

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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PLENTY OF WORK AND NO DISTRESS.

A GENTLEMAN recently returned from the San Luis Valley, Colorado, where it has been alleged that eleven persons who have seceded from the "Mormon" Church are suffering for lack of common necessities, gives some interesting facts bearing on this matter. He informs us that during the month of January and part of February, while he was there, but little snow was on the ground, not nearly so much as he found in the upper Utah valleys, and the settlers were doing remarkably well. There was no need for any industrious person to lack anything needful, for in addition to the abundance of produce raised last season, there were opportunities for everyone to work who chose to do so.

Two companies—non—"Mormons"—were engaged, a short distance from our settlements, in constructing large water-ditches and paying laborers one dollar per day and board, and a man with team from two dollars to three dollars per day and board, work going on steadily, and its continuance being expected until next August. Thus if any working men are suffering it is their own fault. But it is evident that the whole story of destitution and cold is a fraud, and those who have contributed to alleviate the supposed distress have been hoodwinked and cheated.

And there is on thing that experience has made certain. If the individuals for whom alms have been asked had been "Mormons" in good standing, the parties who have aroused so much sympathy would have allowed them to perish before stretching out a hand or donating a dollar to assist them. Whoever suggested help to the people of Utah when their crops had been repeatedly swept away by the devouring grasshoppers, or uttered a word of condolence when the voracious crickets left the early settlers here without bread and with no resources but the wild roots which they dug on the mountain sides?

The great merit, in certain eyes, of those for whom charity has been needlessly appealed for in Conejos County, Colorado, is simply that they have apostatized from the "Mormon" Church.

THE PROPOSED ELECTION LAW.

COUNCIL File No. 33, which has passed the Council and has been reported to the House, recommending its passage by the Committee on Elections, is a bill prescribing qualifications for electors and office holders, providing for the registration of voters and regulating the manner of conducting elections. The necessity for its enactment arises from certain provisions of the Act of Congress known as the Edmunds law. That law vacated all the registration and election offices in this Territory, provided for their temporary occupation by persons appointed by the Utah Commission, and left it to the Legislature of this Territory to make provisions to supersede the appointments of that Commission. The Edmunds law also established a new qualification for voters and office holders.

The Registration Act passed at the session of 1878 was as good an election law as could be found in any statute book. It protected the citizens in the lawful exercise of their privileges as voters, and preserved the purity of the ballot box, the secrecy of the ballot and the rights of candidates and opposing parties. Where in that law could be improved, changes have been made in the new bill, and provisions have been incorporated to harmonize with the Edmunds Act. But the main features of the law of 1878 have been necessarily retained, and parts of other existing laws pertaining to elections have been embodied in the present measure, so as to cover all the ground in one enactment.

The chief changes that have been made in the bill are as follows:

Section eight provides that, "No person shall be eligible to be elected or appointed to any territorial, district, county, or precinct office, nor shall hold any office of public trust, honor, or emolument in this Territory, unless he is qualified to register as a voter, and shall have been a resident in this Territory during at least one year next preceding such election or appointment."

Sections ten to twelve provide as follows:

Sec. 10. Every person, male or female, over the age of twenty-one years, who is a citizen of the United States, or who has declared on oath before a competent court of record, his or her intention to become such, and taken an oath to support the Constitution and Government of the United States; who has been a resident in the Territory six months, and a resident of the precinct where his or her vote is to be cast, for thirty days prior to the date of registration, who has not been convicted of felony or treason, and is not idiotic or insane, or otherwise disqualified as a voter by any law of the United States or of this Territory, and who has been or may be registered as hereinafter provided, shall be a qualified elector, and entitled to vote at any election in this Territory.

Sec. 11. All elections shall be held, conducted, and returns thereof made, as in this act provided.

Sec. 12. The assessors in and for their respective counties are hereby constituted the registration officers, and they are required to appoint a resident deputy in each precinct to assist in carrying out the provisions of this Act. The assessor of each county in person or by deputy, shall hereafter revise and correct the registration lists of voters at the times and in the manner provided in this Act, and if any person whose name is not on the list of voters of his precinct shall claim the right to vote therein, the registration officer shall require such person to subscribe and take the following oath or affirmation:

TERRITORY OF UTAH, } ss.
County of _____ }

I, _____ being first duly sworn depose and say that I am a citizen of the United States; (or) I have declared on oath, before a competent court of record, my intention to become a citizen of the United States, and have taken an oath to support the Constitution and Government of the United States, (as the case may be), I am over twenty-one years of age; I have resided in the Territory of Utah six months and in the precinct of _____ thirty days next preceding the date hereof, and I am not disqualified as a voter by any law of the United States or of the Territory of Utah.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 18 _____

Assessor.
By _____ Deputy Assessor.

