

in the assertion: 'Not a single case of polygamous marriage is known,' etc. The 'News' means 'new' by the word 'polygamous,' here, but the outside reader will not so understand it. And besides, the 'News' may well go slow in asserting that no new plurals have been sealed in the ordinances for the living and the dead. Remember all that is involved in standing proxy for the dead in these covenants. At best the limitations to new relations is an evasion.

The second deception is the assumption that because there are laws against this crime in Utah, and courts and all necessary machinery to convict the violators of these statutes, that therefore, forsooth, there is no crime! 'Facilities' are all very well, but when Henry VIII wanted a new wife, the 'facilities' always secured her."

The charge that the "News" is trying to deceive anybody in this matter is hardly worth while noticing. We have stated the facts. Not a single case of polygamous marriage is known to have been contracted in the Mormon Church since the Manifesto of October 6, 1890. That document was issued in good faith by a man whose sincerity and integrity not even bigotry dares to assail. It was accepted by the people in good faith, and strictly adhered to, and it should be evident to all that the course the Mormon people have taken lately would before many years end in the obliteration of plural family associations. That during the transition period—if the term be permitted—sporadic cases of violation of the law should occur, was expected, but the courts of Utah are competent and perfectly willing to deal with such cases to the entire satisfaction of the highest moral sense of the American nation, including the Presbyterians. What deception is there in these statements of plain facts?

We would not have noticed the Kinsman except for the reason that its language seems to imply that there is a truly diabolical movement on foot. The paper brings into the discussion, in the paragraph quoted, "the ordinances for the living and the dead," and asks us to "remember all that is involved in standing proxy for the dead in these covenants." This is deception subtle enough to betray its deep and dark origin. The language employed is intended to convey the false impression that the Mormons within the sacred precincts of their sanctuaries are traitors to the nation, although they to all outward appearances are moral, loyal citizens. It is an attempt, if we are not mistaken, to concentrate persecution upon the Saints because of their belief in salvation for the dead. The Kinsman reminds us of the history of Daniel, whose enemies had decided on his downfall but could find no cause on which to proceed against him except that he regularly attended his prayers. When they had ascertained this, the king was induced to issue the famous decree that made the Prophet a traitor. The problem seems to be a similar one now. According to Presbyterian Christianity the Mormons must be warred upon, and when Christian methods are insufficient, the method of Nero must be adopted. And when there is no real cause for war, not even polygamy, some fictitious cause must be found. The alleged immorality of the Mormon people is not the issue. It is their religion that is the object of attack, and the aim evidently is to stop, if possible, the Temple services, to close the sanctuaries and to condemn, perhaps, the entire people to the den of the lions. Fortunately, the general assembly of the Presbyterians, we hope, is not controlled by religious fanaticism. Congress certainly is not.

It is worth while remembering that the present anti-Mormon agitation

commenced many months ago with the issuance of ten reasons why Christians cannot fellowship the Mormons. This was the beginning of the crusade. These "reasons" have been sown broadcast over the country, and our missionaries have encountered them everywhere. Then came the Manti resolutions, and an unholy alliance with a remnant of the old irreconcilable anti-Mormon element. We cannot escape the conviction that all these are but so many parts of a plan of campaign against the religion of the Mormon people, no matter what the pretext is, and if this view is correct, the sooner the Latter-day Saints are aware of the situation the better. Are old conditions to be forced upon Utah by her enemies?

We are glad to know that there are Christian ministers in this city who disagree with the Presbyterian methods. Their number will be increased as these methods are being deprived of the disguise and are revealed in their true character.

May we not hope, too, that the generous element of the American nation will rise up in indignation against any renewed attempt to pour out upon American soil the vials of religious persecution with all the misery that involves?

HASTE DOES NOT HASTEN.

