

EDITORIALS.

MAKE YOUR LAND CLAIMS SURE.

AMERICA can boast a variety of animal, of the genus homo, which few other countries can, and that is the land claim jumper, who makes it his business to loaf around with an eye open to desirable pieces of land, to which others have some sort of unperfected claim, and then, by trickery or sharp practice, under shelter of the technicalities of the law, without a shadow of justice, to secure for himself a Government title thereto, thereby often actually robbing other people of their just rights and of the results of years of labor and waiting.

Unfortunately the claim-jumper is not unknown in Utah, and that he is not more roughly dealt with than is generally the case arises largely from the proverbial long-suffering and patience of the people of this Territory.

There is another variety of the genus homo, which, if not indigenous and peculiar to America, may perhaps be more frequently found here than in any other country, at least any other country that makes any pretense to civilization, and that variety is the land office official who favors claim-jumpers, and possibly is a co-conspirator with them in the land robbery business. We are not reflecting in any manner or degree upon any official in connection with the land office in Utah at the present time, but there are some reasons for the belief that in former years the schemes of the claim-jumping fraternity have been more or less favored officially, to the prejudice of the really more rightful claims of bona fide and more honest settlers, which should never be the case. The main design of the pre-emption and homestead and general land laws of the United States is to encourage and reward the honest bona fide settler, and protect him in his rightful and just claim.

Considering that claim-jumpers are more numerous than welcome in this Territory, and that honest land seekers do not abound to the extent that might be wished, and that official integrity in this land of liberty is not always as spotless as newly fallen snow, it might be advisable, and be far from labor lost in every instance, if settlers having land claims, with titles not yet perfected, were to make it a point to ascertain at the local land office how their claims really do stand, and whether any one has stolen a march on them in the matter, lest, peradventure about the time when they are expecting their land patents, they suddenly find out that some one else has been there before them and has succeeded in beating off the prize, to their serious loss. Cheap trains come into the city from the country every week, at least, by which, or by other modes of conveyance, country people are in the habit of visiting the city, and if, when here, they were to take the trouble to look into their land business, those who have claims with unperfected titles, and see whether it is all straight and satisfactory to them, it might save some of them future cruel disappointment.

BECAUSE OF THEIR RELIGION.

THE following from the Washington correspondence of a city contemporary, may be placed on record, as a matter of history, illustrating the partial "Utah excepted" policy some prejudiced and unprincipled people are anxious to have prevail—

"The bill introduced by Delegate Steele, of Wyoming, providing for Territories electing the officials now appointed by the Government, still lingers in committee. This bill practically confers upon Territories the same powers and privileges as States, except having Senators and Representatives in Congress. No really serious objection could be made to this arrangement, except in the case of Utah. Under this bill, Utah would elect a Mormon Governor, the absolute veto power would of course be annulled, and the Mormon Legislature could drive the Gentiles from the country and confiscate their property. This

bill would answer their purposes almost as well as that for the admission of Utah as a State. Whether Delegate Steele is aware of the full force of the bill in the case of Utah or not, I do not know. But ignorance cannot be excused in a legislator. Should he be a candidate for re-election, his constituents will arise to a question of privilege to know why he wishes to confer upon Utah, in a covert manner, those extraordinary powers which the General Government is striving to exclude the polygamists from exercising. Of course the bill can never pass the Senate, even should it be smuggled through the House. It possibly may never be reported from the committee. If it is, so much the worse for its introducer, for it will politically lay him on the table. Otherwise, his constituents may never hear of this dubious bill. Those of his constituents formerly residing in Utah will understand the full meaning of the bill, and may make it uncomfortable for Delegate Steele about next election time—if he should be in the field."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Latest case of heartless desertion, in music publisher's window—"Thou Hast Loved Me and Left Me, for twenty-five cents."

—They stand up for their rights, or wrongs, in Vermont. Two drivers sat in their wagons for four hours because neither would turn out. Then the Sheriff set to and turned them out.

—The Brooklyn Argus presents the general situation in this light—"The American people are just now taking an account of moral stock, and have already learned so much of each other that they almost wish they hadn't opened the books."

—Mr. Benjamin Willis, of Bangor, Me., recently married Miss Emma Gould, of that city. His sisters tried to break off the match because of his poor health, then they wished him to convey his property to a trustee, then they endeavored to have him sent to an insane asylum, but all was unavailing, and the court discharged him.

—The commissioners on lunacy in Scotland recommend systematic teaching of morals, on the ground that by its means, combined with physical education, far more successful results would be achieved in the diminution of insanity than have hitherto been attained through the operation of asylum treatment.

—The Philadelphia North American is of the opinion that California is not exactly the place for Americans or Europeans, that as the Atlantic States were peopled from the many countries of Europe, the Pacific States are to be peopled from China, Japan, India and the South American countries."

—The Sacramento people are dealing with the Chinese question on the non-patronizing method. Says the Bee, "Many merchants and others have totally discharged their Chinese employes and engaged white labor in their stead. The heathen cook of the city prison has been given an indefinite leave of absence, his place being filled by a white man."

