

## EDITORIALS.

T. O. WALKER, Esq., editor of the Bloomfield Democrat, and one of the Iowa editorial excursion party, in the course of a lengthy description of his trip to this city, makes the following observations, as published in that paper:

Now, as to the ideas we entertain of the city and its inhabitants: Before the coming of the Gentile, Salt Lake City was the home of the most frugal, orderly, sober, industrious, fanatically religious people on the globe, and if they have changed from that, the change has been brought about by those who have gone there with intolerance for their motto, and with the view of imposing upon others their own self-righteous views. That this people was and is a frugal one, is shown in the accumulation of property at a time when there was little to accumulate; that they were orderly is shown by their never needing a police officer until Gentile "civilization" had come among them; that they were and are sober is the universal testimony of all travelers, further fortified by the fact that outside of Salt Lake City and Ogden, there is not a dram-shop in any Mormon settlement in the whole Territory; that they were and are industrious no one who has seen the garden land they have reclaimed from the desert will attempt to deny. In their way they were moral, also. Not a house of ill-fame could be found in the whole Territory, five years ago. Marriage with them was sacred, if it was doubled and often quadrupled; a woman could go anywhere in the streets at night, without question, and without a suspicion as to her chastity; and she who bore the fruits of marriage with the most frequency was counted the most honored.

I did not go to Mormondom to become its advocate or its detractor. I write of what I saw. I saw a vast people who have triumphed over the forces of nature, and who, under difficulties the most adverse, have carved out success the most signal. I saw a system of government wise, thoughtful, practical and well high perfect. I saw the workings of a system of religion which I detest and abhor, but against which I am no intolerant crusader. I saw among the Mormons a firmness of purpose to do and dare for their belief, only asking the enforcement of that doctrine of equity *meum et tuum*; and I saw among the Gentiles a spirit whose most frequent expression was: "Every d—d Mormon ought to be hung." My readers can form opinions for themselves. \* \* \* The leaders among the Mormons scout at the idea of any recession from their faith, and avow their readiness to defend their religion to the last gasp, but to the observant eye and thoughtful mind that policy which would make any such act, on the part of the Mormons, possible, is to be sincerely regretted, and discouraged by every possible means.

The policy of prejudice and hate, which has been popular of late, will, if persisted in, work harm to every one concerned.

BUILD a vessel that is shot and shell proof and then construct a cannon that will send a shot or shell through the vessel's armor—that seems to be the order of modern naval invention and progress. Some interesting experiments were recently made at Shoeburyness, England, in the trial of the celebrated 35-ton gun, the "Woolwich Infant." It was fired twice, each time with 110 pounds of pebble powder, and a shell weighing 691 pounds empty, or 700 pounds with its burster, at a distance of 70 yards from a target composed of 18½ inches of iron, and 12 inches of wood, making 30½ inches in all. There was an air space between the iron and the backing. By the concussion of the discharge, splinters of the shell were hurled many hundreds of feet in all directions. The shell was found firmly imbedded in the target, about two feet deep. Some of the power of the shell was lost by rather premature explosion. Of the target one rib was broken, a few rivets were started, and the entire frame was driven back three inches. The second shell, filled with sand, went clear through the target, and fell in rear, leaving the body of the shell in the target, which sustained no serious damage. It is concluded that such a target, with a little addition or strengthening, would be capable of resisting the heaviest gun in the world.

Fifteen rounds were then fired at a moving six-foot target, drawn by four horses, about 400 yards distant, with ten-inch and nine-inch rifled muzzle-loading guns, and a forty-pound breech-loading gun, many of which went near the mark and one from the forty-pounder went through.

THE sunstroke "tale of three cities" on the eastern sea—New York, Brooklyn and Philadelphia, during the first week in July, is something fearful. For the week ending July 6 New York had 1,569 deaths against its weekly average of 620 for the first six months of the year, Philadelphia had 764 against its weekly average of 420, and Brooklyn had 670 against its weekly average of 232. The death rate of New York for the week was equal to 84.1 per 1,000 per annum, the average for the preceding six months being 33.2 per 1,000 per annum; the rate at Philadelphia was 57 per 1,000 per annum against the six months' average of 31.4; and the rate at Brooklyn was 86.4 per 1,000 per annum against the six months' average of 30. The New York Times says it does seem hard that a sudden rise of ten degrees in the temperature of midsummer should cost New York and Brooklyn the lives of 150 little children daily as long as that fierce heat lasted.

