

President Woodruff has figured in all the important movements of the Church. He was a member of Zion's Camp. He helped to open the work in Great Britain, where he baptized hundreds of converts. He has traveled many thousands of miles by land and sea, on foot and by boat and rail, and has been a great and successful missionary. He was one of the first pioneers to enter this valley. He has ministered to the people in the various settlements throughout this and surrounding Territories. He has done a mighty work in the administration of ordinances for the living and the dead in the Temples that have been reared by the Saints. He has been an historian, a legislator, a farmer, a fruit-raiser, an expert fisher and hunter, and a remarkable man in many ways.

His integrity is unimpeached. He is in full possession of his bodily and mental powers, and is wonderfully preserved as a witness for God and the truth of the latter-day dispensation. His testimony is keen and powerful, his capacity for Church business surprising, and his indefatigable perseverance marvellous for one of his age. He has the love and confidence of his people everywhere, and we join with them in wishing him as long and useful a life as he desires and a full fruition of all his hopes and anticipations. God bless him and his forever.

ERRORS OF A WASHINGTON "BUREAU."

A NUMBER of papers receive their Washington news from a "bureau" which sends the same dispatch to all. If the correspondent makes an error, or is biased, the incorrect items he sends are circulated as news over a wide area. We find this to be the case in regard to an alleged report of the recent proceedings before congressional committees on Utah affairs. It appears in identical form in several papers purporting to come from the Washington bureau of each, or their "special correspondent." It contains a number of palpable untruths. Among them are these:

First, that a number of "Mormons" who now claim to be ex-"Mormons," opened up their campaign by presenting to President Harrison a most humiliating and abject memorial for amnesty and that they "asked to have their citizenship restored."

Second, that "then came Delegate Caine with his bill for statehood." This is followed by an incorrect account of the arguments presented before the committees, with the comment concerning the gentlemen who appeared that, "they were rebels under church rule, are rebels now and hated everything having a federal flavor."

Third, that it became "plain enough that with state government Utah would be dominated by the "Mormon" Church and as far as possible would be a secessionist. So the plea for statehood in a moment became not only a farce but an abomination."

Fourth, that the "Liberals" made application for the home rule measure and that "had it not been for the flaco of the Caine crowd it is not altogether improbable that the request of the Liberals, who have been fighting Mormonism

tooth and nail for years, would have been granted and Utah given a provisional government—that is, a government half way between the present form and statehood—a government by the people of the Territory selected under Federal laws and supervised by the President. That seemed to be a fair proposition. It is known as a provisional government."

Fifth, that "The straight-out Republicans of the Territory oppose any change of the present form of government, believing that the Mormon residents of the Territory have not sufficiently departed from their habits and forms to receive statehood."

Then follow a lot of opinions derived from these egregious errors of fact, and which some Washington correspondents seem to think are preferable to news, a common mistake of writers who are engaged to furnish facts and not surmises.

For the benefit of the journals which have been imposed upon by this "bureau" of alleged information, we will point out the absurdity of the untruthful statements they have published:

The application for amnesty was sent to President Harrison by the Presidency and Apostles of the Mormon Church, and has been well received by all parties and pronounced by leading journals as a manly and outspoken document. They were not so ignorant as to "ask to have their citizenship restored." They had never lost that. But they asked for general amnesty for their people who are under disabilities.

They were not ex-Mormons who appeared before the congressional committees. The idea of classing Attorney W. H. Smith, Judge Judd, ex-Governor West, ex-Marshall Dyer and other speakers as ex-Mormons and rebels to the government, will strike their acquaintances as richly humorous.

Mr. Caine did not advocate a statehood scheme for Utah, and the "Caine crowd," as the veracious (?) correspondent calls them, were all advocates of the "home rule" measure which he considers "a fair proposition" and says was submitted by the "Liberals."

The "straight out Republicans," who he explains are opposed to any change of government, were the advocates of the statehood measure, and the "Liberals," whom he credits with the scheme for "a provisional government" were vehemently opposed to both.

Mistakes will happen, even in a letter from an ordinary Washington correspondent. But so many blunders, wilful or otherwise, are rarely to be found in one communication, unless it appears in the Salt Lake Tribune. Is it possible that the immaculate correspondent of that sheet is the "bureau" of these various journals that have been thus deceived? Such stuff as we have exposed is a caricature on journalism and is liable to throw doubt on all the pretended "news from the capital" which appears in papers distant from the seat of government.

"SHAMELESS JOURNALISM."

"The attempt on the part of the News and the Herald to justify and smooth over the speech of Kentucky Smith, and to declare there was nothing in it except

a vigorous statement of the evils which surround the government of Utah, is as shameless a piece of journalism as ever was seen on God's footstool."

THE foregoing is the closing sentence of an editorial paragraph in the Salt Lake Tribune. It is a more "shameless piece of journalism" than can be found in any paper of the age. But it is only one sample of daily utterances from that paper. The villainy of it will be made clear when the fact is shown, that the News has not justified anything alleged to have been said by "Kentucky Smith" which was incorrect, or defamatory, but has condemned that which appeared to be so. And the News has not declared that his speech contained nothing "except a vigorous statement of the evils which surround the government of Utah," or anything like it.

The DESERET NEWS has contrasted two reports of that speech published by the Tribune and showed their essential differences, but has not "justified" either, nor has it accepted either as a true and ungarbled reproduction of Mr. Smith's remarks. But the Tribune has attempted to justify the false report telegraphed by its Washington correspondent, and very rashly produced an alleged full stenographic report, which on comparison proved the telegraphed report to have been "garbled and tinted" for a purpose as we hinted at the first might have been the case.

The Tribune never knows when it has "got enough." When its "shameless journalism" is demonstrated beyond question, it has not the sense to keep still, but snarls, and fumes, and spits venom, and lies, provoking further exposure of its methods.

Concerning the correspondence from Washington which has started this discussion, the Ogden Standard of Tuesday contained an interview with Hon. C. C. Richards, in which that gentleman, just returned from Washington, gave the following interesting particulars:

"He stated that in his presence, the Tribune's Washington correspondent spoke to 'Kentucky' Smith at the conclusion of his speech before the committee and complimented him on the fair statement he had made. He further said that he wished he could reproduce what had been said for the Tribune, but that was not the kind of report his paper wanted. If he sent it, the report would not be published. 'Therefore, I am going to lie about it and lie like the d—' or words to that effect. Mr. Richards says that he had evidently done so from what he could learn."

Further comment is unnecessary, except that the public should form an opinion as to whether such a specially Tribune proceeding is not "shameless journalism."

KILLED BY ELECTRICITY.

AN incident occurred in New York on Friday last which shows the danger of carelessness connected with the manipulation of electricity. A telephone pole had become charged with the electric fluid through contact with a loose wire which had connection with the telephone line. It had been left there by some person who had been