

Carvon favored a Dublin Parliament, and opened negotiations with Parnell, with the knowledge of Salisbury. Proceeding to compare the crimes act of 1882 and 1887. Balfour maintained the latter did not, while the former did create new crimes. O'Brien had boasted that his advice to the people of Mitchelstown, combined with the public opinion of England, saved the people from wholesale eviction. Government action, Balfour declared, had been modified by neither.

Balfour, referring to the imprisonment of members of the House, twitted Trevelyan with making a weak remark to the effect that it was a sickening thing for members of Parliament to be imprisoned. It was

A SICKENING THING

that they should deserve it, said Balfour, and it would be much worse if the government had given the leading violators of the law the special privilege to defy it with the childish fuss that had been made over their prison clothes. Complaint had been made of a letter he wrote during O'Brien's imprisonment. All it stated, he said, was that O'Brien was suffering from weak lungs and an excitable disposition. Regarding the alleged tortures in the prisons, he requested the prison inspectors to make a special inquiry with a resultant report, showing it utterly untrue. As a matter of fact O'Brien's health improved in prison. (Hear, hear!) He was two pounds heavier when he left than when he went in.

O'Brien—"That is inaccurate; I was five pounds lighter."

Turning to the operation of the crimes act, Balfour contended the condition of Ireland was immensely improved as compared with the period of the Gladstone government. What a spectacle did the liberals now present! Who, a short time ago, would suppose a single man on the opposite bench would advocate forcible resistance to the police? He was pained at the progress of degradation in the liberal party, members of which now rose to the height of indignation only when denouncing judges, magistrates and police, who, under great difficulties, stood between society in Ireland and utter ruin, and fearlessly executed their duties. And they had their reward in the respect and admiration of every true friend of liberty and order.

Mr. Gladstone followed Balfour, and found little in the chief secretary's speech that tended to assist them in

GETTING AT THE TRUTH

of the question before the House. There was a question whether the conservative leaders had communicated with Parnell on the subject of Home Rule. The denials made by Balfour did not get rid of the Irish members' assertions. Parnell had stated he had found himself in entire agreement with Lord Carnarvon on the Home Rule question. That had not been denied.

Balfour, interrupting, said a letter from Carnarvon clearly implied he did not express an opinion on Home Rule. Gladstone replied Carnarvon had never explicitly denied Parnell's statement. Continuing, he said the liberals were called separatists because they wished to give effect to the national aspirations of Ireland, while having a supreme regard for the unity of the empire. Some of the remarks of Balfour, Gladstone said, had apparently been leveled at himself. His (Gladstone's) Nottingham speech had become absolutely misrepresented as to the statement regarding the Irish executive practice of obtaining information by permitting the police to concoct crime. He protested then as now against the practice as dangerous to society and odious in itself. He had never uttered words over which he felt more to rejoice than his words at Mitchelstown. He used them for the purpose of preventing enormous mischief and suffering, probably bloodshed. It was the agents of the law that were the breakers of the law at Mitchelstown. It was cruel, wanton.

DISGRACEFUL BLOODSHED.

Balfour had become, by implication, a breaker of the law, for he gave the act his authoritative approval as if it were to model the rule for the conduct of the police. Gladstone declined to accept as authentic the government statistics of crime under the coercion act until the cases cited were thoroughly investigated. The only case given in detail had been met with a point blank contradiction. Supposing the government had a momentary appearance of success from the operation of the coercion act, were they going to forever legislate on the same line. He had never heard the ministers express confidence in their ability to make a permanent resistance to the policy of home rule, but that Irish nation and the growing English popular feeling was on its side. It resisted the national voice of Ireland was pushed too far by those who now guided the mind of the nation, they might lose their power and be displaced by ruder and more dangerous spirits. Let the government bethink themselves and consent to legislate for Ireland as they did for England and Scotland, in accordance with the constitutionally expressed wishes and permanent convictions of the people, and thus at last

GENEVA, Feb. 17.—The snow blockade in St. Gothard pass caused by the recent avalanche has been cleared. Other passes are still blocked six metres deep.

