

had saved the county both trouble and expense in pleading guilty. Judge Cowing did not inflict the full penalty, notwithstanding the heinous nature of her offense which was fully portrayed in his remarks while passing sentence, because, as he said, "Every criminal who saves the county the expense of a trial and the trouble in connection with it is allowed something."

We commend this explanation of Judge Cowing to the courts of Utah. If this consideration should prevail, even in the case of a most hardened criminal and a most flagrant crime, it surely should have weight in the cases of persons convicted on their own testimony or their own plea, when the offense is chiefly technical and committed without the element which constitutes its real essence, namely, criminal intent.

The World is deservingly of the encomiums passed upon it both by the Prosecuting Officer and the Court, and we hope it will continue in its good work and meet with as much success in the future as in the past. It is a terrible thing to think that in one of the chief cities of Christendom, in addition to the numerous regular and understood haunts of vice and broad channels of debauchery and impurity, there are so many establishments like that of Mrs. Anstin, where, sin is committed under the guise of reputable business, and hosts of young girls are leading a life of shame, while their unsuspecting parents imagine they are engaged in honorable employment. The World says on this subject:

"So far as this wretched woman is concerned, she is but one of a large class of traffickers in vice in this city. The bringing of her to justice has had the effect of breaking up her business, has doubtless saved many innocent girls from a fate worse than death and has certainly made many similar malefactors aware of the danger in which they stand."

New York is not singular in this. Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis and other "Christian" cities are under the same curse. Even Washington, the Capital of the nation, is branded with the same scarlet letter. Would it not be a little more consistent and advisable for the wise and benevolent and puritanical of those centres of "Christian civilization," to employ their time, money and zeal in rooting out these real and crying evils at home, instead of attempting to "reform" a few "Mormons" away off in Utah by extreme pains and penalties, whose actual condition and practices their persecutors or "regenerators" know nothing about? It would look so to a sane man up a tall tree, and we have an idea that the powers on high view the matter in the same light.

ENGINES OF DESTRUCTION.

It is gravely stated that Russia is in possession of a new explosive, the power of which is so much greater than that of anything now in use that the latter are harmless by comparison. The range of power for projection and detonation is of course no more covered than is that of electricity, each new development surpassing all previous achievements; but in the former case the new discoveries mean additional loss of life and increased human misery. In the latter, advancement of mechanical skill, closer relationship between the different peoples of the earth, and further enlightenment of life's dark places. Thus do two mighty engines constantly accomplish their respective and vastly different ends.

Germany also has a new explosive with which a fort of ordinary design and dimensions could be reduced in less time than a newspaper reporter could write up the details; it is, perhaps, even at that, not quite so monstrous an agent of destruction as the Russian invention; but to keep pace with her neighbor, Krupp's cannon factory keeps an army of 20,000 men at work day and night. France has a new repeating rifle which is probably destined to supersede anything in the killing-line now in use, for the simple but altogether satisfactory reason that it will, properly handled, slay more men in less time than any other; and her new system of fortifications, a great improvement over those elsewhere prevailing, with a perfectly equipped and splendidly organized army twice as large as any other in Europe, are significant but not hopeful signs of the times. The spirit of slaughter and devastation infects the European air, and is now only restrained because of a contemplation of the awful chapter of horrors that would follow upon its unresisted sway; but the pressure becomes more pressing, not less, even with the ghastly prospective view.

HONORS DESERVED.

The Philadelphia Times has an article which we give below, in relation to the brilliant and worthy son of the great constitutional lawyer, whose advocacy of the political rights of the "Mormon" people was the crowning act of an honorable and useful life. Jere. Black, as he was familiarly called, holds a warm place in the memory of the

people of Utah and, so far, his able son has done nothing that we are aware of to forfeit the inheritance of respect and esteem bequeathed to him by his illustrious sire. The Times says:

"Ex-Lieutenant Governor Chauncey E. Black was the recipient this week of a very handsome silver service from the Senate, over which he so gracefully presided for four years. Cooper, who directed last year's campaign which defeated him and elected Beaver, making the presentation speech. This the Delaware Senator did in a very felicitous way, alluding, among other things, to Black's tact and impartiality, as well as his constant courtesy in the chair while presiding over the Senate. The contrast in personal popularity around the Hill between the late Lieutenant Governor and his chief, Pattison, as they laid down the reins of office was marked. Everywhere Black is popular and highly esteemed. Pattison, though commended for his intentions and honesty, was cordially disliked, not to say absolutely hated, and that by members of his own party. As Chauncey Black grows in years he is acquiring a resemblance to his distinguished father, and, like him, has many of his warmest personal friends in the ranks of the party whose principles and policies he has always vigorously attacked with pen and voice."

A PROPER SUBJECT.

