

EDITORIALS

THOSE TWO MEMORIALS.

THERE are some facts which should be taken into account by Congress and the public in the consideration of those two memorials from Utah—one asking for Congressional investigation of Utah affairs before any special legislation "to aid" her be effected, that when such legislation is taken in hand it may be intelligently and judiciously done, in a sagacious, far-seeing, statesman-like manner; the other craving and urging hasty, special, proscriptive legislation to take power out of the hands of the people and their representatives, and consolidate it in the hands of half a dozen imported and appointed officials, who, most of them, are not nor ever would be the choice of the people.

The memorial to investigate comes from the Legislature, the representatives of the people, elected by the people, and would be sustained by nine-tenths of the people, if it were put before them for their action. The memorial for hurried proscriptive legislation comes from "forty-five," belonging to or affiliated or in sympathy with the "ring," not chosen nor supported by the people, in no sense representing the people, but in many respects operating in direct and deadly opposition to the frequently and emphatically expressed wishes of the people. That memorial of the "forty-five," if put before the people for their action, would not be supported by one-tenth of the people, but it would receive the hearty support of liars, thieves, blacklegs, drunkards, blasphemers, the licentious, most of the well known ruffians, and the law-breakers and law-defiers that infest the community.

Those are some of the differences between the two memorials and their originators, advocates, and supporters.

PREST. GRANT, THE NEWSPAPERS AND THE INDIAN POLICY.

THE following appears in the *Sacramento Union*—

"WASHINGTON, Feb. 21st.

"President Grant was interviewed yesterday upon Indian affairs. He made great complaint of the manner in which the Indian policy of the Administration had been treated by the newspapers. He said there was apparently a concerted effort to misrepresent and pervert the results of the policy, and a determination not to give credit for the good accomplished, and to hold the Administration responsible for abuses and frauds which are the outgrowth of the old system. Under the old system, it was impossible for any portion of the Indian appropriation to reach the Indians themselves; under the present administration of Indian affairs, by far the largest part of the goods and annuities went to the Indians directly; and the talk about corruption and the statements about outrages proceed largely from men whose profits and whose opportunities have been cut off. Under the former system, the Indian plunderers were so powerful that an honest man could not remain in office. This has been thoroughly reformed, and a dishonest agent is now the exception, where formerly he was the rule. With all our efforts, said the President, some have succeeded in circumventing and cheating the Government, but as fast as discovered they have been broken up and cast out. He expressed himself positively against any control of Indian affairs by the army, except in punishing refractory Indian tribes, who refuse to accept the Government's proffer of kind treatment for good behavior. He is highly pleased with the result obtained by the religious agent plan, which he says has worked well; there being, in addition to the usual official responsibility of the individual, the responsibility of the religious society making the nomination. He cited the case of Indian Commissioner Smith, as one of peculiar hardship and injustice, from newspaper unfairness. Papers had for months abused him without measure, and when he was vindicated, maintained perfect silence and ig-

nored the facts; while Smith's wife had been driven insane by the attacks upon her husband. The President thought there should be a new statute, for the punishment of lying."

A "new statute for the punishment of lying" might be an excellent thing in general, but if it were carried out what would become of the "ring" hereabout? That precious circle would surely be annihilated, and then how could the annual hue and cry for special legislation "to aid" Utah be raised, and how could anti-"Mormon" crusades be instigated and maintained? These are serious questions.

LADY JUSTICES.—Wyoming has women jurors, Utah women notaries public, Montana a woman constable, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania and England women on school boards, some of the States (Utah also) women Legislative clerks, and probably women officials in divers other public places of trust and emolument in various parts of this country. But it is no new thing for women to hold public office, other than the exalted monarchical position of Queen. An exchange claims for "Bloody Queen Mary," of England, a name and a place among the "pronounced" woman's rights women, and gives the following "little passage from history" in confirmation of the claim—

"Queen Mary, having overcome the repugnance of the English to be governed by a sovereign lady, was disposed to place her own sex in stations of authority, of which there had been a few examples before or since. She had made Lady Berkley a Justice of the Peace for Gloucestershire, and Lady Lous she appointed of the quorum for Suffolk, 'who did usually sit on the bench at Assizes and Sessions, among other Justices, *cincta gladio*, girt with the sword."

