

A PICTURE OF RUSSIA.

THE New York *Herald* presents to its readers a picture of Russia, which, while its accuracy is unquestionable, is a portrayal without a parallel in all the past history of this world. Men of this generation have no account of any nation whose condition at any time was similar to that of Russia today. There are elements of horror in the *Herald's* description of the Czar's domain that are without precedent in human history:

"The outrages committed in the political prison at Kara, Siberia, are revolting beyond the limits of patience. To know that a woman is flogged to death as Madame Sigida was is to know that the man who did it was a brute and that the system under which it is done is unutterably barbaric. A thrill of horror went through the civilized world as the tragic story was trumpeted from continent to continent. We thought of our mothers, sisters, daughters, wives, and our lips were the vent for curses loud and deep. But every picture has a reverse side. The Czar thinks to repress the revolutionary and hateful spirit of Nihilism by deterring and extreme severity. It is therefore a case of brute force against brute force. The Czar has the upper hand just now, but he knows and we know that these Siberian exiles represent the spirit of demoniac destruction, and that at any moment he may be mangled and torn to pieces by a dynamite explosion. Whether it is his best policy to make his reign a reign of terror may be doubted, but at the same time it is not doubted that the revolutionists would inaugurate a reign of terror of their own if the opportunity presented. Alexander eats no meal without suspecting poison, never retires to rest without fear of assassination, and never drives through the streets without a dismal dread of bullets. That such a man in such an environment should resort to measures which in a milder climate would be too horrible to think of is not to be wondered at. In his household, in official circles, in the army, everywhere, the nihilistic passion rages, and its appetite will not be satisfied with anything less than the Emperor's blood. Siberia is simply hell, but it is largely peopled by men and women, honest in their convictions, who would be glad to see the Czar murdered, the government overturned, and a period of political chaos organized. We do not extenuate; we merely look on both sides.

This world has furnished instances of nations torn by civil war, betrayed by treacherous aspirants for power, subjugated and enslaved by foreign foes, and afflicted in many ways. But never before has the world seen a nation so honeycombed with evils and dangers of so dreadful a character as those which permeate the Czar's empire.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 10.—In an encounter at Elazona between the Turks and a band of brigands, over twenty of the former were killed and six of the latter.

VICTIMIZING THE CHURCH.

THE dissenting opinion of Chief Justice Zane on the matter of the leasing by Receiver Dyer, to the highest bidder, of the Tithing Office premises, appears in this issue in full. It is exceedingly extreme and decidedly premature. It is based on the false premise that tithing is paid and used for the encouragement of polygamy. We deny this assertion and the right of the Chief Justice to make the assumption. If he were challenged to substantiate it, we do not believe he could, in the slightest degree, sustain it.

From the judge's reasoning it would appear as if he presumed it to be right if it was believed that property was used for an illegal purpose for its proprietor to be robbed of it.

Our recollection of the arrangement for leasing the premises to the persons who are using them, judging from the statements of parties at the time is, that it was intended that it would continue until a final decision of the whole case should be reached. In that reason, it is to be inferred, the lease was made so that it could be terminated should an exigency—such as the decision would produce—demand the taking of that step. Now the lease is terminated, and for what purpose? According to the asserted reason, that the Church may be mulcted of more money, and the proportions of the gigantic robbery be thus increased.

The shamelessness of this victimizing process is all the more glaring in view of the fact that the people of the Church are the only rightful owners of the property involved in the whole scheme of plunder. Yet while the question of possession is pending in the highest court of the land, not a single doubt as to how that tribunal will decide is thrown to the side of the real owners of the property. The very least that ought to have been done, seeing the genuine proprietors were paying rent for the use of their own premises, was to let the matter remain until a final decree was reached.

This last proceeding is a most ravenous one from every standpoint.

TO SUPERSEDE THE UTAH COMMISSION.

THAT bill introduced in the Council March 4th by Bryan is really too absurd. He would supersede the law of Congress by a Territorial statute and take the control of elections out of

the hands of the Utah Commission. It would seem that even a cow county man ought to know better than to make such a wild proposal as that."

Perhaps we need not say the foregoing is from the *S. L. Tribune*. Its mingled ignorance and falsehood are no doubt quite sufficient to stamp its origin, at least to persons familiar with its style. The Edmunds Act, which created the Commission, made it incumbent upon the Utah Legislature to pass an election law for the purpose of superseding that expensive and nearly useless body.

In 1884 the Legislature passed just such a measure as was contemplated in the Edmunds Act, but Murray vetoed it, giving excuses that were as hollow as an inflated bladder, and only needed the pin point of reason to let the wind out of them.

In 1886 another election law was passed by the Legislature, and the pretended objections to the bill of 1884 were met and overcome. But Murray vetoed that, without giving particulars as to his whys and wherefores, for he couldn't find any.

The Edmunds-Tucker Act of 1887 provides that such a law shall be passed by the Utah Legislature and submitted to Congress before it shall go into effect. This will take the matter into higher hands than an obstructive one-man-power.

Where, then, is the "absurdity" of introducing such a measure? It seems that the "cow county man" knows what he is about, and exhibits far more sense and consistency than the "Liberal" ruffian who cannot put his pen to paper without exposing both his folly and his ignorance.

Then, it is not true that the bill introduced by Mr. Bryan is intended to "supersede the law of Congress." It is to comply with and fulfil the law of Congress, and it would seem that even the illbred, arrogant, abusive and small-minded scribe of the *Tribune* would "know better than to make such wild statements as that," and other exhibitions of nonsense and stupidity contained in his daily paragraphs about pending legislation.

THE COLORADO UTE REMOVAL.

THE leading anti-"Mormon" paper published in this city has been airing its ignorance and venting its venom in relation to the proposed removal of the Colorado Utes to the San Juan country, located in the southeastern part of this Territory. After