

through this paper, for general benefit, on the subject of the course to be pursued towards offenders against the laws of the land and of the Church. A case that arose in his neighborhood has given rise to this application.

Two brethren quarrelled over some dispute and came to blows. The encounter was witnessed by several persons and was publicly known. Yet no action was taken either before the Ward or before a court. The affair caused much discussion, and it was contended by some that the parties ought to have made a public confession of their wrong. The writer of the letter added to this the opinion that they ought then to have been taken before a Justice of the Peace and punished for their offense. But many condemned the latter idea and also the action taken by him in another case. When acting as Justice of the Peace he passed sentence upon a brother guilty of a breach of the peace. His course, he says, was considered a violation of the law of God that brother should not go to law against brother.

The law of the Lord requires that he who offends many shall be chastened before many; that he who offends openly shall be rebuked openly. (Doctrine and Covenants Section xlii, 30, 31.) It is the duty of the Teachers "to see that there is no iniquity in the Church, neither hardness with each other," etc. Such a case as that described should be reported to the Bishop of the Ward, who should take such action as the circumstances require. It is not for us to say what ought to be done in any given occurrence. On general principles, however, the course to be pursued is clear. He who sins before many should be rebuked before many, and when members of the Church make a public scandal they should make a public acknowledgment. Circumstances vary in different cases, and it is for the local authorities to determine each case upon its own merits.

It is quite right that those who break the law of the land should be punished by the law of the land. If men steal, or murder, or commit crime of any kind they are amenable to the criminal law. Neither the Justice or the jury that tries an offender of that kind, nor the officers making the arrest or the witnesses who truly testify in the case, if all brethren, violate the rule of the Church that brother shall not go to law against brother. That regulation applies to civil cases, to disputes between members of the Church that can be settled by aid of the Teachers or before the Church courts. It does not refer to breaches of the criminal law. The distinction is obvious. Everybody ought to understand it and perceive the difference. The Church does not try men and women for crimes against the public, except so far as their fellowship and standing in the Church are affected. The penalties of the criminal law must be inflicted by that law.

If a member of the Church breaks the law, a brother or sister is not under condemnation for assisting in the vindication of the law, unless it is done vindictively, in a spirit of malice or revenge. But civil suits are another thing entirely. If a man steals, he is liable to arrest and punishment, even if the person from whom he has stolen has no desire to complain against him. The law claims him and provision is made to inflict its penalties upon him. It is a public offense and passes from private management. But if a man owes another a debt and does not pay it, that is a private affair which can be settled between the parties or with the aid of the Church. And not until those means which the Church has provided to secure justice between brethren have been exhausted, has the wronged brother the right, as a Church member, in such case to appeal to the secular law. So with disputes between brethren on any private matter.

But though it is right and proper that he who breaks the criminal law shall be punished by the criminal law, it does not follow that in every case a quarrel like that described must of right and necessity be brought to criminal trial. A peace officer witnessing a fight ought to arrest the parties, and the fact that he is a brother and they are brethren should have nothing to do with his course. The law is no respecter of persons. It knows neither "Mormon" nor "Gentile," saint nor sinner. But every person is not required to turn common informer. If two men quarrel and come to blows, and neither of them makes a legal complaint against the other, we know of no requirement that binds every witness to the quarrel to make complaint before a magistrate. At the same time, if a bystander does this he cannot be condemned for going to law with his brother, for, as we have shown, that rule relates to the civil and not the criminal law.

A little common sense, good judgment and calm discretion should be exercised in such matters. Excessive desire to magnify petty offenses and make a public affair of something that could be settled in private without injury to the community, is to be discouraged everywhere. Justices of the Peace should not be over anxious for business. Constables should do their duty without partiality. But small disturbances can often be quelled without the necessity of a judicial investigation. It is a shame and disgrace to any persons calling themselves members of the Church to be engaged in a personal physical encounter. Think of Saints

fighting with each other! Such conduct cannot be tolerated by the Church. Men who so far forget themselves and their covenants as to commit this wrong, ought to be willing to confess their sin and ask forgiveness of those whom they offend. And if they sin before many they should be rebuked before many, that they may be ashamed and that others may be deterred from similar wrong-doing.

