

EDITORIALS.

SPOILIATION IN PROSPECT.

This journal has held throughout that the main object of the local crusade against the Latter-day Saints has been spoliation. It is only necessary to point to the numerous attempts to despoil them of their rights before the law to prove this position so far as that species of robbery is concerned.

One of the leading objective points of the anti-"Mormon" movement is, however, to get matters in shape so that the Saints can be placed in such a helpless situation that they can, under color of law and with impunity, be robbed of their property—their actual material possessions.

It has been imagined by the ravenous crusaders that the most effective means of attaining this object would be the sweeping away of every vestige of the Republican form of government guaranteed by the Constitution to the people of every portion of the national domain. They long since set their hearts upon procuring legislation that would obliterate the franchise and local law-making power. These they wished to be substituted by a legislative commission, appointed by the President of the United States and confirmed by the Senate. Of course this was desired in the well-grounded hope, based on the past action of Federal appointees generally, that every office subordinate to the Commission—Territorial, county or town—would be filled by the "rule or ruin" class.

Under such a regime it may well be imagined that the Saints would be placed at the mercy of a class of the most conscienceless and unmitigated scoundrels that ever disgraced the earth. They would be subjected to a bondage which no portion of the Anglo-Saxon race could endure. They would be a prey to men who not only look upon the possessions of the Saints with longing, covetous and greedy eyes, but have an additional incentive to enter upon the spoliation process in the implacable hatred with which they are inspired to aid those they hope to make their victims.

When the Edmunds law was passed, the anti-"Mormon" crusaders expressed almost universal dissatisfaction with it. It was proclaimed as a milk and water measure, and a crusher of more potency and power was wanted. This sentiment of anti-"Mormon" disgust was not lessened by the fact that the position was generally accepted then that the Edmunds act was a double-edged blade, calculated to cut "Gentile" as well as "Mormon." Its enforcement was purposely delayed in the hope that the much wanted Commission would be forthcoming. Efforts were put forth to that end. Gov. Eli H. Murray undertook the labor of acting in the capacity of emissary, left his official post and had himself volitionally interviewed at every available point, besides visiting Washington in the Legislative Commission interest. But the spoilers' covert was not forthcoming.

In a sort of semi-despair the present extra-legal and judicial crusade under the Edmunds Act was instituted. It is being pushed for a good deal more than it is worth, but the average crusader still hugs the legislative commission hope to his eager soul. Every little while this panting desire is expressed, for out of the "fulness of the heart" the mouth will speak. A legislative commission—an absolute autocracy within a Republic—is looked upon as the most complete and effective cover under which spoliation could be conducted in a manner sufficiently wholesale to satisfy the rapacity of the schemers who aim at the ruin of a righteous community. It looks as if it could be made a short road to riches without putting forth too much labor in the process of accumulation.

But, commission or no commission, one of the chief purposes of the crusade, viewed from a local standpoint, will not be lost sight of. We would regret to have even a remote idea that such an abnormal condition would ever be reached in this great country as the sweeping away of a semblance of Republican government in any part of its domain and the substitution of absolutism. But even if this undesirable situation should not arise, we incline to the belief that the spoliation part of the crusaders' programme will show itself, and our estimate of the motives of the enemies of the Saints will be exhibited still more plainly than heretofore. This journal has always proclaimed their moral rottenness and hypocrisy, as exhibited in their actions, which have ever been at variance with their lip expressions. They have been compelled, in order to protect themselves from the lash of the law, to acknowledge their own baseness—that the element of sexual morality did not enter into the "Mormon" question at all. Their actions have also vindicated the position that we have taken regarding their professions of love for liberty. While such sentiments have been upon their lips they have, in the same breath, advocated the most damnable political heresies of the most oppressive hue.