The experience of those cities should teach us to be careful of unnecessary human exposure during the time of such trying heat. Adults must take care of themselves, but children, who have little idea of the risk run, should be looked after. Sunstrokes are uncommon here, but sickness and debility from the effects of great heat are sufficiently common to point a moral to be careful. It is better to lose a few hours' labor, or some other real or fancied advantage, now and then on excessively hot days, than to run the serious risk of severe bodily and sometimes mental injury from the effect of the sun's powerful rays. Life and health are things worth the exercise of a little prudence.

NEW and more pretentious houses and stores, hotels, street railroad, water-works, fire engines, street lamps, gas, ornamental lamp posts, are among the improvements common in our city. To-day we wish to talk particularly of lamp posts. It is known that the municipal authorities have authorized the erection of handsome posts in the centre of a few of the cross streets in the city. It is a good thing. It is to be hoped that the city authorities will pursue the subject and not rest satisfied until they have erected a handsome, durable, and efficient lamp post in the centre of every cross street in the city. Such posts would benefit the public in many ways.

1. No better position can be found for the suspension of lamps, as the light would be thrown effectively four different ways, and from just the point where light would be most beneficial to the pedestrian or the equestrian public.

2. Such posts could be made most useful finger or guide posts, by having painted upon them, or on boards attached to them, the names of the respective ward or wards and streets of the locality, and, if considered desirable, the same names, or their initials, could be painted upon the lamps for night use.

3. One great benefit of such posts would be the protection they would afford to pedestrians from horses and carriages. Our streets are wide, the traffic upon them increases rapidly, and the fast horses and faster drivers that are seen in the streets are not a few and are increasing in numbers. It is all very well to drive a fast horse, but it is not very well to be run over and lamed or killed by a fast horse driven by a faster driver. The fastness of either animal would go a very little way towards mitigating the damages of such a catastrophe, and would afford very little consolation to the sufferer. His feelings, his pains would be very slightly mollified or assuaged by the contemplation, as he lay disabled on his couch, that his accident came from a 2:40 or a 1:18 horse. Neither would the fastness diminish the length or weight of the doctor's bill.

4. It might be said that such lamp posts would be in the way of runaways. A very good thing, for in the first place, there ought to be no runaways in the streets; in the second place, runaways, such as there be, ought to be stopped, and that right early and effectively; in the third place, it is better for a runaway to be "brought up standing" against a lamp post than for a dozen people to be

knocked down, run over, and maimed and killed. "Stop the runaways!" That is just what ought to be done, promptly and effectually.

5. It may be said that people should be on the sidewalks and not on the streets. But people must, at times, cross streets at street crossings, and those are just the places where protection would be most requisite, convenient and grateful.

6. In the large cities and towns of Europe, huge iron lamp-posts at such places are common, and around them, at a few feet distance, are placed several smaller defensive iron posts, defining a small area for a place of refuge to animal or vehicle pressed pedestrians, so that they may have some chance of safety in crossing crowded street crossings. Many a time, in thronged localities, have we noticed the excellent advantages of these post defences, and in several instances have made personal availing of their protection from possible accident. It is true, we have not iron available for such purposes here, but wood and granite are comeatable, and public money would be well spent in judicious appropriations for such purposes where most needed. Let us have these cross street lamp and guide posts as fast as may be deemed desirable, so that protection to life and limb may be enhanced upon our streets, especially upon those most frequented by such of our citizens or visitants as travel on horseback or in vehicles.

7. Of course there would be a few grumblers at such manifestly beneficial improvements, but grumblers always exist, and they will exert their peculiar characteristics. Further, one evidence that a proposition is good is that certain characters grumble savagely about it. Grumblers we have ever with us, but improvements should not be stopped nor hindered on that account.

OCCASIONALLY a maniac like Jeffreys, or like the present Keogh, or like—well, perhaps these illustrations are sufficient, disgraces the judicial bench, and then both law and justice suffer. From ermine wearers like these, it is refreshing to turn and look upon one of a totally different quality. The announcement that Queen Victoria designed to bestow the peerage upon Sir Alexander Cockburn for his services in the Geneva arbitration business, has stimulated the newspapers to present the history and character of that gentleman before the world.

Sir Alexander James Cockburn, Bart., of Langton, Berwickshire, is the only son of Mr. Alexander Cockburn, by the daughter of Vicomte de Vigner, of St. Domingo. He entered the University of Cambridge as a student, at Trinity Hall, in 1823, and the next year gained prizes for the best exercises in English and Latin, and for the best English essay, and was elected Fellow in 1829. He became student of law at the Middle Temple, took his degree, was called to the bar, and entered on the Western Circuit. He was engaged as counsel in several contests, before election committees, concerning the first Reform Bill, was appointed commissioner under the Municipal Corporations Act, became Queen's counsel in 1841, six years after represented Southampton in Parliament, became Solicitor-General, Attorney-General, in 1856 Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and succeeded Lord Campbell as Lord Chief Justice of England. Sir Alexander is upwards of seventy years old, but in appearance, vigor and efficiency seems twenty years younger.