A Swiss and Italian syndicate has been formed which will advance to the Italian government 50,000,000 francs to

enable the completion of the Simplon railroad tunnel and the railway line which will connect therewith.

BERLIN, Feb. 17.—The Emperor is said to be in a very feeble condition. He is almost constantly in tears, owing to the news regarding the Crown Prince. The Emperor is also deeply affected.

GENEVA, Feb. 17.—It is reported that the German ambassador at Bern recently furnished the Bundesrath with proof that France, in the event of war, had planned to cross the frontier at Basle, and further stated that Germany was ready to sign a treaty to protect the neutrality of Switzerland. The Bundesrath, he said, replied that that body, hearing of the French plans, had taken the precaution of creating a landstrum to occupy the whole line of Jura from Bortcourt to Fancille and Constance on the French frontiers, and could only accept the German offer in the event of a real violation of the Swiss neutrality.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—Lord Dufferin has accepted the post of ambassador to Italy. Sir J. Saville Lumley, the present ambassador, will retire from the diplomatic service.

VENICE, Feb. 17.—The ironclads *Ancena* and *Maria Pia* are

ARMING WITH ALL SPEED.

A commission of state officers from Rome is making an inventory of the stores at San Georgia arsenal. All the arsenals are working day and night.

George Maitel is inspecting the fortresses toward the French frontier.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The Senate committee on territories gave a hearing today upon the admission of Utah as a state. Franklin S. Richards, of Salt Lake City, described the barrenness of Utah when the settlers first entered it, and the wonderful productiveness, prosperity and wealth which have resulted from their diligence and enterprise. This was Utah's fifth petition for admission and, as eldest of the territories, it was hoped her appeal would be heeded.

She had reached a point beyond which progress, under a territorial government, was impossible. It had been objected that the "Mormons" were polygamists. As a matter of fact, not more than two per cent. of them ever were polygamists or are such now. Time was rapidly solving the problem. The members of the constitutional convention took oaths against polygamy and adopted a constitution which made polygamy or bigamy a crime. As the speaker read the paragraph of the constitution providing that the anti-polygamous sections shall never be repealed or changed without the assent of Congress and the President, Senator Butler queried: "You don't expect Congress to act favorably upon such a proposition, do you? I, for one, say frankly and emphatically I will not vote for it. I do not believe Congress or the President has anything to do with changing the constitution."

Senator Stewart assenting, said he did not think Congress had a right to make a treaty with a State or territory.

Richards said that whatever might be the opinion of the committee, the provision at least demonstrated the good faith of the men who framed the constitution to do all in their power, if permitted, to wipe out polygamy. The people of Utah recognized that the country required it and they wished to meet the requirements. They, however, proposed to accomplish it by more humane methods than those proposed by the present laws. He sketched cases of "Mormons" who had been tried and convicted by the courts, and showed by what he declared to be indisputable facts that parties were innocent of charges brought against them. The prosecution and courts were unable to bring proofs of unlawful cohabitation and, in fact, had invented constructive cohabitation and convicted and punished offenders for this.

Some of the committee asked if the stories as Richards related them embodied facts which were conceded by the prosecution.

Richards could not say what they conceded, but said he stated what he, having been present as counsel for the defense, knew to be the truth.

It was proposed by Senator Platt and others that the names of the prosecuting officers be taken with a view to inquiring of them as to their version of the matter, and with this understanding the witness proceeded.

As to the marriage relation, he said, much misapprehension existed by reason of a confusion of the terms "celestial" with "plural" marriages. He explained the difference at great length, and read "Mormon" revelations on the point. A celestial marriage might or might not be a plural marriage. Under both, however, cohabitation with more than one wife was permitted. Celestial marriage was made for time and for eternity. It was not true that plural celestial marriage was enjoined upon the "Mormons," the fact being that it was only merely permitted. There was no union of church and state.

The titling features of the "Mormon" revelations were originally for the government of the community in Missouri. They were, however, held by many "Mormons" to be binding now, but there was now no legal requirement that tithes be paid. The contributions are entirely voluntary.