Future developments will manifest whether the allegations as to their designs for spoliation and robbery are correct. If the Commission covert is not provided, they may make the attempt without its grateful shadow. Already are they throwing out "feelings," or "sounders," in that direction. The Saints are told that if they do not give up their religious convictions

their "property will be attacked." Every few days do these straws whirl in the wind of anti-"Mormon" conspiracy. Every whiff of the breeze begins to indicate that actual robbery is in the mind's eye portion of the prospective anti-"Mormon" programme.

WHAT THEIR ACTIONS HAVE INDICATED.

The usual tactics of the rule or ruin anti-"Mormon" clique of this city were brought to bear on Associate Justice Powers, Judge of the First Judicial District Court. Being the first democratic appointee to a judicial position in this Territory for many years, and the first in that line made by the ruling administration, the anxiety to capture him and get him entangled within the meshes of the extra-legal ring was evidently quite feverish. The evidences of this intense desire were unusually interesting to the dispassionate onlooker, but, when analyzed, not particularly flattering to the honorable Judge.

The date on or about which Judge Powers was expected to arrive was understood, but in order that the current term of court might not lapse, it was opened by Associate Justice Boreman, who received a special appointment for the purpose. Common courtesy to the gentleman who had been appointed to preside permanently in the judicial district would have suggested the propriety of merely opening the court and adjourning over a few days, until the new judge could come on, assume the duties of his office and attend to his own business. But this was not in the programme. It appeared necessary in the minds of the schemers that a grand jury should be manufactured and packed according to their particular plan, that the coming man might be compelled to sink his individuality and run in the groove plowed in the judicial plank with their plane. They were not willing to trust so important a business in what they evidently considered green hands. Green timber warps by exposure to the weather and sometimes causes the manipulator much trouble to straighten it out.

Not content with this sticking of the thumbs of the Republican schemers into the Ogden judicial pie, they also thrust in their index fingers, evidently for the double purpose of extracting a few of the plums, and at the same time acting as feeders for the Ogden Grand Jury, which they had, by their peculiar hocus pocus arrangement, prepared for Judge Powers' court. Thus was a portion of the Third District manipulating machinery rolled onward to the Junction City. Commissioner McKay, the gentleman whose rulings on the cohabitation question were not given in his court but to a gaping world through the columns of the anti-"Mormon" organ, was on hand, together with deputy marshals from this quarter, so that, with the aid of the District Attorney, a side-show to the proposed judicial circus was put in full blast. It might have occurred to the new Judge appointed by a Democratic administration that this was a kind of double-barrelled judicial arrangement. But it was necessary that he should be initiated fully into the devious ways of Republican anti-"Mormon" Federal officials, that he might run his judicial train on the same track.

There is a U. S. Commissioner in Ogden, but when the pompous McKay, who decided that cohabitation is proved when it is shown that there are "opportunities" within reach of the accused for engaging in sexual intercourse, appears on the scene, all other officials of smaller calibre must stand aside. When there are "opportunities" of putting the government to unnecessary expense by running a Commissioner's Court and a grand jury at the same time, all other Commissioners may as well button their pockets. He evidently imagines his to be sufficiently capacious to hold all the loose change derived in that way.

What are the hypotheses upon which such doings as described are founded? There are two inferences that can be drawn upon that subject.

In the first place it may be considered that the schemers imagined Judge Powers to be an inexperienced ignoramus, incapable of attending to the duties of the office to which he had been appointed. Consequently it was necessary to give him a start, to initiate him into the manner of manipulating matters judicial. They even went so far as to have the Grand Jury of his court charged for him. However, he showed his deep sense of gratitude for this favor by recharging them, so that there is in the First District to-day a double-charged Grand Jury, so that they may be fairly estimated as being pretty well loaded. Thus, in so many words, the ring said, by their actions, to Judge Powers, "Now, my little boy, we expected you didn't know much, but we have given you a good start, so you can go ahead without any trouble."