Upon the receipt of such affidavit, the registration officer shall place the name of such person on the registry list of voters for said precinct. In case the name of any person claiming the right to vote, is erased from the registration list of his precinct under the next Section, the name of such person shall be restored to said list, by the registration officer, at any time prior to or during the week commencing the last Monday in June of each year, upon such person taking the foregoing oath, and if such person offers to take said oath it shall be the duty of such registration officer to administer it, and restore the name of such person as aforesaid; and after the week commencing the last Monday in June in each year, it shall be unlawful for any registration officer to erase the name of any person from the registration lists of that year.

The County Courts are authorized to appoint the Judges of Election, "two of whom at least shall be of the political party which was in the majority at the last previous election, and one of the political party that was in the minority at the last previous election, if any party there be in any such precinct." The construction of the old law is improved in several minor particulars, and altogether the new bill is a step in advance.

Carpers may take exceptions to the provisions for filling the registration and election offices, because they are similar to those in force before the passage of the Edmunds law. But fair and thoughtful people will conclude, we believe, that no better arrangements could be made. The assessors and their deputies are to attend to the registration more efficiently and with less expense to the Territory than any other officers, and as they are elected by the registered voters, and must themselves be registered voters, who all have to take the oath that they are citizens and are not disqualified by any law of Congress, or of this Territory, there cannot be any valid objection to their acting in this capacity. The office of Judge of Election is a small one and should be appointive, and we know of no more competent or proper body to make the appointment than the County Court.

The bill is strictly in conformity with the laws of Congress in every respect, and apart from prejudice on either side must be characterized as a good and sound measure worthy of any legislative body in the nation. The only individuals who can reasonably object to it are those "Mormons" who have been specially legislated against by Congress, and they are the least likely to raise any factious opposition to its passage or operations.

GIVE IT FAIR PLAY.

It has come under our observation that an attempt has been made by some parties to hedge up the way of a very commendable enterprise recently established in this city. We refer to the new roller mill of Messrs. Armstrong & Co. In various directions where these gentlemen have endeavored to

extend their business relations they have been met with the statement that the parties with whom they seek to do business by placing the product of the mill on sale have been informed that the flour is of inferior quality.

This report has been in circulation almost from the date of commencement of the mill to operate. The parties who have floated the rumor doubtless had an ulterior object, and have taken an unfair method of keeping the product of an advanced enterprise out of the local market. There is no necessity for any persons being misled by such statements, however, as "the proof of the pudding is in the eating." As a contra statement to that which has been industriously circulated we will express the conviction that the practical test of using the flour produced at the new mill will dispel all idea of its inferiority.

Having used it we are enabled to say unhesitatingly that it is not surpassed by any flour we have ever met with either here or in any other part of the world. It is only a question of time when this fact will be generally admitted, as the reputation of the product is bound to grow on its intrinsic merits. In fact it is now growing, new ground being gained daily, but the reports which have been spread to the detriment of the enterprise make its progress less rapid than might be reasonably expected.

We have said so much for this enterprise, which is a credit to this part of the country, because we are cognizant of the fact that it has not been treated in accordance with the principles of fair play.

A LESSON DERIVED.

THE circumstances connected with the White-Steed case at Farmington, are still more or less fresh upon the public mind. The verdict of the jury in acquitting Mr. Steed, charged with shooting and wounding, with intent to kill, the seducer of his wife will be generally endorsed by the public. The act was done under circumstances of the strongest aggravation, including, besides the violation of the purity of his marriage bed, threats by White to take his life on sight.

The whole case should teach a potent lesson to people liable to be tempted to take tramps or other doubtful characters into the bosoms of their families, exposing the latter to a fearful danger from which they should be vigilantly shielded by those whose duty it is to cherish and shelter them. No inducement should be sufficiently strong to lead men to commit such an egregious error. It may be done because tramp labor can be occasionally obtained cheaper than that performed by more reliable people, but, as in the case of Mr. Steed, what a terrible price is sometimes paid for it after all. Nothing can place a family into which such a fearful inroad has been made, upon their former footing.

Even the promptings of benevolence should not induce men to take people of doubtful character into the bosom of their families. If they are disposed to render assistance to distressed humanity the aid they tender should take some less confidential form than that.

THE STOLEN PAPERS.