The following we find in the Boston Globe:

Sir Alexander Cockburn, at the time he was made Lord Chief Justice, was the most perfect and finished advocate at the English bar; his great antagonist in the same field being Mr. Thesiger, who was afterwards elevated to the peerage on attaining the Chancellorship as Lord Chelmsford. The social position of Mr. Cockburn, as the heir to a baronetcy, at once gave him the entree to the highest society; and it was his delightful manners, exquisite politeness, and refined courtesy, derived no doubt from the polished society in which he was accustomed to move, that made him whilst quite a young man so great a favorite with the English bar; a partiality which has shown itself in a much greater degree since his elevation to the bench. A stranger to the courts of Westminster passing into the Queen's Bench, could not but be struck with the lofty brow, the clear, generous eyes, the frank, quick, bright countenance of the presiding judge. The first impression produced is that the man is a man of genius, and of a warm and gen-

erous heart; but this impression is much more forcibly brought home to the mind when an opportunity has offered of hearing the grave and thoughtful-looking judge speak. His voice is clear and lively; his utterance is easy, natural and unstudied; his manner is graceful and genial, without the faintest approach to affectation; and the marked ability with which he delivers his judgment, even on intricate cases, off-hand, makes one at once feel the marked and superior qualities of the man they are in the presence of; and what is more, that that man is a perfect gentleman. To say of the Lord Chief Justice of England that he surpasses in high legal attainments some of his predecessors would be mere flattery; but to say that he possesses qualities—endearing him to all who have had the good fortune to be brought into contact with him—in which none of his predecessors have surpassed him, is but stating a fact recognized throughout the whole of England. An English advocate, and a poet, Dr. Kenealey, has thus pleasingly alluded to the Court of the Queen's Bench—

And have seen a court where every man  
Felt himself in the presence of a gentleman;  
Whose genial courtesy made all things  
genial,  
Whose exquisite bearing captiv'd all men's  
love,  
Whose sunbright justice brightened every  
care  
And sent even him who lost away content.

This is a perfect portraiture drawn by one who has had ample means of judging, during a long career as a barrister, of the judicial character and demeanor of Sir Alexander Cockburn.

It is an intellectual treat of the highest order to be present in court during the summing up of the Chief Justice. He has this among his many great gifts—a power of prompt and ready expression in the most correct and copious diction; and no one could possibly excel him in so clearly marshalling and arranging the most complicated facts, or more lucidly applying the legal principles involved. This power has become so remarkable that it oftentimes happens that English *causes celebres* are carried into his court for the express purpose of securing a trial before him. Probably the highest tribute unwillingly paid to this power of Sir Alexander Cockburn's was in a sneering speech made by Lord Westbury (then Sir R. Bethell, and Attorney General) when arguing in the Court of Error against an elaborate and luminous judgment of the Lord Chief Justice's in the celebrated Shrewsbury peerage case. "These principles, my Lord" (Sir R. Bethell said) "are not to be set aside by an eloquent judgment delivered in popular language." This sneer, bitter as it was, contained the best tribute to the wonderful judgment against which it was aimed; for it was eloquent and it did render a most difficult and complicated case—which had taxed to the utmost the ablest counsel at the English bar—quite clear by putting it into "popular language."

It would be an exaggeration to say that Sir Alexander Cockburn's mental or judicial character is perfection. There are flaws in every character; but it speaks for itself to say that he obtained the high position which he now occupies, solely by his own endowments and superior talents. The command which he possesses of all the resources of the English language enables him, whenever there is occasion for it, to refute whatever fallacies and sophistries are put before him at the bar, and to vindicate at the close of every cause the innocence that belongs to those that are tried; and while his consummate ability, and surpassing skill, as a conscientious, painstaking judge, ensures to those who seek justice at his hands, that they will receive it—equal and exact to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political."

If Utah were favored with a bench of judges of that character, with what delight and pride should we point to the fact! But this Territory not being so fortunate, all that remains for us to do is to hold up the portrait of a first-class judge for public admiration and professional emulation, and hope that some time or other our citizens will be able to rejoice in the jurisdiction of an equally able, intelligent, cultivated and upright judge.

With all his professional excellences, Sir Alexander has one grievous social fault—he has never been married. His professional brethren may be free enough to forgive this fault, but we do not see how in the world the ladies can. It is manifestly a sin and a shame for a man of such liberal endowments and brilliant attainments to refuse or