On the other hand it may be taken that the object was to place Judge Powers in a position that he would have to walk on the line chalked out by the clique, turning neither to the right nor the left. He must sink his originality, his freedom, his prerogative to administer the law according to his

own ideas, and independent conclusions as to constructions that should be placed upon the statutes.

In order to cover up the ulterior motives which incited these tactics, the usual taffy game was tried on the new Judge, who, in the whole matter has been given no credit for ordinary penetration. It is one of the grossest insults to a man of high susceptibility and keen sense of honor to try to make him a mere machine or tool, and then attempt to cover up the subterfuge by an appeal to his vanity. Those who resort to such processes show that they imagine they are operating upon a phant nobody or a conceited ignoramus, lacking in the requisite ability to perceive the motives which form the main-springs of the actions of tricksters.

We know nothing of Judge Powers, and have no ground upon which to form an adequate opinion of his capacity or integrity. It is time enough to vent an expression in that relation about men when they have given the fruits of their qualities. Premature judgment is apt to be faulty, and, even when formed, its enunciation might inflict an injustice. While, thus far, his inclination might be imagined, from some indications, to partake of the prevalent prejudice against the majority of the people here, it is only just to presume that he generally proposes to build and sustain a reputation as a sound and incorruptible lawyer, and that he will not elect to pipe on one tune at the dictation of anybody. We have no desire to have such an opinion of the gentleman as is evidently entertained by those who have shown so much anxiety to force him to dance to their music.

DESPICABLE DOINGS IN IDAHO.

The record of the doings of the Republican anti-"Mormons" in Idaho is enough to cause an honest man to hold his breath. Bear Lake County has been swept clear of every officer elected by the popular vote, and a new lot installed by autocratic decree, in flagrant opposition to the wish of the people.

The Federal official clique in the Territory to the north of us are "traders in public office," and have doubtless clothed with local official authority, without legal process, a lower grade of rascals than themselves, for, as our correspondent remarks, they have been fraternizing with, and using as tools for the furtherance of their base designs, thieves, murderers and black-legs. These are the characters that are supplanting the officers elected by 400 votes to seven.

Doubtless the course taken in Bear Lake County will soon be duplicated in the County of Bingham. Thus will a large section of country and an honest people be subjugated to a rule of official rascality such as has scarcely been paralleled in this or any other nation.

How long the populace will quietly and submissively endure the galling yoke of bondage that is being placed upon their necks is a question that cannot now be answered. Affairs are not likely to improve northward unless some effectual steps are taken to check the operations of tyranny. When such villains as the Idaho conspirators are in possession of the reigns of power they are not likely to lose opportunities for despoiling the people, and whatever chances in that direction may be wanting, they will doubtless have no scruples about making. If the people are pushed to the wall matters may take a still more undesirable phase than they now present, for while the Saints are noted for patience, it is not to be expected that they can endure everything. If they were once to retaliate against the encroachments of the oppressor, there is no knowing where the matter would end; for if the suppressed indignation were once to find vent, a small storm would be likely to culminate in a terrific whirlwind. We hope that they will, however, maintain themselves in patience, and seek pacifically and energetically for redress.

Every one of the federal officials who is aiding the crusade in Idaho, should be hurled from office by the Administration. No action could possibly be more legitimate under its declared policy in relation to removals for cause. These men in the north are "offensive partisans" of the most pronounced type.

We are not now speaking of their inexcusable attitude toward the Latter-day Saints, although that ought to be sufficient cause for the application of the official pruning knife. It is mentioned in a strictly party sense. The entire movement in Idaho is partisan, as can readily be shown.

The Republican object has been to strip all "Mormons" of the elective franchise and the right to hold office. The reason for this is obvious—the Territory must be held Republican in politics. This is impossible so long as the Saints hold the rights guaranteed them under the Constitution, because it is a notable fact that as a body they have always voted with the Democrats. Without their votes the Democracy cannot carry the Territory; with them, however, victory perches upon its banner. With the sweeping away of the "Mormon" right to vote, the democratic hold upon Idaho is extinguished. The most offensive partisanship is consequently being exercised in order to secure and maintain a Republican grip.

