

a rule of the Mormon institution in seeking and accepting office without the permission of the Mormon Church, he clearly made himself liable to the treatment which has been meted out to him. And in this view of the case it is quite clear that Mr. Thatcher is insincere in seeking to use his violation of Church discipline as an argument in favor of his election to the United States Senate.

If the Democratic Legislature of Utah should be influenced in Mr. Thatcher's favor because of his treatment by the Church to which he has professed allegiance, the Legislature would be clearly guilty of doing by indirection what it is prohibited by the constitution from doing directly, viz.: of interfering in a church matter which in no way concerns it.

The Mormon people have shown a far better temper in this whole affair than any of their critics. It is entirely outside the province of the Utah Legislature to vindicate Mr. Thatcher in a matter that pertains solely to the Mormon Church; and if the Legislature of Utah should assume any such responsibility it will have entered upon a very dangerous proceeding, and one which will absolutely dissolve the Mormon Church from its expressed obligation not to interfere in politics.

There is a fundamental principle involved in this controversy which the Gentiles of Utah should not lose sight of.

TWO MINERS KILLED.

PRICE, Utah, Nov. 24.—A heavy explosion occurred at the St. Louis Gison Asphaltum company's mine, three miles from Duchesne, at 8:30 this afternoon, in which two men were killed and three others slightly injured, says a special dispatch to the Tribune. The killed are Charles Anderson, aged 30, of Ashley, Utah, and Andy Gains of Park City, Utah. Anderson leaves a wife and four children, Gains is unmarried. Both were working in the mine when the explosion occurred. The injured are three foreigners from Price, Utah, named Warren and Bunce, the name of the other not being known. They were standing about 150 yards from the mine and were struck by flying timbers. Their injuries are very slight.

The explosion was terrific, the report being heard distinctly at Vernal, 30 miles away. All the buildings at Fort Duchesne were shaken and many of the window glasses broken.

The explosion was caused by the combustion of asphaltum dust and gas. The mine immediately took fire. The heat was so intense that it is impossible to get near it, flames rising from all three of the shafts, one hundred feet in height, and there was no possible way of extinguishing them.

It is not probable that the bodies of Anderson or Gains will ever be recovered, as they must have been cremated by the flames.

The entire command from the fort were mounted and hurried to the scene of disaster, but were unable to render any assistance. The nearest water is two miles distant, and if it were possible to turn the Duchesne river into the mine it is doubtful if it would extinguish the flames. At 8:30, after

burning three hours, it shows no sign of abatement.

Mr. Bert Seaboldt, the mine superintendent, and Tom Taylor, manager, were returning from Salt Lake, where they had been summoned as witnesses in a suit for damages caused by a similar explosion about two years ago. They have not yet reached the mine.

SHOCKING CASE DISCOVERED.

Living in filth and squalor, with surroundings even unfit for animals, a family was found yesterday by Officers Holbrook and McMurray of the society for the prevention of cruelty to children, says the San Francisco Chronicle of Nov. 25. The parents, one drunk to the verge of dementia, were arrested and the children, ragged and dirty, taken to a home of refuge.

In Banning place, a narrow alley running off Green street, near Stockton, so the officers were informed, a dump cart driver named Joseph Arata lived with his wife and five children in a condition that was a menace even to that neighborhood. Holbrook and McMurray determined to investigate the case last night, and shortly after 8 o'clock went to the place. The front door being locked they were compelled to try a rear one, and after considerable trouble caused by a refusal of the wife of Arata to admit them, an entrance was effected to the kitchen, where they were confronted by a scene of filth that was nauseating.

On a table, lighted by the sickly glare of a dirty lamp, were the remnants of the evening meal, if it could be called such, the dishes grimy and black and the few crusts of bread that remained in the same condition. The floor was foul with dirt, increased by leaks in the roof, and the few articles of furniture with which the room was supplied were all coated with grease and filth. The place was full of sickening odors.

Mrs. Arata, a wild-eyed Italian woman of about 35 years, demanded to be broken English, interspersed with oaths, the nature of the officers' business. Her clothing was in keeping with the room—scanty, ragged and filthy. She had been drinking freely from a large wicker-covered demijohn of sour wine and was in an ugly mood. The officers asked the whereabouts of her husband, but her answers were unsatisfactory, so they determined to continue the investigation.

Passing from the kitchen they entered a small bedroom and were greeted with a sight that was worse, if possible, than the one they had just left. On a bed in one corner of the room three small boys lay asleep beneath a thin coverlet that was, like all else in the room, almost rotted away with filth. They were huddled together for warmth, scarcely any clothing covering them, and all were begrimed and black.

Continuing, a third room was entered and another sight, pitiable in its squalor, was seen. On a bed that appeared as if no human being could occupy it, a little girl of 4 years, entirely devoid of clothing, lay sound asleep and covered by one thin, dirty sheet. In a cradle by her side was a

boy of about 2 years, who at intervals half woke and coughed feebly, as if poisoned by the foul air.

The mother, in an almost maudlin condition, followed the officers as they went through the rooms, and occasionally demanded their business. She resented any assertion that her house was not neat and clean and, despite its vile condition, seemed to regard it as being as good as any one could wish.

Holbrook and McMurray left the house and summoned Patrolman Bakulich to assist them in removing the children to a cleaner place and to arrest the woman. When they returned they were greeted with shrill cries from the children, who had awakened, and found the woman wild with anger. They were endeavoring to calm her when the husband entered. He was a big, fairly good-looking Italian, and in direct contrast to the others of his family, was dressed almost neatly.

He was stolid, and indifferent to the condition of the place, but said that he expected to go to work soon, and would then move from the house. He admitted that things were in a not too clean state, but that fact did not seem to bother him.

The wife was determined that she would not go to prison, and when the patrol wagon arrived refused to assist in dressing the children. She sat on the bed, hurling curses bitter and fast at the officers who removed them. The small boys were assisted in putting on their clothing, and the little naked girl and the baby wrapped up in the dirty bed clothes and taken to the wagon. But when it came the woman's turn she resisted with all her strength. She was finally overcome and carried out, raving and cursing, placed in the wagon, and the whole wretched family driven away from the filthy place they knew as home.

Holbrook and McMurray consider the case as one of the worst ever encountered in this city. They cannot recall any that has exceeded it in wretchedness and filth. The parents will be prosecuted by the society, and steps will probably be taken to provide a home for the five children where their surroundings will be clean and wholesome.

SCOFIELD NOTES.

SCOFIELD, November 25th, 1896.—Robert Pecon while riding on the train to Winter Quarters to work at the mines got his foot caught between two flat cars and bruised it quite badly, though no bones were broken. He will be laid up for some time.

The work at Winters Quarters has dropped off to about half time. This company's mine at Castle Gate is working steady, the orders having gone from here to the Gate on account of the superiority of that coal over this.

The Union Pacific mine here is working better than for a long time past.

Mr. T. H. Thomas is now running the Union Pacific hotel.

Hugh Hunter, who went to Scotland last August, returned to Scofield last week. He reports having a very nice visit and a pleasant voyage.

James Russell, foreman of the U. P. mine, and wife are visiting friends at Rock Springs, Wyoming.

MORMON BOY.