

to bigots to show that the truth is the reverse of such evidence! "Really," it begins with. Well, really then, how does the editor know? He does not give himself the benefit of any doubt in the matter at all, but proceeds to demolish established facts with no more trenchant weapon than his own *ipse dixit*. He does not know that what he alleges is the truth, he has every reason for believing that what he seeks to rebut is the truth, and yet he gives out his threadbare falsehoods with the preface of a "really!"

And then look at the manner in which the *Sun* descends from dignity to scurrility in its treatment of the subject! It does not weaken an argument in the least to call distinguished men by the names which those who uphold their cause and advance their principles call them; dropping off the Christian name is bad enough in the case of a man whom a quarter of a million of educated Christian people honor, but further on it appears the writer is not contented with even that—it is not scurrilous enough for the rabble, and the first name is abbreviated. Another statement that cannot be proved by the paper or by any man or combination of men on earth is the succeeding one as to the founder's qualities. It is something like the ignorance saturated with malice which prevailed among the mere ignorant on both sides in the civil war; "Jeff" Davis to the Northern illiterate was a murderer of infants, a horrid monster and a wretch destitute of every moral and intellectual quality, while "Abe" Lincoln to the ignoramus of the South was a baboon, part "nigger" and a common loafer. Only, the *Sun* cannot interpose the poor plea of ignorance, nor are we willing to regard it as altogether malice; the cause of the disposition to so write is contained further back in this article, we think.

There is much more of the same kind, only some of it is worse, in the article spoken of. Conclusions are adduced from assumed premises, and bald statements not always consistent one with another are set down as facts. It all goes to show that there are more spots on the *Sun* than were previously dreamed of in our philosophy.

A SILLY STORY.

A morning cotemporary announces that Judge O. W. Powers "was greatly disappointed, as he saw he had missed a great opportunity to distinguish himself" in the debate on statehood in the Trans-Mississippi Congress at Ogden. That Mr. Powers should be lost in wonder at the ability of the congress to get along without him would be quite in keeping with his usual opinion of himself; and that he should feel disappointed at losing a chance to distinguish himself is quite superfluous as a piece of information.

But all this does not prepare us to accept the ludicrous rumor, gravely announced as a fact by the same cotemporary, that a statehood debate between Hon. Thomas M. Patterson of Colorado and the disappointed and undistinguished Powers had been agreed to between the two, and

would be held in this city some time prior to August 1. If he isn't insulted at the story, Mr. Patterson will surely be amused at it; because he will have to smile at the innocence of newspaper scribes and others who think he has nothing to do but to go galloping around the country giving obscure persons representing defeated causes a chance to air themselves and obtain a quasi-dignity for their cause at his expense and on the strength of his name. Mr. Patterson was one of those who within the week pummeled all life and shape and substance out of the anti-statehood scarecrow and polished off its champions to the queen's taste. How absurd to expect him to take notice of every other would-be defender who to soothe his disappointment and to get distinction wants to fight once more a battle long since decided. People who believe such stuff do not know Mr. Patterson. They pay him a very poor compliment, while at the same time ridiculously overestimating the importance of either this man Powers or the shriveling cause he mouths for.

THE INTERNAL REGIONS.

Nearly forty years ago, in the autumn of 1854 to speak with more exactness, a gentleman now a resident of this city and at present and for many years past an esteemed friend of the *DESERET NEWS*, found himself, like many others before and since that time, plodding his way wearily along the long road between the Missouri river and the valleys of the mountains. Of all that thousand miles and more of travel, there was little that he did not cover step by step as he walked along side the wagon train. We need not mention the monotony of the trip—with one day like another and one week of toil being but the counterpart of the one which preceded and the one which followed it; the experience need not be recalled to those who passed through it, and none others could appreciate it from any description we can here give.

One hazy afternoon in late Indian summer our friend saw fluttering by the roadside a fragment of newspaper. With the real starving avidity that an educated man in time of scarcity rushes upon even a scrap of mental food, he picked up a tattered copy of the *DESERET NEWS*. Line by line he read and re-read it; it had possibly been thrown out of a mail pouch months before, perhaps by Indians—or possibly had been brought eastward by a valley passenger and thrown out upon the prairie. At any rate there it was, and it was sweeter to our friend than any morsel he had received since his toilsome journey began. On its first page he read an account of Jonathan Wilder's narrative of his visit to the internal regions of this earth that we inhabit, and on an inside page were some remarks on the subject by the editor. The circumstances referred to, and the request of a valued friend, are the cause of the reproduction of these articles in this issue of the *News*. They appeared in No. 8 of Vol. II, the paper being dated Feb. 21, 1852. Dr. Willard Richards was at the time editor and publisher

of the *News*, and his comments follow the main article as we republish it. It only remains to be said that during the forty years since Dr. Richards wrote, the world has learned little more about the poles of the earth than was known then, and that the idea of the hollowness of the planet and its probable habitation on the interior by human beings still finds respectable adherents. We submit the curious and ancient narrative with no other comment than this, and for the reason above given.

APT AND ELOQUENT.

Hon. T. M. Patterson of Colorado hit the nail squarely on the head yesterday, with regard to the anti-Mormon ring. In his speech on the resolution before the Trans-Mississippi convention favoring statehood for Utah, he said the fact that bitterness existed was "manifested by the elder men who had spoken." One of the individuals thus referred to was Mayor R. N. Baskin, of this city, who interposed the question, "What feeling have I manifested?" To this Mr. Patterson gave the reply: "My dear sir, I know that your language was well guarded, that your words were diplomatically chosen, but no disinterested listener could help feeling that deep down in the bottom of your heart the embers were still glowing and that even the mere mention of the possibility of a Mormon standing on equal rights with you is sufficient to kindle a consuming fire."

THE RUSSIAN TREATY.

President Cleveland has been in receipt of the Russian treaty for some time and it only awaits his official proclamation to go into effect, having been duly ratified by the Senate in executive session. There is a deep-seated and growing opposition to the issuance of the proclamation, and the President's delay shows that it is not such a convention as it is safe to adopt hastily. Numerous public meetings have been held in opposition, in one of which in Chicago recently the new mayor, Carter H. Harrison, took part.

It appears that by the terms of the treaty the forgery of a public document is made an extraditable offense and placed on the same criminal level as the assassination, or attempted assassination, of the head of the government. The opponents of the treaty contend that under this clause the refugee who forges a passport, without which it is next to impossible to leave Russia, must be returned by us if he escapes hither, when, under the autocratic system of the czar, he will be tried without any of the constitutional and legal safeguards which protect the rights of the accused under our government. If this is so the proclamation should be withheld indefinitely. The United States cannot afford to aid a foreign power in the maintenance of a system which belongs in the dark and barbarous past and there only. However, this may be greatly modified in the text of the agreement; we cannot know until it is published exactly what it is.