To-morrow, being the first Thursday of the month, is the day set apart in the Church as a season for fasting and prayer. Probably at no time in its history has more regard been paid to this important ordinance. This increased interest is a healthy indication. It shows the spirit of repentance to be growing among the people. This disposition has doubtless been evoked by the dangers with which the community is threatened by the ruthless hand of persecution. The assaults made against the rights and liberties of the Saints are serving to cement them closer in the bonds of union, and the growing attention to the duty of fasting and prayer is one of the evidences of this result.

As many congregations will assemble to-morrow, there is no reason why the people, both in public and private, should not give the subject of the present aspect of affairs a special and prominent place in their prayers. Why should not the throne of grace be petitioned to interpose to thwart the designs of the enemies of truth and of human liberty who are seeking to bring the community into bondage? The ears of the Lord of Sabbath are open to hear the cry of the oppressed, and He is able to hedge up the way of the oppressor. To-morrow let the special prayers of the Saints unitedly ascend to Him upon a matter fraught with so much importance to the people of God.

UTTERLY DEPRAVED.

The local "scavenger in journalism" continues to ply its foul trade and exhibit its filthy instincts, but doesn't like to be twitted with either. Its attempt to draw a parallel between its slander and slime and the good work of the New York World pointed out, by this paper, in bringing vile criminals to justice; is just what might be expected of a sheet that never states a point in dispute fairly, and never tells the truth when a lie will answer its purpose. To compare a journal that detects as well as denounces those gross crimes that defile society, with a paper that apologizes for those infamies as "the common vices of humanity," and advocates them as a panacea for "Mormonism," is to make virtue and its defense synonymous with vice and its sustenance, and put duty and respectability on a level with villainy and blackguardism.

The slander exposed by the Herald this morning is but one case out of hundreds that might be cited, wherein the Tribune has sought to foist upon the "Mormons" the filth of its "Gentile" admirers and supporters. The Meacham nastiness belongs to its own anti-"Mormon" crowd. It would not have been mentioned by the vile scribe of the scavenger's sheet but for the purpose of slinging dirt at the "Mormons." Its daily delight is to gather up all the unsavory scraps and rank morsels of purulent gossip that can be culled from the lowest sources, and falsely represent them as "Mormon" pabulum. The shocking criminality and nameless bestiality of juvenile "Gentiles," descending to such a depth of depravity that old offenders shudder at the mention thereof, it gives to the world as "Mormon" wickedness and the "fruits of polygamy." "Scavenger" is too fair a name for the loathsome thing, and the strongest language in the vocabulary would fail to describe its villainy.

We have condescended to notice a little of its mendacity now and then, but have always felt a sense of degra-

dation in mentioning its name. Point out its error, it never acknowledges the mistake. Show up its wilful falsehood, it never correctly quotes the language of an opponent or fails to shift from its position while pretending to maintain its ground. In all the ranks of journalism there has not appeared so utterly unscrupulous and dishonorable a Knight of the quill or Knave of the Faber.

In its issue of this morning the Scavenger says:

"The News last night had a leader on 'Resistance to Federal Encroachments.' Of course it treated the matter from the standpoint that this Territory is really as inviolate as a State, whereas the truth is, this, like all the Territories, is common to the whole nation, and Congress may do what it will with her."

As the News did not touch on the question of the rights of the Territories, and did not mention or refer to territorial affairs in any manner whatever, but treated of the relative powers of the Federal Government and the respective States, the mendacity of the foregoing extract must be apparent to all who read it. The remarks that follow, based on the same wilful falsehood, are of course of similar value. That is the style of its daily argument. To bandy words with so atrocious an intentional perverter of the truth is labor in vain, and except as a work of necessity in occasional instances, is beneath the dignity of a gentleman, and something to be avoided as much or more than contact with a literal soiled and 'odoriferous' scavenger in the midst of his nocturnal employment.

THE NEW LAW.

The bill which has gone through so many changes and which hung in the balance till the last day of the Forty-Ninth Congress, is now generally conceded to have become a law by default, no Presidential action having been taken upon it during the ten days-Sunday excluded—provided for in the Constitution.

The first section exempts the legal wife from compulsory evidence as a witness against her husband in cases under the Edmunds act, without his consent, and precludes all such testimony as to confidential communications to each other during the existence of the marriage relation. This settles a question that has agitated the courts here for some time, and affords much relief. The next section permits the arrest of a person who is wanted as witness in any case under a law of the United States, if oath is made that the witness is likely to refuse to obey a subpoena. But the person so attached, by giving bonds for appearance when wanted, must be released.

