## EVENING NEWS GEORGE Q. CANNON. EDITOR AND PUBLISHES.

April 8, 1870. Friday.

DIVERSITY OF OPINION RESPECTING THE PEOPLE OF UTAH.

In yesterday's NEWS will be found some clippings from Eastern papers on the subject of the Cullom Bill. They afford a very good idea of the feeling which prevails respecting this measure. Thinking, observing men, however much they may dislike polygamy, can not but see that the passage of such a Bill, and the making of it a law of the land, will be attended with innumerable evils. It is no light affair for a Government, such as our is, to interfere with the right of conscience. If the Latter-day Saints are to be told what they may or may not believe, how long will it be until some other denomination shall have a faith prescribed for it? If one man's faith can be interfered with, why not another's? Let this Bill pass, and a door is opened for the inauguration of sectarian strife, which will not terminate until free thought is utterly stifled, and medieval tyranny and superstition once more reigh unchecked. If the "Mormons" are to be punished for believing the entire word of God, why not the Protestants be persecuted and hunted for believing a portion of it, or for putting their own interpretations

upon it, instead of trusting to priests to explain and comment upon it? Or why not the Roman Catholics be compelled to abandon their peculiar, tenets? If men can be exposed to the penalty of the law for believing more than the dominant party think they should, why not make it a penal offence for not believing as much as they do, and subject free-thinkers and infidels to punishment for their unbelief?

Let a door of this kind once be opened in this Republic, and it will be found a difficult matter to close it again. There are many who seem to realize that there is danger in this kind of legislation, and they oppose it. There are others who frankly admit that such a measure is not constitutional; but then it is intended for the "Mormons," and why should there be any regard paid to the Constitution in their case? There are two classes who are urging members of Congress to enact severe laws against the people of Utah-they are religious bigots and contractors. It was men of the first class who crucified Jesus, persecuted and slew his followers and drenched the soil of the old world with the blood of the noble and the free who would not subscribe to their narrow and illiberal tenets. It was the latter class who, vulture-like, stood half. ready to profit by the ruin which they had urged on, worshipping no God but mammon and ready to part with honor and to sell body and soul for filthy lucre. With the first class honor, honesty, virtue, temperance, good order and every other noble quality which a people can manifest pass for naught, so long as those who possess them are not of their creed and will not bow down to their shrine. With the other class the greed for money overpowers every other consideration; they can contemplate blood-shed, rapine, the destruction of a people and the desolation of their homes, with complete calmness and equanimity, so long as they can see a prospect of making money thereby. If these classes had their way, the fate of the people of Utah would soon be written. But there are other influences at work. There is a class of people, and they are a large and influential class, who look at all these matters mon. But in the provisions of the gosfrom a different stand-point; they are pel which was offered to us, there were day-Saints. The gospel proposed these that the entire apostolic scheme of salnot bigots, neither do they expect fat fairness and safety; it proposed to give blessings at its announcement, and vation rested on a baseless fabric. When contracts by inaugurating a crusade against the "Mormons." They are not so noisy and impudent as the others, and therefore, in the beginning are not much heeded. But when they do move their influence is felt. Then the reaction begins, and justice is heard. Already this class begins to make itself heard. We have been gratified at the wide publicity which has been given to the Remonstrance which was adopted by the General Mass Meeting lastThursday week. It has gone to every paper in the Union connected with the associated press. It will be read by millions, and will give the public a correct idea of our position and the nature of the evils with which we are threaten-

upon this question.

DISCOURSE

By Elder LORENZO SNOW, delivered in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City Sunday, Jan 23d, , 1870.

## [REPORTED BY JOHN GRIMSHAW.]

In addressing an assembly of Saints, xpect the benefit of their prayers, without the ceremony of asking, being assured that they are aware as well as am that our teachings and administrations in the gospel of life, are blessed to us according to our faith and prayers, and the diligence we give and the attention we bestow.

