

## EDITORIALS.

## A BASE CALUMNY.

We have received, by mail, from a gentleman named N. P. Lindsay, a clipping from the *Christian Advocate*, published at Nashville, Tenn. It is in the form of a correspondence, dated at Salt Lake City, and purports to have been written by one B. F. Haynes. Mr. Lindsay requests, for the sake of the lovers of truth, that the aforesaid Haynes be shown up in his true colors in these columns. The reason for this desire is that his statements are so villainously false as to lead uninformed people at a distance to believe that the Latter-day Saints are living in a state of barbarism.

Were it not for the request of our correspondent we would not deign to notice the defamatory article in question. Were we to undertake to reply to all the infamously wicked and false accusations published to the world by such creatures as Haynes, we would have no time left to devote to better business. Men of his stamp seem to delight in doing evil to the innocent, and are bound to reap the consequences of such a course, which is equal to eating stones instead of bread. His article in the *Advocate* is lengthy, and to insert it here in full is out of the question. Its quality as a whole may be estimated, however, by the following extract:

"Dr. D. J. McMillin, of the Presbyterian church, now president of the Synodical College at Deer Lodge, Montana, is a native of Giles County, Tenn., and a nephew of ex-Gov. John C. Brown. He labored eleven years in missionary work in Sanpete Valley, Utah, before he went to Deer Lodge. In 1875 he found 20,000 Mormons in Sanpete Valley, and one lone Gentile among them—a sewing-machine agent. Moved to play by the heart-rending neglect of the Mormon children, and finding them hungry for attention and sympathy, he rented a dance-hall and made it known that he would teach the little children on Sundays. They flocked to him gladly in large numbers, and hung upon his words. He multiplied these Sunday schools over the Valley with the aid of assistants, and also established a system of day schools in connection with them. Brigham Young saw the danger to his Church and system, and proceeded to the Valley, and assembling the mothers and fathers harangued them long and lustily. He vilified and profanely abused Dr. McMillin, and earnestly urged his destruction, and succeeded in inciting them to an attempt to mob the minister. In this they failed. Next, his assassination was attempted at midnight, but the assassin's attempt at entrance through the window was discovered in time to be frustrated by McMillin. The faithful missionary persevered amid the hate and persecution and peril of the situation, and triumphed. He succeeded in establishing and leaving in successful operation three years ago, when called to another field, 30 day schools with 2,500 children enrolled, presided over by 67 teachers. There were also 11 organized Presbyterian churches. There was also a Sunday school in connection with each day school, and 8,000 children were in attendance upon the Sunday schools. His recital of the thrilling scenes and history of these memorable years of his faithful work among the Mormons was profoundly interesting to me, and fully reconciled me to the nine hours' delay which befell us both at Melrose en route to Helena."

If Mr. Haynes had no opportunity to learn the utterly and absurdly false story told him by the Rev. McMillin, charity might have suggested that there was more of the simpleton than the knave in his nature. This is not admissible in his case, however, as it is not necessary for a person of even less than ordinary intelligence to be in any part of Utah without knowing such a tale to be a tissue of falsehoods. In the earliest times of the settlement of the Territory a system of common schools was established, has been maintained and reaches to every settlement, no matter how small. In relation to Sabbath schools there has existed from a period ante-dating by many years the advent of the great McMillin, a system that is not excelled in efficiency and extent, by any other on the globe. These schools are often visited by tourist strangers who do not happen to come here filled to the throat with anti-Mormon prejudice, and what they witness fills them with such surprise and pleasure that they can scarcely find words to express those sentiments.

The gentleman so copiously quoted by Mr. Haynes was treated with much kindness and consideration by the people of Sanpete, and was given the use of their meeting-houses to preach in. In return for this and other courtesies he defamed them in the east. When his attention was called to the false statements he had made he expressed regret and repentance and promised to correct the wrong he had done as far as lay in his power. So far as we know, however, he never made the attempt to controvert the falsehoods he uttered, and if Mr. Haynes reports him correctly he now makes his crime the blacker by a repetition of calumnies. The stories about his benefactions and narrow escapes

are so ridiculous that they carry their own refutation on their face. Only fancy a man being able to escape among a community of 20,000 people if they had any desire to wipe him out. The story is so awkwardly told that it looks as if Mr. Haynes had aided the original narrator by injecting some episodes coined from his own poisoned fancy.

The balance of Mr. Haynes' correspondence is of the same character as the portion that purports to have been dealt out second hand. He ought to be ashamed of himself. We are very much ashamed that there should be a human being that would utter such inexcusable, calumnious fabrications.

## AN ANOMALOUS RULING.

This morning, in the case of Rodney C. Badger, indicted for unlawful cohabitation, Judge Zane delivered a most anomalous ruling. The point which caused it to be made was raised by the defense. It was held by that side of the case that the plural wife of the defendant had not resided in the Third Judicial District during any portion of the time covered by the indictment, which charged that the offense had been committed within the district. The Court ruled in substance that where a man had a legal wife living in one district and lived with her, and a plural wife in another and had not associated with the latter in the same district in which the legal wife resided, there should be conviction. If there was association outside of the district the case was complete.