All who are taking any part in this conspiracy should be unceremoniously ousted from office and consigned to ignominious oblivion, as perversers of the institutions of the country.

A KINDLY DISPOSITION.

By courtesy of a friend we are enabled to publish an extract from a letter he has just received from a prominent business man in St. Louis. The writer doubtless represents a class of large-souled people who are not carried away by the popular prejudice against the "Mormons."

"I have read all the papers you have kindly sent me with the details concerning Mr. Angus M. Cannon, and I am very sorry to learn of the final result of the trial. I suppose he will have to serve out his time in prison, and the object of this letter is to learn where he will be sent. I have noticed by the papers that some of the 'Mormons' have been sent to Detroit. In case Mr. Cannon is sent there, I might be able to render him a little service, as I have some very good friends living at Detroit, and most assuredly would request them to use their influence to make his stay as pleasant as possible. I noticed he showed the right kind of spirit, and I can congratulate him on that if nothing else. At all events he has my sympathy, and if I can do anything for him it shall be gladly done."

ITS PALPABLE PURPOSE.

A SPECIAL report of the Grand Jury of the First Judicial District appears in this issue. Owing to the crowded conditions of the columns of this journal we were unable to insert it sooner. As we understand it, the alleged investigation grew out of an intimation expressed by the Ogden Herald to the effect that circumstances seem to indicate that United States Attorney Dickson and United States Commissioner McKay had pooled fees in the anti-"Mormon" cases. The grand jury was supposed to inquire into the truth or falsity of this insinuation. They have, however, spread themselves over a great deal of ground in order to cover the several officials they mention with a mixture of taffy and whitewash. They have not only exonerated the persons at whom the allegation was aimed from all liability to censure in the premises, but have given them and some others a certificate of general good character. The report in this respect is greatly strained, the object aimed at being so palpable as to render it ridiculous.

Puffing being in order, except when the hapless editor of our Ogden cotemporary is touched upon, the Grand Jury take their share of the distending operation and spurn the idea of their being after the order of sardines—placed in position by packing process. This is funny; for it is a notorious fact that of late there has been no Grand Jury in Utah that has not been packed after the anti-"Mormon" plan, the one manufactured and charged for Judge Powers being no exception to the rule.

In their report, the Ogden Grand Jury said in effect: It is "upright and honest" for a U. S. District Attorney and U. S. Commissioner to run a committing magistrate's court while the Grand Jury is in session prepared to investigate all offenses against the laws; especially when "Mormons" are the persons accused. This is an unnecessary piling up of expense upon the government and a pouring of ducats into the pockets of those engaging in the scheme, but it is all according to the genuine Republican anti-"Mormon" plan, and consequently is a high-minded and unquestionably proper transaction. It is also eminently proper that the favorite Commissioner should run his court on wheels outside of the district in which he resides, and go to places where other Commissioners are located, that the fees created by the committing court side show may find a lodging in his pouch.

The report makes two matters glaringly manifest: The Ogden Grand Jury's estimate of official integrity is not excessively high, while their offensive partisanship has reached the most elevated point attainable. In these essentials they are in strict harmony with those by whom they were stuffed into the jury panel.

TIME TO "BOUT SHIP."

The news from Idaho is, in so many words, that a county has been stolen from the people by a band of political thieves and conspiring rogues, who are bent on the overthrow of local self-government, and would, if they had the power, effect the ruin of their country. We hope there will now be a let-up on the part of certain individuals who are so prone to indulge in hopeful false sentiment and lull the public mind to rest in the face of evils which are threatening, day after day more ominously, the very existence of government and society. Let there be no more maudlin buncombe about the glorious future in store for this great country, if such things are not

put down with a firm, strong hand. That "glorious future," is a long way off, if political robbery like that lately perpetrated in Bear Lake County can be passed by with impunity by the American people.