I propose to make some general observations upon the gospel and its administrations, and in relation to its effects when 'received, and the important blessings derived by this community through its divine power and virtue. This gospel, which God has an order or system of things, simple, plain, and may be easily understood, In regard to its principles, the nature of its requirements, and the precise kind and character of its blessings and promises, no one, however ignorant or any great length of time; but may discover its golden truths, and the emblazoned mark of divinity in its arrangements as distinctly, as speedily as Naaman, the Captain of the Assyrian host, found divine virtue, and the hand of Divinity in the order prescribed to him by Elijah, through which his leprosy was removed. In his case, the order of obtaining miraculous bless ings,-viz: to immerse seven times in Jordan, as prescribed by Elijah-was so simple, so plain, and in regard to the knowledge of its divine efficacy, so easy of ascertainment, that the great Captain, at first, was exceedingly wrathy at the idea that God should propose to work upon him through such easy means and simple forms; but the order, through which he could be healed of his leprosy was prescribed of God

what they required, we should only do, in fact, what as true-hearted believers in the ancient gospel, we ought to do, and if we failed to receive the promised blessings, and thereby proved the Elders' testimony false, our religious condition would nevertheless be then as good as any other Christian's, and a little better, perhaps, because we should have approached a little nearer to the doctrines of the scripture, insamuch as their true forms and ceremonies were concerned. Of course, in this case, having proved to our satisfaction that there was no Holy Ghost, no supernatural manifestations, no knowledge, no revelations accompanying the Elders' administrations of the gospel, no human persuasion, no cunning sophistry could have induced us to leave our homes and friends to embark in a scheme which our common sense taught us would eventuate in bitter disappointment, and inevitable ruin; but like other Christians, continued in the enjoyment of friends and home, grouping commanded us to offer to the world, is our way through religious darkness, expecting nothing, hoping nothing, and receiving nothing. But the fact that I am now speaking to assembled thousands, of intelligent and enlightened people, who received this gospel with the aforementioned fond considerations unlearned, needs be left in the dark and lively expectations, gathered here by their own free will and choice, out

> of almost every nation, demonstrates most clearly, most forcibly, and most solemnly, that this scheme of life, this gospel as proclaimed by Joseph Smith,

> has been shown to us by the revelations of the Almighty, that it is undeniably His will, His word and His message; not only this, but we find within our-

selves a fixed purpose, an unalterable resolution to do, if need be, what many of us have already done,-show the sincerity of our convictions of these solemn truths, through sacrificing all we possess, not even holding our lives as dear to us as this religion. There was yet another prominent feature embraced in this order of things, -- viz., where it found people in poverty, misery, and in a condition but little above starvation, it spoke in positive terms through the Prophet, and finally the of future relief, and effectual deliver-Assyrian officer, through the plain, ance. It did not simply say "be ye

wild beasts, provided we would allow ment.

