

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - JULY 9, 1873.

ROUGH ON THE WHISKY RING.

THE Sacramento *Rescue* has an extraordinarily severe article upon the whisky ring in this city and Territory, and advocates a sweeping reform as regards them. The following are extracts—

The prowling jackals who hang at the skirts of the political parasites and prostitutes of Washington, and are too corrupt to be foisted into Federal offices in older communities, frequently succeed in gaining territorial positions where mining suits and land claims and individual rights are supposed to be decided inevitably in favor of the party which supplies the largest bribe.

A pack of the offal of political rottenness has been delegated to Utah to administer justice and uproot that dreadful polygamy, which is so shocking to the delicate sensibilities of our prostitutes, drunkards, gamblers, back pay stealers and political corruptors. To uproot polygamy is the rallying cry. To enrich themselves is the real aim of the cormorants. The prostitute, gambler, and saloon keeper, an inseparable trio at all times, desire an untrammelled licence to carry their pollutions into Utah, whence, under Mormon rule, they have been excluded. The trio are willing to pay, and in every contest they wage with the municipal authorities and the people, of course the Judge rules in favor of the brothel ring. The bribe is large, the trade is safe, for if called to account, the Judge can plead that he is destroying polygamy, and that stops the ears of the Christian sentiment of today. Drunkenness, brothel, gambling, and Sabbath desecration, which Christian sentiment tolerates everywhere, are mild evils, for do we not elect the fountain head of drunkenness to the highest office in the State, and do we not declare a citizen ineligible to any office or position who is not in close communion with one or all of these vices? Are not virtuous, moral, sober citizens like John B. Carrington, Geo. W. Simonton, of Solano, or John K. Smith, of Sonoma, or Nathan Porter, of Alameda, utterly ruled out of the possibility of a nomination because the saloon and the brothel wont endorse them?

What a monster is that man who humbly believes in God and the Ten Commandments and the Gospel and Sunday, but has two wives. What a glorious mission to raise that degraded heathen up to the moral standard of his persecuting Judges. What a triumph of reformatory zeal to see him (half) clothed and in his right mind, playing poker in a gambling drunkard on Sunday evening with Judge Strickland, and the two retiring in peace to the brothel favored with the United States judicial patronage. So Judge McKean of Salt Lake, and

* representing the judicial authority of the United States, both declare the people of Utah have no rights which the liquor seller and prostitute are required to respect, and that these interests cannot be taxed or restricted like those of every other class. It is threatened, we understand, by the Mormons, to destroy the saloons by force if they attempt to continue their murderous work in defiance of the people.

The summary process generally applied to horse thieves, we consider severe in the case of mere horse stealing, but in the case of an association bound together to utterly crush and destroy and drive to the worst barbarism and beastliness the whole population of a large Territory, wrenching the law of the United States to force vice and nastiness upon a people unanimously opposed to the common vices of our civilization, we deem the scoundrels fortunate if they meet no worse than the horse thief punishment.

We have nothing to say upon bribery and some other things charged in the above article, but it does appear that it would be impossible for the city authorities to make and execute an ordinance restrictive of the liquor and brothel business that would meet the approbation and co-operation of all the Federal local judiciary. Nor have we had any previous intimation that the people of Salt Lake were thinking of destroying anything or driving off any body, but they do wish that the execution of good and wholesome laws were supported by all those who hold authority, instead of that authority being prostituted to the base purpose of aiding and encouraging those who wilfully break the law and set the municipal authorities at defiance. It is so plain that a fool can see that if the judiciary were known to be determined to support the local laws, the whisky and brothel fraternity would never lift their heads defiantly as they do, nor whisper the first hint of "fighting the city."

THE AFRICAN EXPEDITION.—Sir Samuel Baker, there can be no doubt, is safe enough, for our dispatches say a letter has been received in England from him, dated May 29, and written at Khartoum, a place of considerable importance at the junction of the white and the blue branches of the Nile, 15 or 16 degrees north latitude. The expedition appears to have prospered greatly, and to have effected important results in regard to reducing the inland trade in slaves, and the annexation of the country as far south as the equator to Egypt, that is, to the Khedive's dominions.

Sir S. Baker is still a long way from Livingstone's field of operation, the Victoria Nyanza lying on the equator, and Zanzibar being six degrees south of it. Moreover, Livingstone is understood to be working his way northward it is true, but more to the westward, though if he is successful he may eventually meet Sir Samuel on one of the western branches or supposed branches of Egypt's great river. It is to be hoped, though it remains to be seen whether, the annexation of the territory of the upper Nile to the equator will be serviceable to the adventurous Scotchman in the prosecution of his long and arduous undertaking.