—The District of Columbia Woman's Franchise Association are in favor of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Ernestine S. Rose, and Susan B. Anthony going as delegates to the Cincinnati Republican Convention, June 14, with instructions to ask for the following as a plank in the Republican platform—"That principles of justice and the welfare of the nation alike demand that every obstacle in the way of the exercise of the right of suffrage by the women citizens of the United States shall be speedily removed, and that we pledge ourselves to secure this end."

—The Washington Star indulges in Blainiana in this manner—"The Boston Globe thinks Mr. Blaine the busiest man in the country these days, running single-handed the minority in the House, nagging the majority, looking after chores at home in Maine, watching his competitors in the Presidential race and chucking obstacles in their path. The Springfield Republican wonders 'if he hasn't bit off more than he can chew,' but the gentleman from Maine seldom makes a mistake of that kind, and always calculates his distance," as did the backwoodsman who amused himself by squirting tobacco juice

within an inch of the head of Martin Chuzzlewit when he was lying ill in 'Eden.'"

—Col. Forney says this is the way of it—"It is not drink, it is not gaming, it is not licentiousness, which drags one after another of our public men in this time. It is—terrible truth!—their wives and daughters." Of course, lay it all upon the women. They can bear much, if their shoulders are not so broad as those of the men.

—The Cincinnati Commercial reasons that if the dollar mark (\$) is to be taken as a contraction or monogram of U. S., perhaps there is, after all, more significance in some things than has been hitherto supposed.

—The Archbishop of Canterbury, at the opening of the London Hospital, recently, pronounced the benediction while wearing an Ulster overcoat, and the churchmen of London feel greatly scandalized thereby.

—It is said that Senator Christianity understands and appreciates his young wife's loveliness to the fullest extent, but he does not like the newspapers to say so much about and be continually harping on the subject. Neither ought they.

—Here is another couple marrying themselves, this time in England. It took place in the Friends' Meeting-house, St. Martin's Lane, London. Mr. Theodore Harris, a Quaker banker at Leighton Buzzard, was the happy groom, and Miss Gertrude L. Russell, daughter of Lord Charles Russell (brother of Earl Russell, and late Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons), was the happy bride. No ecclesiastical or civil functionary took part in the service. The bride and bridegroom married themselves by standing up and repeating the marriage vows. Mr. Bright made a congratulatory speech at the wedding breakfast.

—The Washington Star of April 12 has the following—"The following orders concerning quartermasters have been issued:—Captain J. V. Furey is ordered to report to the commanding general department of the Platte, to relieve Captain Atwood of his duties at Camp Douglas and Ogden, Utah Territory. Captain Atwood will be assigned to duty at Fort Monroe. Captain O. G. Robinson will remain at Omaha, Nebraska. Captain L. C. Forsyth is relieved from duty in the department of Texas for assignment at Fort Brown, Texas."

—U. S. House of Representatives Assistant Doorkeeper Stringfield, of North Carolina, is "a gentleman, by —, sir," according to his own confession.

—The New York Sun claims that there never was a time since the first organization of the United States Government when the influence of woman was as potent as it has been the last few years.

—The Washington Star says, "The President has been credited with the opinion that \$25,000 as the salary of the chief executive is too small a compensation, the inference being drawn from the fact that he approved the bill increasing his salary to twice that sum. It now appears that this provision was attached to an appropriation bill and that he could not have vetoed it without vetoing the entire bill. This being the case he can now, if he chooses, approve the present bill without rendering himself liable to the charge of inconsistency."

—The St. Joe Gazette says, "We regret to be compelled to admit it, but the house of God is, and always has been, a favorite loafing resort."

—A Chicago paper says Scotch verdicts are becoming very popular among republican politicians. "Not proven" is the word.

—The Chicago Courier is rather severe upon the late merchant prince, A. T. Stewart—"He lived a long, and what some people choose to call a useful life. He was a boss huckster in dry goods, and overshadowed all the little hucksters. If the history of the hucksters whom he has ruined, by taking advantage of their necessities, could be written, it would be found that he was a great and good operator over the misfortunes of others, and that they have little reason to remember him, except as a commercial despot. But his operations, like many other forms of plundering the people, had the sanction of law. Mr. Stewart was, par excellence, an Irish Jew."

—In view of recent developments an exchange asks the question, "Is money worth the cost?"

—The Washington Capital analyzes the term "society" and concludes that its one all-pervading characteristic is arrogance.

—The London Nature says, it is grievous to think that the caprice of a political party may soon bring to a stop the publication of those valuable works, the reports of the U. S. Geographical and Geological Survey of the Territories.

—The Albuquerque (New Mexico) Review learns that seven hundred families of "Mormons" are en route to Arizona for the purpose of locating on the head waters of the Chiquito and Salt rivers. Glad to hear it, and only hope it is true. Couldn't have better citizens than good "Mormons."

—Joyce, the convicted crooked whiskey gentleman, is said to be down-hearted and to feel his confinement keenly. An exchange remarks, "It must indeed be hard for him to bear his imprisonment, while there is so much good stealing going on outside."

—It is said that Captain Webb's swim across the English Channel promises to be very profitable to him, as the testimonial for him has already reached \$20,000.

