornamental trees and shrubs have been planted. Each town has a public square, and in Diaz and Juarez we have two seminaries and graded schools, in which both English and Spanish are taught."

POLITICAL DISINTEGRATION IN PROGRESS.

IT is saddening to the well-balanced American mind to dwell on the political situation at present, so far as it relates to candidates for official stations. Only in very few instances can be seen that healthy, legitimate ambition which characterized our ancestors in similar circumstances. Now it is a mad scramble—an insane rush for political emolument and distinction on the part of the average candidate. The condition of many of the State Legislatures fully demonstrates this fact. Governor Goodell, of New Hampshire, placed the State Capitol at Concord in the hands of the military and police on the 7th instant. The members of the Legislature, on their entrance to the Capitol, had to pass through a cordon of police, and before the Marshal of Concord. On the inside the Speaker's desk was guarded by several police, in plain clothes. All persons coming towards the desk were closely questioned, and unless satisfactory answers were given the police hustled them out. These precautions were taken because it was anticipated the organization of the Legislature would be attended with rioting. Hiram A. Tuttle was chosen Governor, and all the vacancies in the Council and Senate were filled by the election of Republican candidates. The other party claims fraud and is swearing vengeance.

In Connecticut the Legislature is also in a rather equivocal condition. One branch is Democratic, the other Republican. Each branch wants a Governor of its own persuasion, and the result is a deadlock. The Constitution provides only for one governor, but as matters stand there are two. Could they not set up rival Governments, and, like justices of the peace in Chicago, deal out classy legislation to the masses?

In Montana the old struggle still rages. The Democrats control the Senate, lawfully it is said, but the House they have obtained, it is stated, by fraudulent means. The Democrats have admitted the five members from Silver Bow—votes were given to Republicans—but it is claimed that "turn about is fair play," and that the rule will hold good in politics. The Republicans are holding a small legislature of their own.

But for plenitude and exuberance in the way of gubernatorial talent give us the "wild and woolly West." Nebraska has three Governors. The Legislature declared James E. Boyd Governor of Nebraska. Governor Thayer, the outgoing Governor, will not go, and says Boyd is an alien and therefore not qualified to hold the reins of government. Thayer stays in the executive mansion, and is guarded by some of the military. Governor Boyd opens office in another part of the building and has proclaimed himself Governor. Boyd has ordered the militia to the front to fight the Indians, but Thayer countermanded the order. The janitor of the building sides with Boyd, and the intention is to freeze Thayer out of the place. The janitor won't bring any coal or light to warm and illuminate the old Governor. Powers, the farmer's man, has also taken the oath of office as Governor of Nebraska. This triangular business is bad and may result in serious trouble.

Late advices from Denver show that the Colorado Legislature is in a rather chaotic condition. A regular faction fight had taken place over the offices. One member charged that bribery had been attempted. The result was that a committee to investigate was appointed.

The situation in Idaho is also rather complicated. This third for office is a bad disease, bad for the country and bad for the citizens. It is to be desired that a little more moderation and a little more dignity and patriotism should characterize candidates for official positions. Office-seekers in other States should not take pattern by the six Salt Lake "Liberal" committees who hold office despite the law and a decision of a competent court of justice.

AN IMPORTANT LECTURE.

ELDER JAMES H. ANDERSON, formerly city editor of the NEWS, is now engaged in conducting the *Millennial Star*, under the direction of Apostle Brigham Young, President of the European Mission. Elder Anderson was invited, a little over two weeks ago, by the Kikkel Institute of London, to deliver a lecture under the auspices of that organization, which is composed of progressive thinkers mostly belonging to the wealthier classes of the metropolis. The subject is a comprehensive one—"The Religion, History, Present Condition and Future Prospects of the Latter-day-Saints." The lecture, which was to be delivered on Sunday last, is to be published in a book entitled "The Religions of the World."

The theme is of great importance, and the chief effort in its preparation would be to make it confuse to prove. But condensation is one of Elder Anderson's strong points, and as he has a well-stored mind, especially on the topic he was to treat, with the blessing of God, he would, doubtless, be successful in presenting a strikingly interesting array of facts.

Y. M. M. I. A.

Editor Deseret News

At a council meeting of the Bishoprric, presidencies of the M. I. A. and Priesthood quorums and the superintendency of the Sunday school of this ward, held Saturday afternoon, Assistant Superintendent Milton H. Hardy presented the following headings for a systematic course of study and work in the M. I. A. for the year 1891:

1. Organization, committees—secretary.
2. Roll of young men in the ward.
3. Number of members.
4. Schools, (a) attendance, (b) roll, (c) reports of labors attended, (d) finances.
5. Annual meeting for contending officers early in January.
6. Circular letter from general superintendency.
7. Weekly class meetings.
8. Programme work.
9. Programme programme from: 1. Association manual, (a) Exercises, (b) M. I. A. course of reading, (c) outlines of classes, 2. Scriptures—(a) Bible, (b) Book of Mormon, 3. Theology, 4. History, 5. Science, civil government, etc., 6 literature.
10. Class reading—(a) manual, (b) with reference to Programme or Educational Program.
11. Review of conventions—(a) as reference to Programme or general reading, (b) sent to reviews.
12. Review with M. I. A. reading course, (a) with.
13. Review work (see 9)—Advanced on special class in (a) Theology, (b) History, (c) science, (d) literature with reference to regular programme.
14. Joint-council meetings.
15. Monthly joint sessions.
16. Entertainments—Indoor—(a) The concert, (b) the ball room, (c) the drama, (d) the social parlor.
17. Outdoor—(a) Legend, (b) Hegira.
18. Libraries and reading rooms.
19. Receipts.
20. Expenditures and collections for study of literature.
21. Home classes.
22. Attendance of Stake officers' meetings.
23. Home visits of Stake officers' meetings.
24. Reports.
25. Questions.

A general meeting was held in the evening and many have expressed satisfaction with the plan, and all seem resolved to do their utmost to further the interests of the M. I. A. work.

ORSON A. HAYES,
Secretary pro tem.

HOLDEN, Millard County, January 12, 1891.

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Z. C. M. I

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