And the hands of the conservators of the public peace should be strengthened. Rowdiness and violence should be discouraged. The local courts are organized for the purpose of protecting the public welfare. They should, with their officers, be honored in their sphere. It would be a great deal better for some people inclined to lawlessness to be brought before the local courts and punished, than be allowed to proceed in their evil ways to the disturbance of the public and their own progress on the path of destruction.

Let each organization claim its own. The Church has its sphere, the courts have theirs. Neither should interfere with the other. Order should be maintained, even if the exercise of the powers of both are necessary to its maintenance. And those who are in authority will be held responsible for the proper discharge of their duties or the neglect of their responsibilities. "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's."

MR. DICKSON AS A SOLUTIONIST.

HERE is Mr. Dickson's proposition in a nutshell, as declared in his argument in the Arnold case on Saturday: The law aims at the destruction of the polygamous status. It can be demolished by the polygamist filing a paper with the Court declaring the tie between himself and his plural wives null and void, because illegal, and obtaining a decree from the Court to the same effect. The relationship of the man towards his plural wives becomes by that process the same as that of a man toward a woman who has been his legal wife but has been judicially divorced. Any subsequent association between the man and his plural wives is then legally innocent, so far as the Edmunds law is concerned.

Suppose this new theory were judicially endorsed. Suppose further that it should be universally accepted by all men having plural wives and families, what would be the result? Simply this: So far as the law is concerned existing families could remain intact, as their associations would be legally innocent as they are intrinsically. Then matters would be in the same social status as they were before the inauguration of the crusade—of which the District Attorney has been the head and front.

Now, as the acme of that gentleman's ambition appears to be to destroy the domestic institutions of the Latter-day Saints, can any one see how it could be accomplished by his new theory? Would it not, if endorsed and accepted as heretofore suppositionally expressed, result rather in their solidification? In the event of judicial endorsement and the acceptance by the Saints of the new process, it may readily be imagined with what erratic suddenness the District Attorney would turn his coat and repudiate his new creation of a perplexed and disoriented mentality.

He is making such glaring blunders in his blind fury, and exhibiting such unseemly spleen that we know that a good many of his so-called Gentile friends are totally disgusted with his doings. Some day he will make that discovery himself. Of late he has acted more after the manner of a bull in a China shop than a rational being. By taking that course he is doing himself more injury than he does his victims, much as present appearances may seem the other way. The holding of a little brief authority has intoxicated him with an inflated conception of his own powers, of which he has an exuberant estimate. When shorn of the official position which he prostitutes, as he will be in time, he will doubtless be surprised at the smallness of the hole into which he will be able to crawl. He will yet feel as if it would add to his comfort to pull the aperture in after him. In the language of an eminent American thinker—"Things refuse to be long mismanaged."

THE ELECTIONS.

THE elections which occur throughout the United States next month are second in importance only to the Presidential contest, as the entire House of Representatives in Congress is to be chosen. If a majority of Republicans should be elected, the hands of the administration would be completely tied, as both branches of the national legislature would then be in the hands of the opposition, and a recurrence of the scenes which so excited the nation during the incumbency of Andrew Johnson, on a modified scale, might be looked for. This, however, is extremely improbable while being possible; the Democrats have now a large majority in the House, while State

legislatures yet to be chosen may elect enough Democratic Senators to cut out the Republican majority in that body and make it politically a tie; in fact the former party have but to gain three seats in the absence of the hasty admission of a Republican Territory like Dakota, to reverse the status there and give the Democrats the supremacy; this, however, is also improbable; and the object is mainly to hold out to what is already in possession. Of course each party is doing its utmost, and the result will be looked forward to with considerable anxiety.