THE MONTANA LEGISLATURE.

THE Legislative Assembly of Montana closed its session Feb. 14, without, the *Avant Courier* thinks, having "accomplished as much for the substantial good of the Territory as was expected of it by the people." A correspondent of that paper is less equivocal. He goes much further and indulges in the following outspoken declaration—"The eighth session of the Montana Legislature will be odiously remembered for ever, as the most venal, corrupt and perfidious that ever blackened the annals of local legislation."

Among the acts passed by the Assembly and approved by the Governor, are an act to authorize married women to do business in their own name, and exempting their property from execution for husbands' debts; an act authorizing the commissioners of Deer Lodge county to levy a tax of one mill for maintenance of the fire department; a memorial to Congress to donate half the lands of Montana, not mineral, to be sold, and the money applied in building irrigating canals; an act reducing the Territorial tax from four to three mills, and adding the one mill to the county tax; an act in relation to payment of county warrants, first presented first paid; a resolution appropriating \$218 to J. H. Mills for printing 100 copies of Penitentiary report (two dollars and a quarter a copy, liberal pay, one would think); an act for Helena fire tax; an act defining the jurisdiction in criminal cases of Justices of the Peace, Probate Judges, and District Courts; an act defining the duties of county commissioners in relation to paupers (they have paupers in Montana), obliging residence of 60 days before getting aid from the county, other paupers to be provided for at the expense of their proper county; an act for the support of illegitimate children (they have illegitimate children in Montana), obliging the father to provide for such on complaint of the mother, the father

failing so to provide after trial in court to be sent to jail; an act appropriating \$5,000 for transportation of articles from Montana to the 1876 Centennial, Messrs. Largey and Clagett, and Mrs. Bowen to spend the same; an act authorizing Virginia City to levy a tax of not more than one per cent. for municipal expenses; an act on qualification of electors, an elector to be a man and a citizen, or to have declared his intention to become such (which? both a man and a citizen?) to be over 21 years of age, a six months' resident of the Territory, and in the county 30 days prior to the election; an act prohibiting the collection of toll on any road or bridge in Montana, and declaring all such roads public highways; an act allowing county commissioners to contract for the boarding of prisoners at actual cost, but not to exceed in any case \$2.00 per day; an act for removing the capital from Virginia to Helena, subject to the vote of the people next August.

In the lower house of the Assembly Mr. Stafford introduced a bill recently, granting a subsidy not exceeding \$5,000 per mile on a railroad not less than narrow gauge, and not exceeding 300 miles in length from some point of railroad connection in Utah, to a point in Beaverhead County, Montana. This bill failed to pass.

In regard to the capital removal the *Montanian* says—

"Let her [Helena] gloat over her ill-gotten 'Capital,' but remember, when poverty and despair come with it, that it was procured at the sacrifice of the North and South Railroad. Take the Capital, but remember that Madison county will stand hereafter as a unit against any railroad that will in the slightest degree benefit the town of Helena. Continued treachery makes misanthropes of us all."

The *Helena Herald* rejoices in this wise—

"The two measures, however, of greatest interest and importance to the citizens of this county are the Capital bill and the one giving the County Commissioners powers of Fire Wardens. We believe our representatives in both Houses have served our interests faithfully, and deserve the welcome of 'Well done, good and faithful servants,' and we hope they will enter into the joy of the Lord, and the affection of their constituents."

UTAH AND MONTANA RAILROAD.

