

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Wednesday, December 16, 1903.

THE GENERAL BELIEF THAT THE ADVENT OF THE LOCOMOTIVE AND THE GREAT UNION PACIFIC RAILWAY INTO THE SALT LAKE BASIN IS TO DESTROY THE RULE OF BRIGHAM YOUNG AND THE POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE MORMON PEOPLE, MAY NOT BE WELL FOUNDED.

The change may not work out the results which leading newspapers in the East have so excitedly depicted. It is to do so, it will be in opposition to one of the oldest men living, and to natural forces which will resist external pressure on many years to come, in our opinion.

Mormonism takes a powerful hold upon the religious convictions of the vast majority of the people of the West. It is a form of religion which seems upon the believers in it with strong hold. It affirms men who embrace its faith with the most sacred enticements, and fastens them to it with a spiritual hope which entwines itself in the very heart of the believer. It does this because it is founded upon the unchangeable law of God. Its whole underlying foundation is patriarchal. As we are informed, the children of those who live and die in the faith. This, as we understand it, is the key-stone of the arch of Polygamy as it exists in Utah, and accordingly of the religion of which it is the most offensive feature.

Aside from the spiritual teachings of the Mormon hierarchy, it is aided by the most potent external aids which human ingenuity can devise. If it imposes burdens upon those over whom it rules, it secures the ready assent of those who have these burdens by promises which induce the most cheerful sacrifices. We see proof of this in the suffering people who cross ocean and desert, and who are anxious to reach the promised land of Deseret. The industrial character of the Mormon people is attested by the conversion of the barren regions they inhabit into a very garden, and this probably true, although it is denied by many, that their social organism is as free as any other under heaven from the evils of indulgence and crime, not including the feature of polygamy, of course, which is the key-stone of the whole Mormon system.

But how is it to be that the advent of the Union Pacific into Utah is not to destroy Brigham Young and Mormonism? We answer that "Gentiles" will not inhabit that country in such numbers as to make such a result probable. If it is to be accomplished through legislation and penal laws looking to the punishment of polygamists, those who would thus ruin the system will have a hard job on hand. It will take fifty years to assert such a control in Utah under the existing state of things. In the first place, people are not going there to make homes upon a barren soil when millions on millions of acres far nearer the centers of civilization which are abundantly fertile invite them to occupy and possess it. In the second place, we have it on good authority that the farseeing Young has control of all lands within the Territory which can be made productive, even irrigated, without which, as we all know, there is not a foot of it that is not as barren as stone.

But, it is urged, "civilization" will do it by mere force of contact and contrast. Be not so sure of that; we tell you that there is a band attaching the believer in Mormonism to that faith which is not so easily broken. We have met and conversed with many Mormons in our day, educated, as well as educated Mormons—and it is not so easy to write with their arguments. And we believe it more than likely that the Union Pacific, throwing them into freer contact with the outside world, may be a source of strength rather than of weakness to this remarkable people.—Omaha Herald.

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A gentleman visiting the American Watch Company's factory at Waltham, Mass., returns that a small watch, such as homopathic pills are kept in, was handed to him, which was filled with what seemed to be grains of coarse sand, of the color of blue-tempered steel.

On examination under a microscope, they proved to be perfect screws, of which it required 300,000 to weigh a pound.

Microscopic bits of steel, with the points exquisitely polished, were also shown, so small that fifty weighed only a single grain. These were said to be worth twenty thousand dollars per pound.

These, as well as every other of the running bits of the watch, are made entirely by machinery, which turns out each different piece exactly like its fellows.

The following is his description of the method of making the fine screws; what you see at a first glance is a thin thread of steel, finer than the most delicate of pins, slowly pursuing its way through a little hole in a machine, and being grasped by a tiny tool which runs round it, as if embracing it; and then, presto! out comes a knife and cuts off its head. All this is done so quickly that you have to wait and watch the operation, after you know what it is about, before you can see the process I have described.

The bits thus beheaded with a knife, look exactly like little grains of powder. But they are screws.

You notice that when you take a microscope to examine them. They are complete—almost. Not quite yet. A girl picks them up, one by one, with a dainty tool, and places them in rows, one in every hole in a flat piece of steel. This little plate as soon as it is filled, is placed under another machine, and it would do any Irishman good to see it work. It beats Doneybrook Fair "all hollow." I never had a more convincing proof of the superiority of the mechanical over manual labor.

For while a good hearty man with a stout bit of shillelagh may break half a dozen heads a day, with fair luck—this machine, without so much as saying "by your leave," comes out of its hole, and runs along each row, quietly splitting the head of each one of them exactly in the center.

And now the screw is made.

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