EX-SENATOR M'DONALD

followed Richards, discussing the legal features of the case and arguing

that the power of Congress to compel submission to any regulations with regard to the marriage relation was not impaired by admission as a State. He cited the case of Louisiana, where it was required that civil liberty should be secured as a condition for her admission. He argued that Congress had a right to protect our civilization. The provision against polygamy and bigamy had been incorporated in the constitution and the history of the past showed that the provisions so fixed were effective. He claimed that Congress had no right to keep the Territory out of the Union of States after its people had fulfilled the conditions and complied with the requirements prescribed for its admission.

Senator Butler, conceding the propriety of incorporating any prohibition of polygamy and bigamy in the state constitution, yet claimed that under the present national constitution the government had no right thereafter to control the matter. He admitted that if the Territory were to come in with the present provision in its constitution, then Congress or the President would have the right to interfere, but he, for one, did not propose to admit a State with any such right of interference.

The committee took a recess at two o'clock, after which Delegate Caine and Judge Jeremiah Wilson addressed the committee on the same side of the question.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Continuing the hearing before the Senate Committee on Territories, Delegate Caine said the people of Utah, on four separate occasions, had asked admission. One objection was polygamy. It was not a question of religious belief, but the Constitution permitted no breach of the laws which are deemed necessary for the protection of society. While the State could not prescribe religious belief, it could forbid practices which, though sanctioned by revelation, were held to be detrimental to good morals. There was no pretense that the religious beliefs of the people were to be inquired into.

Caine defended his co-religionists of Utah against the charges brought by various writers; declared that they were upright, worthy people; that though the revelation permitted plural marriage, and though all the members of the Church might have married repeatedly, the large majority of the people of Utah had sought to put themselves into conformity with the requirements of the country. The constitution adopted by the convention was not a work of conspiracy. There was but one point in it about which there could be any question, and that was whether the twelfth section embodied the honest views of the 13,135 men who voted to ratify it. This section makes polygamy and bigamy a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine and imprisonment. He declared upon his honor, that the people of Utah did deliberately and unreservedly adopt that section in good faith as the law of the land, and intended to enforce it in the new State. In reply to questions, he said the last plural marriage of which he had knowledge, was that of Rudger Clawson, several years ago. This man had been tried, and had suffered imprisonment for this offense. The present legislature of Utah, now in session, has before it a bill for marriage laws, prohibiting polygamy and bigamous marriages. This has been reported favorably from the committee on judiciary. Those who oppose statehood for Utah, he continued, care nothing for the religion or morals of the Mormons. It is their politics which they oppose. If you would satisfy them you must disfranchise every Mormon on account of religious belief.

JUDGE JEREMIAH WILSON

also addressed the committee. He eulogized the people of Utah as among the thriftiest, most honest and temperate of the world, and he challenged comparison with any other community, to the progress they have made in all that goes to constitute an enlightened and civilized people. The whole opposition as to the admission of Utah, he said, might be summed up in two propositions: "Assault upon religious belief, and an attempt to govern the majority by the minority." The Mormons were objects of abuse, because they held a voting power which could not be legitimately overcome at the polls. He said they had never broken a promise or betrayed a trust, and therefore their sincerity in this matter ought not to be questioned. He contended in a legal argument that if the state broke the compact made with all the other states represented by Congress, the latter had the inherent power and all that was necessary to enforce the contract. When asked whether in his opinion the people of Utah could be trusted to make this compact and exercise the powers of statehood, he would answer most emphatically "yes."

DELEGATE DUBOIS

of Idaho, addressed the committee in opposition to the petition for admission. He admitted the population of Utah to be 190,000, and sufficient, so far as numbers go, to entitle the Territory to statehood, but declared that this population was mainly imported directly from Europe by the "Mormon" Church. Even with an insufficient police force, he said, the number of arrests was enormously disproportionate to the population, and the vast majority of the persons arrested were convicted. Utah had been blessed with a superior climate and soil; she lay on