It is presumed that the hypothesis of this position is that an offense commenced in one district and consummated in another could be prosecuted in either. But such could not be the case in this instance as the defendant was guilty of no element of crime under the law in living with his legal wife. If there was a breach of the law at all, it must have been in the district where the plural wife resided. The ruling was in direct conflict with the indictment, which charges the commission of the offense within the Third District.

From the arguments or claims of the prosecution it would appear that Mr. Clarke holds the theory that the offense of unlawful cohabitation can be proved without evidence of actual association, or in other words that the status is criminal. This would carry the legal meaning of the word cohabitation so far outside of its ordinary linguistic scope that it would have no connection with its actual and commonly understood definition. The Supreme Court of the United States, in the election cases against the United States Commission, stated that the polygamous status is not criminal. The same tribunal, in the Snow case, also incidentally stated that cohabitation was a dwelling together as husband and wife.

## THE LATE SIDNEY RIGDON.

We had a very pleasant conversation to-day with Mr. Sidney R. Ellis, a member of the Scanlan company. He is a genial and intelligent gentleman, and takes great interest in the community on account of the prominent connection of his grandfather, Sidney Rigdon, with the Latter-day Saints in the early rise of the Church. He was very anxious to ascertain the sentiment of the community in relation to his deceased relative, and was pleased to find that, so far as he could learn, there was not only an appreciation of the good he accomplished while in the plenitude of his powers and fellowship, but a kindly personal remembrance of him. Those who were acquainted with Sidney will be pleased to learn that to his last hours he declared that Joseph Smith was a Prophet. But few, if any, had more potent evidence of this fact than he, as with the Prophet he had the privilege of beholding the visions of eternity and comprehending the destiny of the dead. Although he separated from the body of the Church he never became identified with any other religious community. In the town in which he resided he was in the habit, however, of delivering public discourses on general subjects, and as a rule drew large audiences. In early times he was a gifted orator.

## ANOTHER HUGE METEOR.

ANOTHER of those huge masses of meteoric matter, which have recently so startled the inhabitants of New England and New Brunswick, has just fallen in the vicinity of Owensboro, Kentucky. This meteor seemed to be of a conical shape, with the apex toward the earth, and looked to be fully 100 feet in length and 30 in breadth. It bore downward in an oblique direction, with a velocity inconceivable and a noise louder than the loudest storm. The surface of the earth where it struck was torn up over an area of 10 or 15 feet square. A sickening, sul-

phorous smell pervaded the atmosphere, and fragments of a glistening stone, blackened as if by smoke, were scattered around. The light of the meteor was seen throughout the entire neighborhood.

These mysterious messengers from the upper deep are said to be characterized generally by a cloud by day and a stream of fire by night, but in the case of the masses that have recently fallen the light emitted is described as brighter than that of the sun at noonday, and they are accompanied by a roar that is simply terrific. Various theories are extant regarding their origin. Some claiming that they are thrown into the air from the earth's volcanoes and carried about in the atmosphere. Others assert that they are hurled hither from volcanoes in the moon, while another theory ascribes their origin to accumulations of matter in inter-stellar space, and still another claims that the superior attraction of the earth literally pulls pieces or fragments from the surface of the moon, which, impinging on the earth's atmosphere, are ignited by the friction caused by their extreme velocity, but that in some cases these detached masses are of such magnitude that they are not entirely consumed in transit.

## THE PROHIBITION WAVE.

TENNESSEE has been engaged in the expensive luxury of trying to suppress the liquor traffic by means of a constitutional amendment prohibiting its sale. It would undoubtedly have done so

fact that not enough votes were obtained to ratify the proposed change, but the tidal wave of prohibition crept up pretty close to the top of the dyke this time. It was a long way from being a repetition of the Texas failure. In that State the people who favored the amendment were quite as enthusiastic, quite as confident of success as possible, yet the returns on election day showed them to be snowed under by 125,000 adverse majority. The population of the two States is not far from the same figure, yet the Tennessee people crawled up to within some 10,000 votes of the long-desired goal.

The efforts that were put forth by the better classes of the population were something tremendous, even the ladies turning out and contributing by their presence and influence, since they could not vote, toward the desired consummation. But all to no purpose this time. We read in an exchange that at every polling booth there was a lavish display of banners, among them: "Vote for God, Home and Tennessee to-day," "Vote for mother, wife and sister—they have no defense save your ballot," "The women and children of Tennessee appeal to the manhood of the State—yes, to-day," etc. The ladies were everywhere treated with respect. During the morning, prayer meetings were held at the churches. At Athens, where the vote was counted and it was ascertained that a majority of 120 was obtained for prohibition, all the ward workers bowed their heads and sang the doxology.

