

feeder for the Canadian Pacific. It picked up freight in 'Frisco and in other coast cities, brought it to Vancouver and sent it overland via Canada. This, of course, was a means of keeping down rates in our trans-continental highways. The reason for the withdrawal of the steamship line above mentioned, is said to be the payment of \$600,000 to the Canadian company, by the American companies.

Furthermore it is charged that these same American lines are paying \$900,000 a year to the Pacific Mail Steamship line, which piles by way of the Isthmus, to keep up rates to the standard dictated by the railroads. These charges are made by numbers of influential newspapers throughout the country. There must be some truth in them and, as most of the roads, if not all, were constructed by government aid, this system of manipulating the people's property is most outrageous. The Czar of Russia, who owns and operates most of the Russian railways would not be guilty of such bribery notwithstanding all his abomination and one-man power. Here we have \$1,500,000 paid annually to maintain a railroad trust for sand-bagging 63,000,000 of people, and for controlling the trade and commerce of a whole continent.

This is a combination which augurs calamity for our country, and when taken in connection with recent developments in Chicago, it is more than significant, in fact it is premonitory of a coming anarchy that will bring disruption, disaster and ruin in its train.

The Chicago *Tribune* asserts that the facts in the case have been known to members of Congress for some time. That while the railroads remained quiet and did their work in secret, there was reason for a passive acquiescence on the part of government, but now that the roads have come out openly, and are using the people's money to enslave and rob the people, it is time to act. It wants the roads taken away from these persons who are using them to destroy the country and the government, and says "it becomes necessary, as a matter of self-preservation, to take the robber by the throat, and he who declines to aid in the arrest thereby proclaims himself an abettor of the criminal and lays himself open to suspicion of sharing the plunder. The outrage has reached and passed the point at which with honest men patience ceases to be a virtue and none but rogues or fools will abstain from denouncing it."

The Swedish government has appropriated 500,000 kronor to a continuation of the building of railroads in Norrland.

UNDER "MORMON" INFLUENCE.

IT WILL be remembered that during last year's emigration of Saints from the old world, several attempts were made by fanatical persons at New York to stop "Mormons" from landing, and failing that, to prevent some of them from continuing their journey to Utah. Special efforts were put forth to detain some girls who were with relatives, and many ridiculous stories were told by reporters about these travelers to the West. One of these girls was named Rosa Kneusel, and now the annexed statement is going the rounds:

"Colonel Weber, superintendent of the Barge Office Immigration Bureau, received a letter yesterday from Rosa Kneusel, the pretty little German girl, who came to America with her sister and brother-in-law last autumn and accompanied them to Salt Lake City.

"Rosa's father in Germany wrote a letter to Colonel Weber, in which he stated his belief that Rosa was detained against her will among the Mormons.

"Rosa writes that she is among the Mormons from choice, and that she is well, happy, and earning \$6 per week as a dressmaker. The letter came inclosed in another letter from a gentleman in Salt Lake City, whom Colonel Weber asked to look into the matter.

"The gentleman writes that the girl, in spite of her letter, is absolutely under Mormon control, and she could write only in accordance with their wishes."

This is a new version of the old absurdity that no one could write from Utah to friends outside unless their letters were examined by the "Mormon" authorities. In this case the story is self-refuted. The letter of Rosa Kneusel was "inclosed in another letter from a gentleman in Salt Lake City whom the Emigration Commissioner asked to look into the matter," and he says Rosa could only write in accordance with "Mormon" wishes. How did this gentleman get hold of Rosa's letter? If he induced Rosa to write the letter so that he could send it to Col. Weber, is it not probable that he would obtain from her the truth? If she was under any improper influence or subjected to a coercion would she not have disclosed it?

We do not believe anybody here made the statement which New York papers are publishing, conveying the idea that the girl could not write freely about her condition and surroundings. If he did so he simply lied. The notion that anybody can be detained against their will in any part of Utah is too nonsensical for serious consideration, and any paper that publishes such stuff must be devoid of principle or destitute of sense.

If the word went out here that some young girl was under such influence as stated in the New York *Herald*, from which the paragraphs given above

were taken, all the sectarian preachers, with the anti-"Mormon" papers and the fussy old women, would raise such a howl that, if necessary, the troops at Fort Douglass would be brought out to aid the United States Marshal and all his host to capture that girl and give her liberty.

It seems that almost the entire newspaper fraternity in the East lose either their ordinary veracity or their common reason, whenever they undertake to touch on anything that relates to Utah and the "Mormons."

"CONSPICUOUS INEXACTITUDE."

"A Concise Dictionary of Religious Knowledge" is to be published by an eastern firm, for the alleged purpose of diffusing correct information on religious subjects. It contains an article on "Mormonism" written by Professor Whitsitt. It is so erroneous that it has excited the animadversions of the Campbellites, or "Disciples," and one of their papers, the *Christian Evangelist*, published in St. Louis, thus discourses upon it:

"The editors, doubtless, expected Prof. Whitsitt to write an historic sketch. Instead of this he has betrayed his trust and made a feeble effort to trace the origin of Mormonism to the Disciples, and says further that the Book of Mormon is a book of Disciple theology. Again and again he comes to the charge. Of course Sydney Rigdon is the 'Disciple divine' who, says the philosophic Whitsitt, edited the Book of Mormon. He was the redactor. Do you want the proof? Here it is, abundant, clear and convincing! Prof. W. says that no one but a Disciple divine could have edited the book! !!! Now dare any one deny such overwhelming testimony! !

"If Bill Nye had written the article for a comic paper, it would have provoked laughter; but one, after all, can hardly conceive that a theological professor could turn humorist."

"The next attack you make, my friend, don't hide yourself behind the breast-works of a respectable dictionary, and vitiate what would otherwise be a respectable book."

There are two things in this connection which seem strange to us, and we believe they would appear in the same light to all candid persons who would take time to think on this subject. One is that editors and publishers of books and papers, designed to convey correct information, will continue to go to anti-"Mormons" for explanations of "Mormonism," and thus make sure of obtaining something at least colored with the antagonistic views of the writer, if not a totally incorrect exposition of the system treated of. And the other is, that these anti-"Mormon" writers persist in repeating the untruth, completely exploded years ago, that Sidney Rigdon wrote or edited the Book of Mormon.

It would be just as reasonable to apply to an anti-secret-society fanatic for