the direct line between the East and California. Yet, with such advantages, her taxable wealth only aggregated \$35,000,000, \$5,000,000 of which was railroad property, not owned in Utah, and \$10,000,000 of which belonged to the 30,000 Gentile inhabitants of that Territory. Her taxable wealth averaged only \$187 per capita, while the neighboring Territories ranged from \$300 to \$700. He asked to be informed by any advocate of admission why the practices of Brigham Young and John Taylor were now admitted to have been wrong, and argued that the course of the Mormons in the future could be best judged by their past. They had been driven out of Missouri by reason of their polygamous practices, and had established themselves in Illinois, where they founded the City of Nauvoo, and undertook to do the same thing they are now trying to accomplish. They secured a city charter which made them independent of state control, and then enacted regulations of such a character that the outraged people of the state rose in their might and drove them away. Crime is rife in Utah and the criminals have the sympathy of the entire Mormon people. If any reform was promised, and abstinence from practices pronounced by law to be criminal, the man who promised it was ostracized. The Legislature refused to make provisions for the arrest and punishment of criminals, and the United States government was compelled to bear the burden of the local government of the Territory. The new constitution was half a trick, half a lie, and those who presented it did not come as free men to free men, but with cringing and cowardice proposed to bind themselves for the future in a way which was required of no other State. The Territory could not come in under this constitution as equal, and the provision against the amendment of its constitution was therefore either entirely nugatory or entirely wrong. The gentiles of the Territory did not believe two years of statehood would elapse before the constitution would be changed to meet the views of the Church.

Richards asked leave to reply to Mr. Dubois, but Senator Paddock (not a member of the committee, but present as an interested party) stated that the opponents of the petition would wait a further opportunity to present their case, and the committee, therefore, adjourned for the day.

EDMONTON, N. W. T., Feb. 18.—Quinnham, member of the northwest council, just returned from a trip to Lac la Biche, reports the condition of the Indians there as deplorable. These Indians have been cut off from government assistance since the Riel rebellion. They are now raiding the settlers, or eating them out of provisions by begging. The state of affairs in Edmonton district is no better. The Indians are actually dying of starvation.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—A San Remo dispatch says: The Crown Prince is worse this morning. His sleep last night was troubled. His throat does not heal and the case has assumed a serious aspect since last night.

SAN REMO, Feb. 18.—A bulletin at 10:30 a. m. says: The Crown Prince passed a better night. He suffered from neither cough nor fever. Today he feels altogether improved.

SCRANTON, Pa., Feb. 17.—General Master Workman Powderly this afternoon denied that the Reading strike had been declared off. He positively said that the visit of National Master Workman Lewis to Scranton was simply to consult Mr. Hayes of the executive board and to talk over the manner of securing good intelligent witnesses to take the stand before the investigating committee now in session.

SCRANTON, Pa., Feb. 17.—Owing to Powderly's illness the executive committee this week came here to confer with him on the Reading strike situation.

Master Workman Lewis called on Powderly last night, and it is probable from the reports of the interview that have leaked out, that the miner's strike will be at once declared off.

POTTSVILLE, Feb. 17.—Master Workman Lewis arrived from Philadelphia this evening bringing copies of the correspondence between himself and President Corbin looking to the resumption of work on all the Reading Company's lines. Lewis immediately went into consultation with the members of the joint committee, with the result that his action was ratified, and an address will be issued at once ordering an immediate resumption.

POTTSVILLE, Feb. 17.—Late tonight an order was issued by National Master Workman Lewis, John H. Davis, chairman of the joint executive committee, and Richard Thompson, master workman of district assembly No. 12, directing the employees of the Philadelphia Coal and Iron Company to return to work next Monday, as per letter of Austin Corbin of this date. The order calls on the miners of the Lehigh Valley region to stand firm until the coal companies in that region are willing to arbitrate.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 17.—The journeyman painters of Pittsburgh and Allegheny have made a demand for \$3 a day and nine hours' work. If it is not granted before March 1st, there will be a strike.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—The man who assisted in the murder of Millionaire Snell by standing watch outside while the residence was being robbed, is behind the prison bars. The arrest was made to-day, and the police have already secured a full confession from the prisoner. It confirms beyond a doubt the statement that the murderer