THE BACK PAY.

SENATOR MATT CARPENTER, for speaking out so boldly and unequivocally, at Janesville, Wisconsin, in favor of the increased pay and back pay for Congressmen, is sharply criticised by those who think differently to him upon that subject. The Senator, it will be recollected, argued that members of Congress should receive an equivalent for their services, as a sufficient compensation was necessary to a poor man to enable him to accept office, and in that lay the protection of the poor against the rich, otherwise legislation would naturally drift to the favor of the rich; that each Congress had the right to fix its own salaries, and that it might as properly fix them at the close as at the beginning of a session; that in 1856 and in 1866, members of Congress took the back pay previously voted for them, without such wholesale condemnation; that any man fit to be a congressman, if attentive to business, could make \$7,000 a year; that it was morally better for a congressman to keep his own family in Washington during a session; that the sum named was not more than sufficient to support a congressman and his family in Washington; and that it was the Credit Mobilier sensation that caused the outcry against the "back pay swindle."

Among other papers which have denounced this back pay business, is the St. Louis *Democrat*, a very strong Republican paper. The *Democrat* considers Mr. Carpenter, in this instance, as a lawyer pleading a bad case, and generally as a sensational politician, a sort of political Talmadge, or western Ben. Butler, but in the latter case without the smartness of his eastern prototype. The *Democrat* considers the idea simple nonsense that congressmen should be paid wages equal to the income of men of the highest order of talent, or to pay congressmen as they are the wages of congressmen as they might or ought to be; that in this connection two questions only should be considered—what can the country afford? and what does the average congressman earn before and after his public service? that tested by these criteria \$7,500 was too much; that the average earnings of the members of the 42nd Congress was not \$2,500 for twelve months' labor; while they voted to pay themselves three times that amount for six months' labor; that the men who had agreed to take \$5,000 a year voted themselves \$7,500, and mileage, 20 cents a mile four times a year, succeeding congresses to have no mileage but actual traveling expenses, thus making the remuneration of the late Congress exceed that of former congresses by \$2,500 each member and future congresses by the difference made by the old mileage account.

So far as the Territories or their delegates are concerned on this question, having no voice in Congress they can not be expected to say anything pro or con, either there or anywhere else. They may simply consider themselves subject to such regulations as the whole of Congress, in its enlarged and enlightened wisdom, shall see fit to make.

THE VIRGINIA EXPLOSION.—Our neighbors at Virginia, Nevada, will have a sad and mournful Fourth, a day of funeral scenes instead of patriotic rejoicing. The

awful accident which in a twinkling resulted in such fatality and other disaster is supposed to have been caused by the imprudent handling of such dangerous fulminating substances as nitro-glycerine and giant gunpowder. The lesson is a frightfully costly one.

A TERRIBLE SHAKING.—The earthquake in Italy on the 29th appears to have been very severe. Twenty or thirty persons are reported killed, many injured and hundreds of houses and other buildings levelled to the ground or badly shattered. The inhabitants, as might have been presumed, are represented as much terrified by the catastrophe.

THE FOURTH.

FRIDAY is the Fourth, the glorious Fourth, the anniversary of the birth of American independence, a day fraught with immense results to this continent and the whole world. Of course everybody will celebrate the occasion, in the spirit thereof, so far as each may have conception of the same. We do not hear of any combined monster procession, nor anything of that kind. Nor indeed, is a large procession of old and young in such hot, dry, dusty weather as we usually have here in July much to be commended, and personally we are not sorry to learn that such a thing is not probable. The Fire Brigade, with music, will form a procession, Madame Anna Bishop and troupe, assisted by local talent, will give a concert in the Tabernacle, the Theatre will be open for a grand variety entertainment in the evening, the city will give a grand exhibition of fireworks, and everybody will have his more private and select arrangements to suit the taste of himself, family, or coterie of friends, and these will give ample room and verge for a hearty and patriotic observance of the day.

To those who may need it we may say, don't get drunk and ugly and quarrelsome—it is a poor way to manifest one's patriotism. Let the liquor alone for one day at least. Ice cream, soda water, or something else of that less harmful sort is better for all. The firing of squibs, crackers, and guns, and other gaseous demonstrations, if indulged in, should be so with moderation and in consonance with municipal regulations for the general good, so that no person may suffer unwarrantable annoyance from others, but all may obtain all the enjoyment, from the observance of the day, that can be reasonably desired.

WILL TELL ALL SHE KNOWS.