cated, and belonged to no popular de-nomination of Christians. He was a From w mere boy, honest, full of integrity, un-acquainted with the trickery, cunning and sophistry employed by the politicians and the religious hypocrite to compass their ends. Like Moses he felt the sanction of men, the most profound called him to deliver the poor and honest-hearted of all nations from their spiritual and temporal thraidom. And God promised him that whosever should receive and obey his message, and whosoever would receive baptism for remission of sins, with honesty of purpose, promised and obtained through the gospel, as preached by the ancient apostles, and this message, this promise, was to ever it should be carried by the Elders, dod's authorized messengers. Joseph Smith, the uneducated, the unsophisticated, the plain, simple, honest boy. It is through the virtue and force of this boy's statement that I speak this afternoon to assembled thousandis. In the integrity of my heart, with honesty of purpose to know the truth, I received this message; I obeyed this form of gospel, and I received, in the most tangible and satisfactory manner, a divine manifestation, the promised blessings, a knowledge of this work. Am I the only witness? How is it with the experience of the thousands whom I now address? Are you also witnesses? If you are not, I ask you in the name of common sense, why are you here? Why did you leave your homes and things, then it becomes a serious fact | which should "lead them into all truth, that we are witnesses, and in truth the and show them things to come," and it the case of Noah; and in calling Israel The gospel, as recorded in the New zens of many nations, speaking our tablish a people upon this continent, as certain specified acts to be done, with the truth of the doctrine, as taught by er to better man's condition, spiritually, shall know of the doctrine." Peter said, and missionaries were miserable imon Pentecost day, "Repent and be baptized for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Again, Jesus said: "These first; yet we clearly foresaw that, in re- when preached in its purity, and obeyed signs shall follow them that believe," ous inquiry, whether this people, as a ceiving this gespel, we should be com- in sincerity. Many of the thousands etc. A multitude of testimonies could community, having failed to receive knowledge. But a similar requsition at any moment, through the whim of tent witnesses for or against its divine and John visited him and gave him was made upon the House of Israel, in the land of Egypt; also upon Noah and his family, and upon Abraham and the family of Lot in the City of Sedern family of Lot, in the City of Sodom; chards, productive farms, wagons and sins, and receiving the ordinance of the No one has any apprehension of starva- its gifts and promised knowledge, and tion within the jurisdiction of the Latter- attendant signs, they would have seen land, we should first become perfectly college education to state to the people authority to administer them, its proassured that it was no human contri- administer the sacred ordinances of the that should follow, together with a pro-vance, something gotten up to effect gospel, through which should be re- mise of a knowledge of its divinity. In esty and integrity we could vouch, who would solemnly state, in private and in public, that through an obedience to minent feature connected with this its requirements, they had obtained, in a tangible form, a perfect knowledge of promises, nor the manner and time in which they were to be reached. The first feature in this system, which of them, they could have imparted no ness and having obtained authority to ed. It will evoke sympathy. Men will ask themselves, "what have the 'Mormous' done that they should be visited by such vengeance as this Colto the world; and no doubt there are even life itself, perhaps. No persons persons in this audience, out of differ-ent nations, to whom I have adminis-this new life until they have formed

we look for mercy from a tiger. But there is another class, numerous and influential, whose opinion and judg-ment have weight, and to whose utter-ances all pay deference. It is probable that they may have something to say after having delivered them from op- together in peace and harmony, buildpression and tyranny, little better than ing beautiful towns and cities, free from African slavery; and no doubt our legis-lators at Washington, one and all, would give us credit for our Indefatigable and pure and holy system, established by the martyred Saints and Prophets. On this point permit me again to quote what Jesus promised, viz: "Blessed art successful labors in establishing an ex- God through Joseph Smith, we shall tensive and flourishing colony upon a be compelled to question the genuinetensive and flourishing couchy upon a new compense to question of our government's domain, ness of the gospel of the former day formerly inhabited only by savages and Saints, as recorded in the New Testa-formerly inhabited only by savages and Saints, as recorded in the New Testa-ild besets provided we would allow ment.

by the power, wisdom and revelations of famous of impostors, but his followers, the Latter-day Saints in general,