The crime of adultery is made punishable by three years imprisonment at most, and an unmarried woman is not to be considered guilty of this offense with a married man. Improper intercourse between unmarried persons is made punishable by imprisonment not exceeding six months or a fine of \$100. The sections providing for these penalties will not be considered wholesome by some of the very "Liberal" debauchees who have paid their money towards lobbying for the passage of the bill. Any person who marries, cohabits or carnally associates with another within, but not including the fourth degree of consanguinity, is liable to from three to fifteen years imprisonment. First cousins are not affected by this enactment. Uncle and niece, aunt and nephew, are affected. There must be blood relationship or descent from a common ancestor to constitute the consanguinity.

Commissioners are clothed with the same powers as Justices of the Peace, and may now sit as courts to try petty offenses; whereas before, they could not lawfully inflict any penalties. This will rejoice the fee-blends and relieve some of the Justices. United States Marshals and their deputies are authorized to make arrests like sheriffs and constables, and when they witness any breach of the peace, may cause the offender to enter into recognizance to keep the peace and commit him to jail till trial on refusing to do so. "In their view" does not mean in their opinion; but in their sight. This provision is an invasion of the rights of the people, as no United States officer should have the power to arrest in any other than United States cases. It is an enlargement of the evil perpetrated by the Poland law, which abolished the office of Territorial Marshal and united his duties with those of the United States Marshal.

The ninth section requires a certificate of marriage to be drawn up and signed by all the parties to it and the performance of the ceremony, whether the marriage be lawful or not, and the certificate is to be filed in the probate court and become subject to inspection. The extreme penalty for wilful violation of this provision is a fine of \$1,000 and imprisonment for two years. The object is, doubtless, to obtain evidence of every ceremony in the nature of a marriage, for the purposes of the courts.

The provisions of the Utah law are annulled, by which illegitimate chil-

dren inherit a portion of the father's estate; this does not take effect for a year. Children of plural wives born after that time will have to be provided for during the father's lifetime, if he wishes them to receive any portion of his property after his decease.

The Probate Courts are deprived of all jurisdiction except usual probate powers. This takes from them authority in divorce cases and other matters, and vests these powers in the District Courts. The Probate Judges are to be appointed by the President and Senate.

Sections thirteen to seventeen and section thirty-six relate to the dissolution of the corporation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company, and the disposition and holding of Church property. The Emigrating Fund matter may be dismissed almost without a thought. It matters little whether the corporation exists or not. Emigration cannot be stopped by any such legislation. And as for the property of the Company, if anything of the kind is available we would like to know where it can be found.

The Church corporation, if it has any legal existence, is dissolved and the acts that created it are annulled. But this does not affect the Church as an ecclesiastical organization, which is independent of any human law. If since the act of 1862 it has acquired and now holds real estate above the value of \$50,000, the excess may be taken by process of law and forfeited to the United States to be used for the benefit of the common schools of the Territory. But no buildings or grounds pertaining to them used exclusively for the worship of God or for parsonage or burial purposes are to be forfeited.

The Attorney General of the United States is required to institute legal proceedings to recover this excessive real estate, and the court may compel the production of books, papers and records belonging to the corporation. The same official is required to take proceedings in the Territorial Supreme Court to wind up the affairs of the corporation conformably to law, and to transfer the places of worship and other property belonging to the corporation to trustees appointed by the Probate Courts to hold them for the several congregations; but those trustees are to be named by the authorities of the Church or congregation. Nothing is mentioned about personal property, and the only allusion to it is by construction, in the clause about the winding up of the affairs of the corporation conformably to law. What that may mean remains to be seen.

The proposers of this part of the measure have not obtained just what they planned for. The changes that have been made from the original bill are much to the advantage of the Church marked out as an object of plunder, and we are of the opinion that very little satisfaction will be obtained by the robbers who would like to ride the coffers of the Church. We are not very much concerned over the sections devoted to this purpose.

As to the long section in regard to the right of dower, the chief difficulties that it will create will be in regard to the conveyance of real estate. A wise man who desires to provide for all members of his family, no matter how many branches it may have, can do so as far as his means permit, notwithstanding the obstacles designed to be placed in his way. The purpose of this many-headed section will not be very effectually accomplished.

Section twenty takes away the elective franchise from every woman voter in the Territory "without due process of law." This is an outrage upon woman and upon the rights of citizens. It is wrong in principle and, as we view it, beyond the rightful powers of legislation. It is worth contesting, and we hope it will be carried up to the highest judicial tribunal in the land.

The redistricting of the Territory, which is to be performed by the Governor, the Secretary and the Utah Commission, is an unnecessary provision, and intended by its promoters for mischief. But as it must be arranged according to the numbers of citizens in the various election districts, and will be unlawful unless so managed, it is not likely to effect much harm.