THE *New North West*, of Feb. 14th, terms Mr. Stafford's North and South Railroad bill, defeated in the Legislative Assembly of Montana, a "subsidy swindle scheme," the "Utah narrow gauge humbug," etc., and thus speaks of its failure—

"And now that this is done we will see if the dismal forebodings of the hiatus from Montana will be fulfilled. We venture none will leave from this cause but those whom Montana can well spare. It would be well for Montana to have a railroad—for Montana as a Territory. But we think about two-thirds of the people now in Montana are better off without a railroad. We confess to a desire to see railroad connection speedily. But when the railroad is built you will hear the wholesale merchants whose heavy stocks will come in unequal competition against 'sample' merchants, the miners who have let their opportunity of acquiring mines against that day go by, the laborers and working miners whose wages will drop to \$1 or \$1.50 per day, and thousands who now think they want a railroad but really only want 'something for a change'—you will hear these cursing the railroad with a vindictiveness that would make a Spanish mule driver's hair stand on end, and which no recording angel could blot out in any ordinary fit of weeping. Let those who think a railroad—even a standard gauge—is all that is required to bring perfect bliss go where railroads are, and they will find manifold discontent, and with better cause than we have. It is industry, economy, frugality, and a resolute spirit that conquer obstacles, bring health and wealth and honor and crown competence with content. The thriftless, the dissipated, the lazy, and those who have 'lost their grip,' would fail and growl and grovel if

there were narrow gauge roads running in every door of their houses; and there are others who, if they had a serf to answer every beck and nod, would feel that the gods were unkind, because they couldn't have two. Let us realize and make good use of the opportunities we have and be prepared to be benefited by a railroad when one is built to Montana by those who receive the revenues of it and charge us for the use of it. Montana is, today, the best country for nine-tenths of us that we were ever in, and the probability is that if we make the effort we will be as prosperous and as contented as we would be even if a desirable railroad were built, certainly more so than if we contributed to lay the next thirty years under a tribute of exhaustive taxation to a worse than use'less toy."

On the other hand the *Avant Courier*, of Feb. 13, thinks the defeated bill the best thing possible of the sort, and speaks of it in this way—

"The new Railroad Bill, introduced and defeated by a large majority in the lower house of the Legislature, last week, was, in our opinion, the most satisfactory measure of the kind that could have been drafted, and we view its defeat by the House as a great public calamity. It seemed not to have a single objectionable feature. It was in no sense sectional in character, but was calculated, if carried into effect, to benefit all sections of the Territory alike; and it was so planned financially that our tax-payers would scarcely have felt the burdens it imposed. The proposition was to loan the credit of the Territory at the rate of five thousand dollars a mile, bonds deliverable as the road should be completed and put in working condition in divisions of twenty-five miles each, for three hundred miles, and no further. The bonds, payable in twenty years, were to bear interest at the rate of seven per cent. a year, the principal to be secured by second mortgage on the road. So nothing would have gone from the Territorial treasury but the accruing interest, and that our increase of population and taxable property as the road advanced would have thrown more into the treasury than the interest disbursements would have carried out is an assumption too reasonable to be doubted. Then—an important consideration to this and other sections—under the law certain counties would not have been unjustly taxed for the especial benefit of others, as Territorial aid having been limited to three hundred miles, the road could only have been extended to rival points by individual or county means. In its terms probable corruption was completely guarded against. The Territory could not have been defrauded out of a cent, as no loop-holes were left open for conniving speculators to crawl in at. It was emphatically a measure of the people, and the best that could have been devised to revive the languishing interests of this country. We are confident it would have been approved at the polls by even the Grangers of Gallatin county; and those legislators who voted against the salutary measure, as it contained a provision requiring its submission to a general vote, insulted the intelligence of their constituents and committed an outrage on popular rights. They could not have struck our afflicted Territory a more fatal blow. Gallatin county has never been fairly represented on this important question. Our front door opens to the eastward, it is true, but the side door, on the south, should not be kept barred. A corner site is better than no other, if it attracts trade from only one direction.