The Spanish soldiers cannot get out of Cuba on schedule time. There was a painful proportion of miscalculation in almost every negotiation entered in to regarding the Cuban situation, and the people realize this as events come and go. How was it possible for a nation beaten down, broken apart and hopelessly bankrupt to excel the world's record in the matter of transporting passengers more than 3,000 miles over the ocean? With her present facilities, if not a craft of any kind in her possession but what were kept going steadily without the loss of an hour's time, loading at Havana and unloading at Cadiz, not one-half of the 125,000 Spanish soldiers remaining on Cuban soil would be removed. International law, like any other, requires no impossibilities nor can a nation—especially a great and victorious nation like the United States—afford to impose or expect the accomplishment of hardships which can and ought to be avoided.

The fact of the matter is, some things regarding the Cuban settlement have been overdone and others have been underdone, all evincing a painful lack of consideration for the whole case in accordance with its bearings. In the flush of victory we began by demanding everything that was in sight and a good deal that was not. We utterly ignored the fact that should first of all have impressed itself upon us, that an army such as that which Spain then had in Cuba—probably 150,000 men—is a vast phalanx that cannot be lined up and marched away at short notice to the tapping of a drum, especially after we had captured and destroyed fully two-thirds of all that nation's available water craft. It is questionable indeed if our own country with all of its immense carrying capacity put to its utmost limit of ability could have accomplished the task within the time specified for the vanquished power to do it with but little left to do it with. We can afford to be just, and in order to be strictly so must commence by being considerate and reasonable.

There are some other things to think of in this connection. The soldiers, trained to more automatic methods than other people are, were but a fraction of the difficulties remaining which

had and have to be removed. The protocol calls for the complete withdrawal of Spanish authority and extinction of Spanish jurisdiction upon the island. That was agreed to some three months ago. Three months and a little over beyond that the first assault upon Spanish supremacy in the West Indies was begun. In less than half a year a power entrenched on Cuban soil by an occupation and a rule extending for four centuries of unremitting time was broken up and the physical power supporting such rule denuded of its strength, under stipulation to withdraw and return no more. It is a work so mighty in its scope, so vast in its consequence, that reflection upon it is almost bewildering. The world has nothing in its history approaching a parallel to it. Great conquests have been made, mighty changes wrought and wondrous consequences evolved out of situations which promised but little to those who carried on the work. But nowhere is it recorded, because nowhere did it occur, that the rule of a great nation over a grand province that had been practically undisputed for more than 400 years and had thus become so firmly imbedded that it seemed as if nothing mortal could shake it, was within three moons utterly destroyed, dissipated like chaff before an angry blast and all the realities of its existence brought to naught. So marvelous was the execution that those who took the leading parts in bringing it about must inevitably, for a time, have permitted their judgment to rest upon the filmy fabric which a swelling heart and a mind surcharged with the joy of a great conquest had constructed. So hasty and inconsiderate things were done, demanded and even agreed to.

It is one of the weaknesses of mankind that at some times he is apt to be himself an oppressor, although himself the means of bringing oppression to an end. All of the features of the case are not given adequate attention, and conclusions are reached without reference to propriety or care. A little more regard for the importance of the Cuban situation would or might have been the means of causing our people to realize that governments and institutions long established, though they may be successfully assailed, cannot all at once be wholly obliterated by the agencies which overthrow them. The steady, evolving hand of time must figure in the final solution. Customs and habits which have grown up and become strengthened by reason of isolation from antagonism and which are at variance with what more advanced people know to be correct and beneficial, can only be made to disappear by degrees. Association and example, in the accomplishments of such transformations, are the legitimate successors of hostile battalions and fire-belching batteries. Laws, as we have and understand them, are likely to be ineffectual for a time at least, and when made, the less drastic and voluminous they are the greater is the progress of the class at which they are aimed likely to be.

With all things severely considered, with as much of rigor observed as the situation admits of and with steadfast discipline sternly maintained, the progress made is apt to be more mechanical than moral and to require the constant presence of a superior force to keep it in existence at all. But with due regard had for the past and allowance for what the past has brought for us, with patience and even long-suffering practiced wherever such are likely to be beneficial, with the Alexandrian method of unraveling knotty questions eliminated from the proposition and with a strict determination to be mercifully just in all cases, we shall pro-