From what I have already said in regard to the operations and effects of this Holy Ghost would impart the knowscheme, it is easy to be seen that, if it ledge which would constitute the rock be an imposition, it is not confined ex-clusively to the leaders of this people, said His people should be established. but this whole community are actively This people have their hopes and proscompass their ends. Like stoses he left and knowingly engaged in this stupen-incompetent and unqualified for the and knowingly engaged in this stupen-task, to stand forth as a religious re-task, to stand forth as a religious re-former, in a position the most unpopular, to battle against opinions and creeds this could be proved to be the case, we and we are the only religious commuwhich had stood for ages, having had should be compelled to the belief, that nity which dares profess to occupy the former-day Saints, also, had been such a scriptural position, and our in theological obedience; but God had engaged in the same disgraceful busi- claims upon the Savior's promise, that ness. More than one hundred thon- hell shall not prevail against a people sand people now dwell in these valleys, so established, give us peace, tranquilmany of them having come from distant climes and nations; in this great ing and happy assurance of security in fact they willingly and knowingly ex- the midst of all kind of display of hibit to the world a clear and pewerful threatened ruin and overthrow. testimony, more expressive, and forclble than any language could command, ceive divine manifestations, should that they did undeniably and most this knowledge and boldly testify of its receive the Holy Ghost, should receive positively receive, through the ordi- possession. The astronomer may know the same gospel and blessings as were nances of this gospel, administered unto of many laws and phenomena connected them by our elders, a knowledge of this with the sun and its movements work, through the divine manifesta- through ethereal space; but as regards tions of the Almighty. But it may be the simple fact that it exists and shines be in force wherever and to whomso- objected that, whereas this commu- upon the earth, millions know it as well nity were found by our mission- as himself. President Brigham Young. aries in great poverty and distress, therefore, they obeyed the gospei and emigrated here to better their we preach, as a divine institution, never circumstances financially, without any regard to its truth or falsity, as a divine perfect, more convincing, more satis-system. This might be true in some factory, than tens of thousands in these system. This might be true in some iustances, but impossible as regards its application to this people as a community. Such persons who received this things, in its nature, in the charwork, not with religious motives, not with honest convictions of its divine requirements, but solely for the loaves and fishes, cannot possibly abide the test to which every man's faith, sooner | and will apprehend and appreciate dior later, must be brought, but will have vine truth, is such that it cannot be their dishonesty and hypocrisy exposed, and will apostatize. Hundreds of my brethren, elders of this church, full of happiness of his stans, having explor-Godly zeal, animated with the purest ed this long untrodden path and made countries, giving your sanction to the motives, having obtained a knowledge this grand and glorious discovery, will truth of a system which promised you of the will of God, have left their wives not, and cannot keep silence, but despite divine manifestations, but which you and children, everything that the heart threatened opposition, however fierce failed in experiencing? Being honest holds most dear, and gone forth to the and terrific, will boldly declare the ourselves, if we cannot bear a solemn natious, without compensation, and solemn fact, spreading and multiplying testimony of having received divine called on all to repent and turn their the divine intelligence, and if so requirhearts to the Lord, obey the gospel, and ed, will seal this testimony with his God himself has founded this system of they should receive the Holy Ghost, own life's blood. only proper witnesses, that this whole plan and pretension of Joseph Emith is a sheer falsehood, a miserable fabrication. It will be recollected that this served their honesty and integrity, and continue its irrepressible operations. put men in possession of the revelations of God and of a knowledge of this work, are precisely as simple, plain, and as are precisely as simple, plain, and as easy of understanding, as the order be-understanding, as the order be-there, again, was semething fair and consistent and worthy of all praise and worthy of all praise and there again, was semething fair and consistent and worthy of all praise and there again, was semething fair and consistent and worthy of all praise and there again, was semething fair and consistent and worthy of all praise and const fore alluded to, through which the Heavens were opened in Naamau's be-Heavens were opened in Naamau's beof His dispensations, when they are in other people are prepared to be witness-actual working order as they were in est either for or against this system. Church. To obtain light, a knowledge of the will of God, to get the true reli- tions, churches spring up in every land gion as now revealed through the gos- and clime, Saints increase and multiply these mountain vales. It found us citi- ple; likewise as in calling Lehi to es- sions, was precisely similar. It required pel, divine manifestations regarding and gather together, the Kingdom of respective languages, each possessing well as in many other instances. A promises that divine manifestations sorbing proposition presented to the Prophet Daniel be literally and should follow their performance. Jesus his peculiar notions and prejudices, where it possesses no virtue, nor pow- said: "He that will do the will of God, people. Now, whether these eiders emphatically accomplished. postors, promulgating base falsehoods or not, is of course, a question of grave consideration; and it is a matter of far greater importance, and of more curias to that important and vital fact, and came here ito practice hypocrisy in re-ligion and thus fasten, irresistibly, on our children and future generations, a system of falsahoods for a divine religion. Joseph Smith affirmed that Peter, James authority to administer the holy ordinances of the Gospel, through which every honest-hearted man was promised the Holy Chost, and a perfect know-ledge of the doctrine. Our Elders simply affirm having received a Divine mills should peruse the advertisement in this knowledge of the fact that this gospel issue of E. D. Woolley and Isaac Groo, adminwas a Heaven-born institution, and istrators of the estate of John M. Woolley dethrough its virtue and divine force every homest-hearted man might ob- to let or sell on very advantageous terms, tain this same knowledge. I had been a member of this church but a few days when I obtained, through a divine manifestation, a clear, explicit, and tangible knowledge of the truth of this work. Thousands and tens of thousands of Latter-day Saints, men and women, in private life, could testify to the same experience, and though I may know many things in regard to this doctrine which in their limited experience, they may not understand, yet in this one fact they are equal with me in knowledge, equal with the messengers nett's Cocoaine is not greasy or sticky, and is who admitilatered to them this gospel. acknowledged by the fashionable public to be I wish now to examine another progospel religion. An important item which was put forward prominently wherever this gospel was announced, was that its followers should have abundance of persecutions, and would probably, in the progress of their new life, be compelled to make the most serious sacrifices of wife, children, ful power even over the worst cases of Asthma houses and lands, spoiling of goods, and or Pathiste,