"It is a wonder the members of the House who defeated the railroad measure did not carry their policy of Chinese exclusiveness a little further, and memorialize Congress to sink a few iron-clads at the mouth of the Yellowstone. There is great danger that steam boats will get to running on that river, flooding us with 'outside barbarians,' who will destroy our cattle ranges by opening new farms, and tear our mines all to pieces and rob them of their rich stores of gold and silver."

The *Madisonian* of Feb. 8 says—

"The defeat of the Railroad bill in the House by a vote of eleven for to fifteen against it, was not expected. It was reported out of committee of the whole by a majority

of one, and its friends anticipated it would pass the House by a like vote—but it did not. The following is the vote by which the bill was defeated: Ayes—Browne, Carmichael, Coleman, Dusold, Emerson, Ezekiel, Hartwell, Mead, McCauley, Sanders and Stafford, 11. Nays—Aiken, Alger, Arnaud, Chessman, Curtis, Dean, Harrington, Heldt, Kennedy, Kerley, Mallory, O'Keef, Sutton, Tate and Speaker Rogers, 15."

Some of the Montana papers maintain that the Lewis & Clarke delegation or Helena party sold out their vote on the railroad to secure the passage of the capital removal bill.

THE TALMUD AND POLYGAMY.—A correspondent, "V.," writing from Geneva, Switzerland, to the *Sacramento Union*, thus refers to a chat with a Jew of that city—

"From Arian to Semitic is but a step, and this leads me to a table d'hôte chat with my neighbor last evening, a Jewish scholar, and sort of polyglot edition of a universal encyclopedia. Some of his interesting facts about the Talmud may enlighten some other intelligences which, like the writer's, are, perhaps, befogged on that subject."

"My friend told me about the Gemara—the thirty-six books of the Talmud. These are the writings of many Rabbis—a constant reforming which went on till the year 1230, when a false Messiah having appeared in Turkey the schism became so great the Rabbis decided to close the Talmud there and make no further amendments. It is written in many dialects, and the Jews of Asia and Europe alike have contributed to it. This renders its study quite a distinct work from that of the ancient Hebrew of the Prophets. It did not prohibit polygamy until the fourth century, though it was virtually abolished when the Jews, after the destruction of Jerusalem, wandered into Europe. The Rabbi Gerson in France incorporated this law in the Talmud."

THE EUROPEAN LARCH.—The *Freeport Bulletin* states that the President of the Illinois Central Railroad, having examined the larch forests of Europe where the larch is known to be as durable as the red cedar, and being convinced that it is the best tree for the north-western country, and in view of the future interests of the Central, will transport the European larch "free of charge" to any point on their lines in Iowa, and also to any point on their lines in Illinois north of Bloomington and Champaign, provided they are to be planted in the vicinity of their roads.

The European Larch is a swift grower and is suited to drier soils than some other of the firs. If, as timber, it is anything like as durable as red cedar, the larch would be an excellent thing to grow in this Territory for fencing purposes.

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, MARCH 3.

Pay Day.—This is pay day among the Camp Douglas soldiers.

Weather.—Cloudy, cool, somewhat windy and rather disagreeable to-day. Dirty underfoot.

Board and Lodging.—Henry Miller, miner, rather likes the quarters supplied by the city. He is no sooner out of them than he is in again. This morning he was fined \$25 for being intoxicated and disturbing the peace, which amount he will work out.

Removal.—Mr. Henry Dinwoody, manufacturer of and dealer in furniture, c., has moved his fine stock of goods from the store recently occupied by him on East Temple street, to his large new brick building, on First South street, a short distance west of the Z. C. M. I. corner.

Information Wanted.—Fred. P. Anderson, 451 Poplar Street, Philadelphia, Pa., is anxious to hear something from or about his mother, Juliana Christiana Anderson, aged about sixty years, and his sister, Augusta Frederica Anderson, aged nineteen years. They both emigrated from Copenhagen, Denmark, to Utah in the summer of