THE stealing from Mr. Springer's committee room, of the papers in the case of Governor Murray, charging him with appropriating the funds of the government to his own use while Marshal of Kentucky, was evidently an act of desperation to screen that official. While the robbery may serve to cover up the proofs of the Governor's malfeasance, it will deepen the conviction that had already taken root that the charges were susceptible of being clearly proven.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

INTERESTING news will doubtless soon be heard from the Soudan. A force of British troops, estimated at about 4,800 has disembarked at Trinkitat, and will probably soon attack Osman Digma's forces. The army under this intrepid adherent of El Mahdi is said to number somewhere from 7,000 to 12,000. The men are armed, through their former successes, with the most improved weapons, while the artillery in the hands of Osman Digma is said to consist of ordnance superior to that of the British force. These considerations, combined with the fact that the Arabs are flushed with victory, renders the odds in their favor of some magnitude, making the intended advance appear almost rash. It is probable that news of terrible fighting will be heard of shortly. Should a collision between the opposing forces result in a British defeat, which appears to be among the possibilities, the tribes now in a state of uncertainty about turning over to the side of El Mahdi, would doubtless at once tender their allegiance to him and thus would the area of his influence be extended.

We recommend Ely's Cream Balm where a cure for Catarrh is called for, it is in most cases a perfect cure.—Peck Bros., Druggists, Grand Rapids, Mich.

HOW ANTI-"MORMON" STORIES ARE WORKED UP.

THE following letter has been picked out of some waste paper cast aside, most likely, by the party in this city to whom it is addressed:

Dear Sir—Would you be willing to write me and explain some of the doings of the Mormon Church and give me some insights as regards their belief, state some of the absurdities that has occurred to your knowledge. I have been requested by a friend of mine in the East (Penna.) to write up the Mormons, but as I have only been here a few weeks I feel incompetent without help. * * * Please explain the "sealing" business. I do not wish to impose on your good nature, but it would be a great help to me in explaining to my eastern friends the ridiculous proceedings of the Mormon Church. Please address me at—
Yours very truly,
Operator.

We publish this letter as an indication of the manner in which "reliable information" about the "Mormons" is supplied to the people in the East. The person to whom the communication is addressed is an anti-"Mormon" of pronounced type, but knows no more about "Mormonism" than a telegraph pole does about the electric fluid. The Operator who wishes to figure as an expounder of the "ridiculous proceedings," "absurdities," etc., of the "Mormon" Church, and particularly of the "sealing business," not possessing a sufficiently vivid imagination to work up sensations himself, applies to an acquaintance who is probably versed in the nonsense and prurient fabrications in common use, to help him write up the subject on which information is wanted in the East.

never seems to have occurred to him that the proper way was to learn the doctrines of the "Mormon" Church from its authorized works or expounders. Why? Because he didn't want the truth, he was hunting for facts, he was looking for something to pander to a prurient appetite. The writer so anxious for that kind of pabulum is a telegraph operator, and is only one among many who are willing to help by every means in their power in the dissemination of rubbishy stories about the "Mormon" Church. We do not know whether he has been supplied with materials from which to "write up" the "Mormon" question, but if his friend in the East has received a response to his inquiry, he and others who read it and take it for an expose of "Mormonism" will be, like thousands of others who give credence to telegraphic and other anti-"Mormon" fables, most miserably duped and deceived.

A GOOD WORD FOR THE SAINTS.

WE publish to-day a refreshing letter from a gentleman in Tennessee. Instead of following the fashion of abusing and villifying the "Mormons," he says a good word for them and says it well, thus exhibiting one of the most admirable traits of the human character, cherishing in his heart the memory of kindness received at the hands of the people of whom he now speaks so generously.

In speaking of Brothers Hunter and Bevan, he describes two typical Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints whose devotion, unostentatious demeanor and industry are worthy the emulation of sectarian clergymen and others who are wont to malign and maltreat them.

Our correspondent remarks truly that those who are found assailing the Saints are generally men without character or piety, or are of the most bigoted and fanatical class of sectarians. It has been demonstrated times without number, also that the most virulent and bitter denouncers and assailants of the plural marriage system are men of the most detestably corrupt and vile personal practices.

Our correspondent expresses his sentiments with such a straightforward ring that we hope to hear from him again.

RECOGNIZING THE TERRITORIES.