THAT Brooklyn scandal case, it seems, has by no means come to an end. Further developments are talked of as probable. Beecher's denial was another step in the business, one too long delayed, many think, but "better late than never." Now Bowen is said to be unwontedly restive. He chafes under the recent imputations on his veracity, which however is nothing particularly in his favor, as the greatest liars, sometimes, least like to be told that they are such. But he has been taking vindictive steps, one of which was to wait upon Mrs. Woodhull and endeavor to obtain from her documentary evidence bearing upon the famous case in question, and especially condemnatory of Mr. Beecher. Mrs. W. has several letters from Beecher and Tilton, but it is understood that they have no especial bearing on the case. The following is condensed by a contemporary from the New York *Sun's* report of the above meeting—

At a meeting last evening, at the house of Mrs. Woodhull, in East Thirty-fourth street, were present, Mr. Henry C. Bowen, a son of Mr. H. B. Claflin, Mr. Henry A. Bowen, a son of Mr. H. B. Claflin, Mr. Wood and Bemert, George H. Ellery of Indiana, J. Parker Jordan, Mr. James McDermott of Brooklyn, Mrs. Woodhull, and Miss Tennie Claflin. Judge Reymont announced that the object of the meeting was to obviate in some way the persecution of Mrs. Woodhull. Mr. McDermott said the main object of the attendance of Messrs. Bowen and Claflin was to obtain from Mrs. Woodhull the documentary evidence relating to the charges made against Mr. Beecher. He thought Mr. Bowen had been misled. He had seen letters from Mr. Beecher and Mr. Tilton which he knew contained important facts.

Mrs. Woodhull thought that she had best not be too much hasty to part with this evidence, and hinted that it might be a scheme to take it from her possession. Would they guarantee that the prosecutions against her should cease?

Mr. Bowen regretted that his motives were suspected. He was an old man, and did not wish to go to his grave with any blot on his name. He had arrived at the conclusion that something must be done, and this was his first step.

Mrs. Woodhull replied that, should she prove successful in the trial now progressing against her, she would then reveal all she knew. This closed the meeting, according to report.

Mrs. W. has already told the public a great deal more than is generally considered prudent. If she has more to tell, and of the same sort, somebody should stand under. The lady says she will do it if she escapes safely from the courts. So if anybody is apprehensive of what she may have to reveal, such person might find a continuance of the "persecutive" prosecution of her the most effective way to seal her lips. Perhaps this has been done, for our readers will recollect the telegraphic report the other day of the re-indictment of the lady upon a charge similar to that in the first indictment.

A SENSIBLE VIEW.

THE following from the Idaho *World* is much nearer the truth than are many of the newspaper articles concerning matters and things in Utah—

We know there are bad people among the Mormons as there are among all other denominations; but the number of bad men is not greater, and may be less, among the Mormons of Utah, than in other frontier communities, for the reason that they are more temperate, more industrious, more frugal, than others. The wild stories of Mormon atrocities by those who write books and print newspapers to sell to people as blind as they are, we have always believed to be mere fabrications, usually circulated with malicious intent. Industry and sobriety are not characteristics of debauched and dishonest people; of the industry of the Mormons Utah will be a witness and a monument forever. But we are personally acquainted with a great many Mormon families, having lived in a community, when a boy, one-fourth of the people of which were Mormons, and we had no better or kinder neighbors, and have known no more honest and generous people. Further than this: When Bonney's pamphlet was published, in 1851 we believe it was, exposing a band of horse thieves extending over the entire west and southwest, several of our Gentile neighbors got disgusted with the country, and departed after sunset. The Mormons, not apprehending anything unusual, remained and kept quietly at work. As to the indecent language ascribed to Mormon preachers, we never heard any of it; and we believe Brigham Young to be the best ruler and most comprehensive statesman living.

The writer in the *World* does not seem to be enamored of the domestic relations prevalent in Utah, but that may be excused in him. There are some things domestic hereabouts which we do not approve of either.

GUILTY CARELESSNESS.