over the pathway of persecution and sacrifice, traversed in all sges thou, Simon Barjonah, flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My this work was of man and not of God,— that it had been accomplished through that it had been accomplished through the artifice and wisdom of man and not were the most corrupt, wicked and in-might receive individually to himself and build upon with perfect assurance and safety, upon which he could found God. Joseph Smith, whom God chose to es-tablish this work, was poor and unedu-tablish this work, was poor and unedu-Ghost to all who would be baptized, or in other words, obey the gospel. The ity, unshaken confidence, and a pleas-

> It is the people, the masses - not exclusively their leaders-who have professed to have a knowledge more

valleys, who never arose to address a public audience. This system of acter of its origin, the manner of its operations, and in the purposes for which it was designed, coupled with the fact that men of honest hearts can, destroyed. A person honest, full of in-

common-sense reasoning of his servant, mised blessing. The first principles of sorrow and misery, and had now sent the gospel which we offer, and which them His gospel for their deliverance,

This Gospel was brought to our reswith his associations, and a strong attachment to kindred, friends and coun-try. However unpleasant, unkind, un-just and inconsistent it might appear at did for his people all this, and it has just and inconsistent it might appear at done the same in every instance, forth with our wives and children to a distant land, of which we had but little and upon the families of Lehi and Ishmael, as mentioned in the Book of Morlations, and going forth from our native some political purpose, or gratify some worldly ambition, to achieve some private end through human cunning and craftiness. The gospel was plain and them thousands of miles and despite simple in its requirements; and there every obstacle establish them as a comcould be no mistaking the precise na- paratively independent people in the visited by such vengeance as this Cul- corded in the New Testament. It re-

warmed and be ye clothed," but it deconcluded to waive his objections, and clared plainly, and in distinct terms, comply with the requirements, and that the Lord had seen their bondage having done so, he received the pro- and oppression, and heard their cries of

actual working order, as they were in les, either for or against this system. pective habitations far remote from and making them an independent peo- Testament, in its promises and proviof persons in these beautiful valleys be adduced from the New Testament, pelled to break up those associations, who formerly were compelled to sub- showing that divine manifestations and and sever those attachments, leaving sist with their wives and children in a perfect knowledge, were promised to, the lands of our nativity, and going halfstarved condition, not owning an and were actually received in a specihabitation, nor a foot of land, nor a fied and tangible form, by those who then horse, cow, pig or chickens, in fact noth- obeyed the gospel. Those who obeyed ing they could call their own, subject its requirements were the only compecarriages, dwelling in their own houses laying on of hands, then had they in comfortable and easy circumstances. failed to receive the Holy Ghost, with us, through obedience to its require- they have been most miraculously ac- this gospel, or order of things which we ments, a perfect knowledge of its Di-could have achieved such things, nor carefully compared it with the gospel vine authenticity, so that in leaving dared any otherChristian denomination recorded in the Scriptures, and found our kindred, breaking up our social re- venture to send out its missionaries it alike precisely in every particular, as without purse or script and without a regarded its forms, ordinances and the vealed tangible evidence and know- many instances it was brought to us by ledge of its divinity, and of their being men with whose character we were authorized to administer it and take the perfectly familiar, and for whose honpeople from a state of poverty, and lead ture and character of its blessings and they found the people poor, friendless its Heaven-born principles. This was py lot, and in no case must look for any

Should the prominent men of this Church, together with tens of thousands God continue to be established, and the

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