The twenty-fourth section is the one that is fraught with the most interest to the people of Utah, both "Mormon" and "Gentile." It provides an oath to be taken by every person as a condition precedent to voting and office-holding. He must, in addition to taking the usual oath, give his name, age and business, the name of his lawful wife, if he is married, and swear that he will support the Constitution of the United States and will faithfully obey the laws thereof and especially the acts of Congress in relation to bigamy, etc., and that he will not, directly or indirectly, aid or abet, counsel or advise any other person to commit any of the crimes named therein. This oath is to be administered on registration. But if an election occurs before the next revision of the registration lists then the oath shall be administered by the presiding judge of the election precinct, on or before the day of election. If the majority of the people of Utah choose to take this oath, the very life and juice will be taken out of the measure, in the estimation of the faction which have been plotting for political control, and now are quivering with fear lest the whole scheme should be a failure.

The Supreme Court of the Territory is authorized to appoint a Commissioner of Schools in place of the Territorial Superintendent, whose office is abolished. It is provided that the new official shall draw his salary from the territorial treasury. Whether an officer created by the United States, and appointed under their authority, and not responsible to the people, can draw any money without the people's consent, remains to be seen.

The militia laws of Utah are abolished and a militia organization authorized under the laws of the United States. This is a matter of small concern, as our militia laws have long been a dead letter.

The bill is a bad one in many respects, but it is far better than the infamous thing concocted in the judiciary committee of the House. If it is a law, it has become so because the time has elapsed during which it should have been returned to the Senate if vetoed. That depends upon the date when it reached the President, which does not seem to be quite certain at present. If he did not receive it until Monday afternoon, Feb. 21st, as alleged, it has not in our opinion become a law in the manner described. If it went to him on Saturday Feb. 19th, then the matter is beyond dispute. In any event the Latter-day Saints will live and flourish and fulfill their mission relying on Him in whose hands is the issue of all events of every kind in every nation.

ACROSS THE ATLANTIC IN FOUR DAYS.

In 1857 a New Yorker declared that it would yet be possible to cross the Atlantic from New York to Queens-town in six days. Of course the idea was so far ahead of the progress of the age in that direction that it was scouted by all the old salts who "shivered their timbers" over it in emphatic denunciation, while it proved moreover a prolific source of merriment to the smart paragraphers of the press generally, as the speedy steamers of those days required the best part of a fortnight to make the passage. Yet subsequent events have demonstrated that the prediction was very nearly correct, as vessels have already crossed the Atlantic in some hours less than seven days, and he would be considered little better than a crank who would now declare it impossible to make the trip in the prescribed time.

Now comes the Arrow Steamship Company, of New York, and proposes to build a line of twelve vessels, each of which shall be able to accomplish the extraordinary feat of making the voyage from that port to Liverpool, England, in four days. The first vessel, which is to be called the *Pocahontas*, will be constructed entirely of iron and steel, in sixty-eight transverse walls or bulkheads, with openings cut in them for the saloons and passage ways, thus making over 1,000 water-tight compartments, half of them below the water line. It is to have compound engines, furnished with steam from twenty boilers, placed fore and aft, with three smokestacks on either side, next to the rail. The vessel will be very long, narrow and shallow, the dimensions being respectively 540, 40 and 25 feet. The estimated speed which it will attain is to be twenty-two knots. The Boston Post thus throws cold water on the project:

"Putting aside the questions which naturally arise concerning such a strange model, even granting all the conditions to be fulfilled, the *Pocahontas* could not possibly get from New York only to Queens-town in the time designated. Assuming that it could keep a continuous speed of twenty-two knots, it would be over five days making the passage. No one who knows about ocean traveling needs to be told that such a uniform speed would be an impossibility. Wind and weather are chances that always have to be taken into consideration; and, besides, to run at twenty-two knots through the fogs and floating ice of the banks would be in the highest degree imprudent. The fastest vessels now in existence, the *Etruria* and *Umbria*, for instance, often attain on the open ocean a speed of some twenty knots, though their average rate is only some seventeen knots. How a ship like the *Pocahontas* would behave in bad weather is at least an open question. The position of the smokestack hard by the rail would certainly not be an element of safety."

There is one slight mistake in the above criticism, to which we would call attention, and that is, that although the *Etruria* and *Umbria* were until recently the swiftest vessels afloat, they are no longer, as the Clyde Steamship Company of Scotland have constructed and are now constructing steamers for the Spanish government that can make, and one of which has made, considerably over twenty-three knots an hour, and kept the rate for several hours. Taking existing facts, and the apparently limitless scope of human ingenuity into consideration, it is very difficult to point out exactly the line of demarcation where man's progress is stayed, and where the sentinel on the impassable barriers of nature's ramparts shall declare, "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther." Although the present company may not accomplish it, it may yet be possible to cross the Atlantic in our days, *Queen Sabal*!