While not essentially training with either of the great national organizations, the people of Utah have an interest in the outcome. With a population three times as great as Nevada and fully equal to that of Colorado and Oregon, we have only a Delegate who cannot vote and who has no voice except when matters directly affecting his Territory are before the House, while each of the States named have two votes in the Senate and one in the House, with the privilege of debating any proposition or discussing and subject whatever. It is therefore all the more imperative that a representative citizen of sterling integrity and commanding ability give us what little of representation the law allows us. So far there have been no complaints made. Though our Delegate can give no material support to one or the other of the parties, he can to some extent assist the one he prefers in a moral way and aid it signally at times when the affairs of the people he represents are in question as the subject of legislation. We believe our representatives with but one exception—Hon. J. F. Kinney—have been Democrats, and so enrolled themselves on the political register at Washington.

STRIKING OUT INDEPENDENTLY.

THE "Mormon" people who reside in Idaho are in a political plight not calculated to excite envy. They are beset by foes on every side. Those who have formerly professed friendship for them, from a political standpoint operate with as much unscrupulousness toward them as those who have these many years been their open and avowed enemies. Indeed, it is hard to draw the line as to whether the Republicans or Democrats of our sister Territory are the worst foes of the most solid citizens of that section of the country. It looks as if, politically speaking, the "Mormons" were discovered that those of their own political complexion are their bitterest or at least their most dangerous enemies.

In consequence of this predicament, the victims being raked by two fires, the "Mormons" have, as related by our Paris, Bear Lake, correspondent in yesterday's issue, organized an Independent Party. They propose not to affiliate with either of the great political organizations, but to operate in the way that seems conducive to their best interests. John Halley having turned his back upon the "Mormons," they, together with men of both the Republican and Democratic parties who desire fair play and good government, intend to nominate and put in the field for Delegate to Congress a candidate of their own. This proposal is the result of John Halley's pronounced injustice toward his own friends, having sustained the anti-"Mormon" plank in the Democratic platform and the action of the party convention in expelling "Mormon" delegates from that body.

It being impossible for the solid citizens of Southern Idaho to vote for the infamous Dubois, and John Halley having lost his backbone under the vindictive pressure of an unreasonable popular prejudice, and thus shown himself unworthy of the confidence of the people, an independent action, by the nomination of a candidate, appears to be the only resource.

"ANTI-MORMON HEAD-QUARTERS."

THE above announcement startles all beholders on entering the office of United States Commissioner House at Oxford, Idaho. This one-house official was chosen under the Republican regime which has wrought so much ruin to our neighbor on the north, with special regard to his hatred of the people against whom he was to dispense law. He was selected for the purpose of making fees—for himself and the officials who profit by indictments and arrests under the Edmunds Act—and of making it hot for every "Mormon" who could be ensnared in the net woven for the special enslavement of his class.

Nothing delights House so much as to help "cinch" a "Mormon." It was he who committed a prominent "Mormon" preacher and placed him under \$5,000 bonds, recently, for stating that he was "the son of a polygamist" and advising monogamous "Mormons" to vote and maintain in the courts their rights at the polls. This was construed into "inciting rebellion against the laws of the United States." The movement was a political dodge. It was also prompted by religious hatred, House

was a fitting medium for the working of both motives. His intense anti-"Mormon" bias is only excelled by his greed for fees. He is totally unfit for such a position as that in which he is placed. His one-sided course is notorious. If ever there was a clear case of "offensive partizanship," it is his.

Just think for a moment of the open declaration of his partizanship in the announcement that appears in the most conspicuous place in his office! When a "Mormon" is brought there by a deputy or appears there for any cause, he is confronted with the declaration that the person who is to act as a committing magistrate in his case is prejudiced against him from the start. In every "Mormon" matter the defendant may rest assured that he who enters here leaves hope behind. It is generally understood that he is the tool of Dubois and an instrument of vengeance. His case should be investigated. It is worse than a burlesque on justice. It is too flagrant to be treated lightly. It is an outrage on the judicial branch of the government of Idaho Territory and will stand as a blot and disgrace upon it while such a person remains in the position which he defiles by his presence.