THE Democratic party has heretofore ignored the Territories in its conventions and general organization. This year it appears to have taken a new departure. The Democrats in the Territories are placed in a similar position in regard to the party as those who reside in the States, and Utah is recognized by the appointment of its Delegate in Congress as a member of the Congressional Campaign Committee. It is true that the Territories, having no vote in national affairs, cut but a small figure in national politics, but they should not on that account be left out in the cold by the party to which so many of their citizens adhere. They are all to become States in good time, and their interest and moral support are worth looking after by the old and time-honored party which is once more looming up into prospects of power. The selection of Hon. John T. Caine as a member of the committee is a wise one, and, as an admission that the Democrats of Utah are entitled to some recognition, will be endorsed by them.

and be calculated to infuse new life into their ranks. There has been no recognized organization among them for some time, and perhaps this new movement will stimulate them into action and result in the resuscitation of the party organism in this Territory.

THE UTAH JUDICIARY.

ON the seventh of February the following bill, in relation to courts and judiciary proceedings in the Territories, was prepared by Delegate Brent, of Washington Territory, and adopted by the House Committee as a substitute for H. R. 1720 and 2942.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled,

That the Supreme Court of ever Territory shall consist of a chief justice and three associate justices, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum; and they shall hold their offices for four years, and until their successors are appointed and qualified. They shall hold a term annually at the seat of Government of the Territory for which they are respectively appointed: *Provided, however,* that no justice shall act as a member of the Supreme Court in any action or proceeding brought to such court by writ of error, bill of exceptions, or appeal from a decision, judgment, or decree rendered by him as judge of a district court.

Sec. 2. That every Territory shall be divided into four judicial districts, and a court shall be held in each district of the Territory by one of the justices of the Supreme court, at such time and place as may be prescribed by law; and each judge, after assignment, shall reside in the district to which he is assigned.

Sec. 3. That temporarily, and until otherwise provided by law, the governor of each Territory not now divided into four judicial districts shall, by proclamation, define the judicial districts for such Territory, assign the judges thereto, and fix times and places for holding court therein; *Provided,* That no process, proceeding, order, judgment, or decree of any court of any Territory, issued, had, made, or rendered prior to the taking effect of such executive order shall be invalidated or affected by the provisions hereof.

This is a good bill in the main, and contains no objectionable features except the provision that the Supreme Court shall hold "a term annually." If this is intended to limit its terms to one a year, as it appears to us is the effect of the language, it is unwise; there should be at least two terms a year, as now provided by law, that appeals may not be too long protracted.

It is generally recognized as improper that a judge who has rendered a decision should be permitted to act as part of the court to which his judgment is appealed. Utah needs another judicial district and consequently another judge and we hope some law will be passed this session embodying the main provisions of the Brent bill and at the same time increasing the salaries to a figure proportionate to the services required.

REMARKABLE RESTORATION IN THE CASE OF A CLERGYMAN.

Rev. A. W. Moore, of Darlington, S. C., sends us for publication the following results in his case:

"DARLINGTON, S. C., Jan. 16th, 1883.
"Messrs. Starkey & Palen:—Though you have not solicited, I feel it to be my duty to give the following testimony in favor of 'Compound Oxygen.' I inherited the pulmonary taint from my mother; and have suffered with Bronchitis from my youth. For the last three or four years, in the early fall, I have been prostrated with an acute attack of severe Bronchial Asthma. Last fall this attack was unusually perilous, being complicated with a general derangement of the liver, kidneys, &c. My medical advisers could not give much hope of any further work in the Ministry."

"In December I commenced the use of your Home Treatment. Shortly after I began its use, nearly all the symptoms were greatly aggravated, but for the last three weeks I have been improving. The constant expectation has to a great extent ceased. I have a fine appetite; my digestion is good. I sleep well. I am now preaching twice on Sunday without lassitude. I feel more vigor—more life than I have for years. I believe the 'Compound Oxygen' a blessed, providential discovery, to which you were unconsciously directed by the great Healer."

"Gratefully, (Rev.) A. W. MOORE,
Our 'Treatise on Compound Oxygen,' containing a history of the discovery and mode of action of this remarkable curative agent, and a large record of surprising cures in Consumption, Catarrh, Neuralgia, Bronchitis, Asthma, etc., and a wide range of chronic diseases, will be sent free. Address, Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1109 and 1111 Girard St., Phila."

All orders for the Compound Oxygen Home Treatment directed to H. E. Mathews, 606 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, will be filled on the same terms as if sent directly to us in Phila.

"Brown's Bronchial Troches" are excellent for the relief of Hoarseness or Sore Throat. They are exceedingly effective.—*Christian World, London, Eng.*