And what assurance is there that it will not be, when we think of how the present Governor of Utah still sits secure in the seat he has disgraced by a political crime even blacker than the Bear Lake County outrage? The Governor of Idaho and his villainous tools have stolen a county, but Eli H. Murray attempted to filch the whole of Utah Territory, when he issued the fraudulent certificate of election Congressional delegate to Allen Campbell, and put his official signature to a lie. These things appear to be growing. And yet there are editors and other hopefulists who will say, in the teeth of the actual commission of such deeds, that they cannot be done on American soil; that, like dynamism, which is also a terrible, growing evil, they cannot become popular in this country, for the American people would not tolerate them.

The fact is that America is in just a much danger from dynamism as kindred deviltries which it fosters in toleration and passes by with impunity as any of the inonarchies of Europe, and it is about time for editors, preachers and political leaders to stop this everlasting cant about "freedom from danger," "exemption from evil threatening the effete nations of the old world," etc., and get down to the bed rock of their duty and lift the warning voice, both long and loud, that the people of this nation may be roused, before it is too late, to a sense of their real position; that they see the rocks and breakers that are ahead, and "bout ship" ere a grand old craft that has sailed on a hundred years in safety, is dashed to pieces upon the treacherous and jagged shore towards which she is being hurried by pilots who are either heedless or blind, while the work of destruction is being expedited by the anarchists who are scuttling the vessel's hold.

RIEL'S POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS PROCLIVITIES.

An eastern paper publishes what purports to be a lengthy interview with Louis Riel. If it is authentic, it casts new light upon the political issues involved in the late half-breed rebellion. He announces his object to be the freeing of the New World from the yoke of Rome and the redressing of the political grievances of the half-breeds. He did not hope to prevail in a contest against a regular force, but it was his intention to protract the fighting until the Canadian Government should be compelled to grant just terms. The half-breeds, he claims, were rebels; they were not fighting for their own. And this, it may be added, is a certain sense, undeniably true. Was the Dominion Government sent its surveyors into the northwestern territory to cut up the land into sections, quarter-sections, they ran their lines without regard to the lands already occupied by the half-breeds, who, of course, picked out the best land near the water courses. All that the half-breeds ask is to have their title to their farms recognized, and this has never yet been done. This fact constitutes a grievance more bitter than any to be borne.

Riel's religious views are thus stated: "We believe that all true believers constitute the true Church. Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are Christians, and all Christians make the Church holy, catholic and vital. We thus embrace all denominations in our faith. We do not believe in the infallibility of the Pope. That infallibility doctrine Rome has done much harm. The prophets and apostles were not infallible. We believe in the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures and the right of every man to read and learn the truths they contain. We believe in a regular ordained ministry. We would accept ministers of all denominations in our ministry without regarding denominations. We prefer the Episcopal form. We would like to have a head Bishop for the Dominion of the New World, who would be independent of Rome. We do not think affairs of the church can be rightly ministered so far away. In fact, Rome has ceased to be the holy apostolic See. It is now a great organization of political diplomacy. We pray to God, Christ, to Mary, to the Saints. These persons of trinity are in these three highest; God the Father is perfect and highest; God the Son is perfect and highest; Mary is pure, but not perfect, and in her dwells the Holy Ghost. We believe in the final salvation of all men. The agonies of hell may be endured for countless ages, but the mercy that reached earth is not beyond the reach of hell."

Heretofore the rebellious Riel has been looked upon as a devout Catholic, but if his religion be in accordance with the foregoing definition, he is very far from that standard. He has the sympathy of Catholics throughout the French Canadians, who are mostly of that sect, promptly raised funds for him.

LIFE PRESERVER.

If you are losing your grip on life, try Wells' Health Renewer. Go direct to weak spots.