—The Centennial is said to be transforming the Quaker city from a quiet, home-like place to one of excitement. It is going ahead like 76.

—The London Times says, "The mass of the people in the United States are tyrannized over by the political machinery they have inherited, and which they have not the heart to overthrow."

—The New York Sun, speaking of the rejection by the Senate of Richard A. Dana, as minister to England, says, "It is an honor to be rejected by the senate, which confirmed Billings." That may be. But then, if he had been confirmed, would not Mr. R. A. D. have accepted the dishonor of the confirmation just the same? Unreachable grapes are often sour.

—The London Saturday Review thinks that a monarchy is better than a republic in Spain, because the ministers are always intriguing for power, and in a republic the first and not the second place in government would be the object of their ambition.

—Many Scotchmen love whiskey. At a fire at Edinburgh, the firemen stole jewelry from the burning houses, and got so drunk that many were found, hours afterward, lying in the street. Consequently the brigade is to be reorganized.

—A California paper says, "The Supreme Court of California has decided that private property cannot be taken for a private use like that for ditching, and that the right of way for a ditch must be obtained by contracting with the owners of the land."

—San Francisco is putting in force a new rule in regard to nymphs du pape. Formerly, when arrested, they were required merely to pay a fine of \$5, but now they are required to furnish \$150 bail, and the new rule is to be strictly enforced.

—The Vicksburg Herald characterizes the Republican State Convention in this way—"Eleven negro preachers, thirteen carpet-baggers, ninety-six nigger manipulators and one hundred and three swindlers meet in Jackson to-day as the Republican Convention in this State."

REMINISCENCES OF CUMORAH.

On the 14th of last December I stood for the first time on the hill Cumorah. I had longed to see this spot, now associated in the minds of the Saints with events of the deepest interest. I seemed impressed with an inspiration peculiar to the place. Although enveloped in a cold scudding snow storm, I was able to call up from the shadowy past some of the important events which have closed and commenced grand epochs in the history of the Western Hemisphere with a rapidity and vividness impossible to represent to others.

The scene on the day following the final great battle between the Nephites and Lamanites, when Gen. Mormon, suffering from his wounds, with his son Moroni and a

few who still survived the carnage, stood about where I stood, with the records containing the history of a hemisphere for twenty-five centuries under their feet, with the Lamanites contending over the spoils of victory in their neighboring camp, with their own doom of death still in prospect, with no bright hope for the future redemption of their race only through the barbarian darkness of many centuries, with hearts heavy with a sorrow which there was nothing in their surroundings to alleviate, they looked a last farewell upon this field of death, where lay what remained of all they held most dear on earth, upon the bodies of 230,000 men who, but yesterday, were nerved up in all the vigor of manhood in a terrible conflict for existence, but now in the embrace of that sleep that knows no awakening until the resurrection. Had this been all, the more tender sentiments of the heart might still lie dormant, but the wife, the mother, and helpless childhood were here the victims of a relentless hate which knew no mercy, which nothing but indiscriminate slaughter could satisfy.

Probably a million, representing the various phases of human life, perished in this memorable battle. This grand mausoleum was now not only sacred to the memory of those whose bodies were about to mingle with the elements, but also to that of the vast host of Jaredites who had destroyed each other on the same spot some 700 years before. Who shall say there is no God who shapes the destinies of nations? Here two distinct nationalities, not in the least identified with each other, closed their earthly career, their dust destined to mingle together for ages, with the hill Cumorah for their monument, and with the records in its bosom to tell future generations who they were and when and how they passed away.

Here a grand chain of events ended, a succession of mighty impulses subsided and found a resting place for centuries. But these energies were not lost, they had a future, and that future is our present.

The hill Cumorah was faithful to its trust. For 1400 years the elements wrought changes on its surface and surroundings, but still the record of the priesthood, the inspirations, the happiness, the miseries, the wars and revolutions of half the globe were retained unmarred, unchanged in its bosom. Through them the millions who have lived and passed away on this continent are whispering their experiences to those now living, and will shape the thoughts and aspirations of millions yet to live.

JAMES A. LITTLE.

DIVERSION OF THE UTAH LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION.

Proceedings of the U. S. Senate, the Deficiency Appropriation Bill under consideration, April 18, 1876.

The next amendment of the Committee on Appropriations was in line 346 of section 1, to reduce the appropriation "for the defraying of the expenses and fees of the United States Marshal of the Territory of Utah and of summoning jurors and witnesses, of keeping and transporting prisoners and caring for the penitentiary," from \$6,000 to \$5,000.

Mr. EDMUNDS. Will the Senator be kind enough to tell us in respect of this second item how it happens that these territorial expenses have run up in this way, when according to our territorial system, as I understand it, the Territories are expected to bear the expense of summoning jurors and witnesses so far as respects the administration of the law of the Territory, setting aside for the time being the United States law per se, just as is the case in the States? Why has not this Territory, if it has not, made provision for these expenses? If it has not, why is it not required to do it instead of its being paid out of the Treasury of the United States?

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine. I do not know that I can recall with entire accuracy the fact about this matter, but last year the senator may remember the proposition was referred to his committee. There was some difficulty about the ter-