Apart from his personal character into which we have no wish to enter and from the partizan proceedings which have taken place in his so-called court, the announcement in the room in which "Mormons" are made victims to political exigencies, sectarian hate and a lust for fees, should be enough to stamp the man as entirely out of place as a U. S. Commissioner or any other officer who is called upon to exercise judgment and discretion and act in fairness under the law. Put him out.

A CREDITABLE SHOWING.

THERE are many reasons why the officers and stockholders of Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution should feel gratified at the condition of its business, as set forth in the report of its president and the financial exhibit which appeared in these columns yesterday. This institution is, to a certain extent, representative of the Latter-day Saints in the commercial circles of the country, and business men will have their ideas of this people very materially influenced by what they may learn of its policy and condition. If Z. C. M. I. were to find itself in a position which required it to seek leniency at the hands of its creditors; if by a failure to declare dividends its stock were to become depreciated; if by any mismanagement of its affairs it should fail to fill the field assumed by it, we should quickly hear all its short-comings attributed to the innate faults of the "Mormons."

But the fact that the bills of Z. C. M. I. are paid in the hour in which they fall due; the regular semi-annual dividend of 5 per cent. and the undisputed ability of the institution to meet at the shortest notice, the heaviest demands that are ordinarily made upon its stock or capacity, are circumstances that have given it a reputation for soundness and reliability which is surpassed by no mercantile house in the United States, that approaches its dimensions. The entire people of whom this is largely a representative establishment reap much benefit from the reputation it has maintained for itself and indirectly for them in the commercial world, and in other directions. For this reason alone, if for no other, Z. C. M. I. is entitled to the support and patronage of the people whom it befriends in this way.

We call the attention of country merchants to a business principle which many of them seem to disregard. By having few creditors your credit is made stronger. It is bad policy for a country merchant to scatter his trade among many wholesale houses. It is far better for him to select as few as can supply him and then "stay with them." In this respect Z. C. M. I. presents the highest claims for the trade of the country merchant. It can furnish in any quantity, any article of general merchandise called for in a retail store, and hence retail dealers, by centering their trade with it, strengthen their own credit, can be carried for a larger amount than if their credit were divided among many houses, and, by running heavier bills they get better prices, time and discounts.

These, with other reasons, not, perhaps, so purely business-like at first view, but which are sound and emphatic, should have the effect of turning to Z. C. M. I. the hearty support of the retail dealers and purchasers who claim sympathy with the people of which it is so representative.

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DELINQUENT NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO P. A. Earls, whose address is not known, that I, Philip Nader, have done the necessary amount of work required by law on the following Mines, Alexandria and Pinto, situated in Rush Valley Mining District, in Constitution Canon, Tooele County, Utah Territory. The amount due me for labor performed and expenses for assessment from the year eighteen hundred and eighty-one to eighteen hundred and eighty-five, the amount set forth being his share of assessment \$739.39, and if not settled within the required time of law, I shall, in accordance with law, claim the above named Mines, together with all their Patents. June 23rd, 1896. w3m

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SUMMONS.

In the Probate Court in and for the County of Summit and Territory of Utah.

Third Judicial District,

Elizabeth Jones, Plaintiff,

vs.

Owen Jones, Defendant.

To Owen Jones, Defendant, Greeting: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO appear in an action brought against you by the above-named plaintiff, in the Probate Court, in and for the County of Summit and Territory of Utah, and to answer to a complaint filed against you in said Court by said plaintiff; within ten days (exclusive of the day of service) after service on you of this summons, if served within the County of Summit, Utah Territory; otherwise, if served outside of said county but within the Territory of Utah within twenty days, and within forty days if served elsewhere.

This action is brought against you by plaintiff to dissolve the bonds of matrimony alleged to exist between you and the plaintiff; and for the care and custody of three minor children, the issue of said marriage, on the grounds of habitual drunkenness and a failure by you to provide for defendant. And you are hereby notified that if you fail to appear and answer as above required, the plaintiff will apply to this Court for the relief therein demanded.

Witness the Hon. Alma Eldredge, Judge, and the seal of said Court, affixed at my office in Councilville, said County, this 13th day of August, A. D. 1896.

THOMAS ALSTON, Probate Clerk.

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