is young William B. Tascott, the son of Colonel J. B. Tascott, the wealthy manufacturer. The man arrested to-day made Tascott's acquaintance this winter in the Garden City billiard hall on West Madison street, and for some weeks they have been together every day. The morning that Snell's house was to be robbed, he and Tascott went to the house together. Tascott went inside, leaving his comrade on the sidewalk. After the murder was committed Tascott hurried out, grasped his companion by the arm, and together they went to Tascott's lodging on West Madison Street, and remained several hours. Tascott told all and the other was so horrified and so afraid that he would be charged with the murder itself, that he refrained from giving information to the police. He made a sworn statement today, and satisfied the police that he was telling the truth. The police refuse to reveal the name of the prisoner. The Associated Press dispatch giving the information that a criminal answering the description of Tascott, the alleged murderer, was captured at Los Angeles, but had broken jail, was eagerly perused to-night by Inspector Bonfield and Detective Sergeants Aldrich and Elliott. Elliott showed a dispatch just received from the warden of the Kentucky Penitentiary, where Tascott had been incarcerated, stating that the fugitive's body was peculiarly marked, affording certain means of identification. He has a scar on the right hip, where he was shot while attempting to escape from the Frankfort prison. There were also scars, some perhaps yet unhealed, on the right leg, on the knees and both elbows, the results of wearing a ball and chain. The detectives are anxious that the information should be spread, especially to California and the Southwest, that Tascott's front upper teeth exhibited a gold filling, a line or surface of the metal extending along the edge. The filling seems to be from the interior, but shows prominently, the upper lip being slightly drawn back.

The rumored presence of Tascott in Los Angeles led to the discovery this evening that a young woman with whom he was very intimate, is probably in that vicinity, and perhaps has been visited by him. Who she is or what her appearance is, the police refuse to say, only stating that she left here for California some months ago. It is hinted her destination was San Diego.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 18.—The theory is published here today that the notorious crook with several aliases, one of which is Clark, who was lodged in jail here Wednesday night and escaped in a few hours by cutting through the wall, is the man wanted in Chicago for the murder of A. J. Snell. His description tallies with that given in the Associated Press dispatches published this morning.

BERLIN, Feb. 19.—The official bulletin regarding the condition of the crown prince today says: The wound in the throat presents a more favorable appearance and is gradually closing; the cough is the same as yesterday; there is little more expectation. The patient's appetite is excellent. Other reports say the cough is troublesome and that the expectoration is tinged with blood.

SAN REMO, midnight.—The crown prince is somewhat better. His cough is less troublesome. Although going on fairly he does not show the average power of recuperation.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—A cyclone struck Mt. Vernon, Ill., today. The town was virtually destroyed. A number of lives were lost and many persons injured. Such were the reports that reached this city this evening. Mount Vernon is situated in the southern part of the State, about 60 miles directly east of St. Louis.

A dispatch from Evansville, Indiana, says over one hundred persons were killed in the cyclone at Mount Vernon, Illinois. Telegrams were received this evening at Evansville, from Mount Vernon, asking for help. A train with two engines was at once sent, having on board a surgeon and such other assistance as could be hastily gathered.

A Centralia, Illinois, special to the *Daily News* says, two thirds of Mount Vernon are wiped out. Besides the people killed outright, many are injured. In response to calls for aid, twenty members of the Centralia fire department, four physicians and a number of leading citizens left tonight for the scene of the catastrophe.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—A special to the *Daily News* from Evansville, Ind., says: The cyclone struck Mount Vernon, Ill., at 4:50 a. m., today from the north west, sweeping around in a half circle and leveling half the town. The remainder of the place caught fire, and as there was a strong wind blowing, the flames soon got beyond control of the fire department. Above the roar of the wind could be heard the shrieks and groans of the dying. Bodies half buried in debris could be seen on every hand.

From the contents of press dispatches from Washington, which are given in this issue of the News, it appears that the Senate committee on territories is deliberately considering the application of Utah for admission into the Union. It seems that the question as to whether a state constitution can limit amendments to itself by providing that they can be made only with the consent of the general government, is the principal one in the minds of members of the committee.