THE Gold Hill *News*, commenting on the recent terrible Gold Hill disaster, has the following sensible remarks, which will bear a wide application:—

With the shadows of this terrible disaster still enshrouding the city, and the bodies of the dead who have been recovered from the ruins lying in their coffins, while numbers still are covered by the smoldering remnants of the costly buildings; while the whole community yet stands aghast at the slaughter wrought in a moment of time, and relatives and friends are mourning their loved ones, comes the terrible warning before us—a lesson which should mark its impress on the minds of our people. The storage of so powerful and inflammable a preparation as giant powder in a building in which fully a score of people nightly slept, situated in the heart of the city and over a whole magazine of coal oil, liquors, and other combustible materials, is a crime not only against a city ordinance, but a conspiracy against human life, so inexcusable and criminal as to defy justification. Far be it from us to accuse the dead. We have no feeling but of heartfelt regret, of sincere commiseration. In the dread presence of this terrible slaughter our warning is to the living. We call attention to the law, to the danger which hourly impends over the nearest of our friends, and the safety of our city by the surreptitious storage in cellars and rooms of highly inflammable explosive agents, such as nitro-glycerine, giant powder and gasoline, and bespeak for the common safety of our citizens the most careful watch and stringent regulations in this regard hereafter.

GENTLEMANLY — SAVAGERY.—The Rhett-Cooley duel is another disgraceful instance of human folly, misnamed "honor." It may be taken for granted that each of those gentlemen went to the rendezvous with the full determination of killing his antagonist, because of a petty quarrel over some litigation business between them. It is reasonable therefore to consider that each was a murderer in intent previous to the duel. In that, Cooley paid the penalty of his folly. But Rhett can not be considered other than a murderer in fact. He went to the dark and bloody ground with the express design of killing his antagonist, and

he did so kill him, in accordance with the premeditated design. Rhett therefore should be tried and otherwise dealt with as a murderer a premeditated murder, a murder in cold blood, and maudlin sentimentality should be thrown to the winds. It is time that this barbarous duelling business were scouted and abolished. It is a disgrace to the age. There is nothing reasonable, just, or gentlemanly in it. It is murder from beginning to end, and should be so treated "with the utmost vigor of the law."

A DENIAL AT LAST.—It appears that Mr. Beecher has spoken out at last. In his card in the Brooklyn *Eagle*, published in our dispatches to-day, he flatly denies the truth of the ticklish stories circulated concerning him, and denounces them as utterly false. This denial will probably be satisfactory to the general public, which has long been expecting something of the kind as nothing more than due under the circumstances. The story now, more than ever, is a mere matter of veracity, and the public can take its choice in regard to which side of the story is most worthy of credence. Hitherto the affair has been enveloped in mystery, but it must be said, now he has given a flat denial, that Mr. Beecher has the best of it, for on the side on which the charges are made there has been manifest a large amount of venom, while he has refrained from any public expression of the kind.

The Woodhull, Claflin and Blood, for their part in uttering this and other stories, have been re-indicted on a charge of publishing and circulating obscene literary matter.

HOW TO GET GOOD HELP.—So difficult is it to obtain satisfactory domestic "help" in the Eastern as well as in the Western States, that residents of the Quaker City have organized a society, called the "Philadelphia Householders' Association," open to householders in search of servants, entrance fee one dollar. The object of the association is to import domestic servants from Europe, mostly from Germany, Denmark and Sweden, the cost of which for each emigrant to New York is about sixty dollars. Of one importation of girls from near Stockholm, all found situations within a week after their arrival. Orders were sent by the society for another batch of 200 and it was designed to send for 500 more early this month. A member of the association employing one of these girls pays \$6 down and gives a note for \$54, to be deducted from the wages of the girl, who receives \$8 per month and agrees to remain at her situation one year. A similar society for San Francisco is recommended in the papers of that city. The Swedes are good to work.

HOW TO MAKE MONEY.—The New York *Tribune* thinks hunting up the KuKlux in North Carolina was a rather profitable business, even if some innocent persons did suffer with the guilty. The Charleston *News and Courier* says the General Assembly appropriated \$35,000 to pay the rewards offered by Gov. Scott for the apprehension and conviction of persons engaged in KuKlux conspiracy; that \$21,000 of this money was paid to Major Lewis Merrill of the U. S. army, who was in command of the counties under martial law, and that the remainder was distributed in this way: To the arbitrators for their trouble, \$2,500; Thomas M. Wilkes, \$7,000; H. D. Byron, \$1,600; grand total, \$34,900; balance left in the treasury, \$103.

With such remuneration probably some of the above named parties, and certainly some other people, would be glad to spend all their working days in hunting KuKlux.

ANOTHER CABLE.—The mammoth ship, the *Great Eastern*, has succeeded in laying another and a better cable across the Atlantic, having done which she is off after the cable of 1865, to pick it up for the purpose of having it repaired, as its continuity as an electric agent ceased some time since. The great vessel, once considered a failure and a huge mistake, has found her sphere of usefulness, a noble and most remarkable one, undreamed of by her designers and constructors.