

(Concluded.)
Referring to the action of Congress in passing its late bill against polygamy in the Territories, the argument is made that the City of Salt Lake has to pass an ordinance against the sale of liquor on Main Street. Mr. Colfax certainly had a poor opinion of the intelligence of his hearers. In order to maintain this position, he will have to prove that polygamy is as much an evil in a community as the use of intoxication. This neither himself nor Congress can ever do, for thousands of upright, God-fearing men and women in Utah have proven it to be a blessing. The children of healthy, happy children, who now swell our day and Sabbath schools, and which in a few years will add strength and greatness to the State and nation, are at once the blessed result—the result of what Congress would legislate down as an evil, and which Mr. Colfax thinks it has a right to do, as much so as any community has a right to pass laws against the use of and traffic in intoxicating liquors. O consistency! thou art a jewel!

The increase of population in Utah, under the auspices of polygamy, has not been attended by a single bad result; society has remained pure. The polygamist men and women of Utah, as virtuous, moral and upright, as can be found in Europe or America. The children, intelligent, beautiful and highly moral, the pride of every teacher, and the joy of every parent, challenge comparison. Who, acquainted with such a community, would not say, keep away the demoralizer—liquor? Is the law of righteousness violated by withholding from their lips the poisonous cup? The Bible forbids drunkenness, and all good men use their influence against it, and the community that legislates it down, is clearly acting in self-defense. But Congress was not acting in self-defense when it attempted to legislate down polygamy; but was yielding to a popular prejudice. Such legislation can not prevent evil, nor oppose a successful barrier to the course of crime; but it legitimate results are to foster evil, and produce crime. Debauchery, robbery and bloodshed, are not the results of polygamy; but they are of drunkenness.

Let us for one moment suppose that the act of Congress against polygamy should become a law of the country, what would be its effect? It would cause good, peaceable citizens of the republic, to be imprisoned for doing what they conscientiously believe to be right, and a part of their duty, and what the Bible sanctions. It would cause them to be punished for doing what prophets and holy men have done, and left as an example, for the faithful to follow. Would not such a law bring the Government into lasting disrepute, and destroy for ever its reputation for tolerating religious liberty? Congressmen seem to think polygamy a disgrace to the Nation; would not this be a thousand times more so than the worst evils that plural marriage has ever produced? A government which has made religious toleration its boast, imprisoning its citizens for adherence to their faith, and that faith in accordance with the Bible!

Why need Congressmen give themselves any concern in their official capacity about a question of this character? If it is not in consonance with the Christian religion, it is the business of its ministers to expose its immoral character. They can certainly make a clear case, if such be the fact, when all respectable men and women will renounce it. If it be a social evil, it will soon become apparent, and when it loses its respectability, it will lose its votaries; for the polygamists of Utah are staid, moral folks, and are what they are, for conscience sake.

So, in either case, it is bound to become obsolete, if not founded upon truth; if on the other hand, it is founded upon correct principles, it will endure despite the legislation of Congress and every other law-making department in existence. This is pre-eminently an age of progression, and whatever is progressive in its character, will ride the billow's crest, and survive every storm.

There can be no doubt as to the successful issue of the question of Utah's admission. There is but one objection, and that is not a respectable one. The legislation of Congress against polygamy is unconstitutional, and can be proven so, by any school boy, miller, or farmer. A few men of narrow minds and strong prejudices, who have been so fortunate as to get into office, may delay the issue, but there can be no doubt as to the final result. A hundred thousand republicans, whose indomitable perseverance and industry, have reclaimed the barren wastes of the American Desert, and transformed it into a fruitful land, are worthy of a State government, and the American Nation is magnanimous enough to give them their political rights, polygamy or no polygamy. Hurrah for Utah! The Constitution is on her side, and her ship of State will soon be afloat, with pure white sails, and streamers spread to the breeze.

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