Another curious but perhaps quite natural feature of the election was the fact that the negroes voted almost without exception against the amendment and that a great many white men who were known to be in sympathy with the movement did not vote at all. Here is a race distinction worth noting and thinking of, establishing beyond all peradventure as it does that a large majority of the white population are opposed to the traffic and but for the blacks would suppress it altogether.

The election goes to show another important fact in connection with the temperance cause in the United States—that it is steadily and irresistibly gaining ground. It does not seem to be possible to effect a complete extirpation of the drinking habit from society at large until the will power of each individual can be controlled by some means apart from his own volition; nor does it appear practicable or possible to stop the manufacture of liquors altogether, since science, art and pharmacy require them. The best present plan is to confine the evil to the narrowest limits by restrictive measures upon distillers and very high license upon retail dealers with severe penalties for violation.

An old frontiersman, describing the habits of the rattlesnake, bits it about right by saying—"It is like whisky, let it alone and it will let you alone."

## THE UNAUTHORIZED PRE-DICTOR.

EVERY now and then we hear of men claiming to have discovered the times and seasons for the occurrence of momentous events predicted by the ancient prophets of the Bible. One of that class of prognosticators—the Rev. M. Barclay—appears to be creating some stir in Liverpool. With the aid of maps, charts, representations of head, horns, etc., he is delivering lectures upon coming events, evidently to the amusement if not the instruction of his audiences, judging from the newspaper reports, which are interlarded with "laughter" in parentheses.

He announced that he had discovered the last day, but said he did not expect to receive any credit for the discovery. This statement was hilariously greeted. The date of the final winding up was placed by him at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of April 11th, 1901, and he defied anyone to refute his statement. He could certainly readily afford to throw out that challenge, as neither the day nor the hour was known to any of his hearers any more than to himself, and therefore it was impossible for them to consistently state positively whether it would be on that or any other date. Among his predictions was the opening of a gigantic war between France and Germany next year or the year after, when the French would be victorious. France and other states in conjunction, would also engage in a conflict with England and break her all up, which event, the speaker said, would be a great humiliation to Great Britain, as it had always been deemed that "one beef-eating Englishman was equal to three frog-eating Frenchmen." Next on the programme was a red republican government in England, with headquarters in London. Afterwards there was to be a universal war, to be followed by a three years and a half great tribulation.

Mr. Barclay sympathized with the young people, on whom the future would be specially hard, as they need not look for a longer lease of life than about ten years. As to people who were 50 or 60 years old, it made but little difference, as their earthly pilgrimage was about wound up anyhow. This pathetic statement was a cause of increased laughter, the people not being very solemnly affected by the gloomy forecast of the preacher.

The large crop of men of the stamp of the Rev. Barclay that has appeared of late years is not without significance. The age is peculiar, and combinations of circumstances exist that have no parallel in any former age. There appears to be everywhere a pretty general idea that this is a period when the most extraordinary developments may be expected. Men who are religiously inclined compare existing conditions with scriptural predictions and imagine they have made exact discoveries when they are but struggling in the midst of uncertainty in the absence of the "more sure word of prophecy," by which the signs of the times are clearly comprehended. Both ancient and modern revelation clearly defines certain conditions that are to exist and events that are to take place before He comes whose right it is to reign. Whenever that most momentous occurrence transpires, it will not be until these preparatory situations have made their appearance. In the meantime many will arise making claim to ability to predict as to times and seasons with unerring certainty. The faithful will, however, watch the signs of the times as they develop and will understand their significance.

## SUBSTANCE OUT OF BUBBLES.

A SLIGHT breeze was created in social circles in the east, shortly after the Philadelphia centennial celebration, by the announcement that President and Mrs. Cleveland had publicly snubbed Governor Foraker and wife, of Ohio. This does not seem to constitute a cause of action, and looks very much like shortness of material with those who make use of it. An intentional slight is easiest remedied by being let alone, and the fact that the parties to it are high officials does not matter, since it is the individual rather than the dignitary whose feelings are hurt. But it seems that all the feelings that have been wrought up by the alleged affair have been the firing of so many blank cartridges, for the President denies that any such thing was done or intended. He admits that in the jarring and crowding of the multitude a great many with whom himself and wife expected to shake hands were overlooked or not reached by both, and states that the Buckeye Governor and his wife were among the number. That in fine was all there was of this trifling matter, which one enthusiastic Republican claimed would give Foraker the election in Ohio "by 40,000 majority."

There are, however, some other things to be considered, especially if the Ohio campaign has drifted so far from the usual political moorings as to be conducted on the basis of etiquette. Among these is a circumstance which a great many have claimed would perfectly justify that or any other "snubbing" as between the parties interested, it being the manner in which Governor Foraker has spoken of President Cleveland in his stump speeches during the present campaign. We all remember the abusive language showered upon the Chief Magistrate of the nation immediately after his celebrated order for the return of the captured Confederate flags, the greater and more offensive part of which came from the Ohio executive; the order was soon rescinded, as the President had not been fully advised upon the subject, and thereupon Foraker likened him to a "whipped spaniel." This and the other things, to say nothing of the Buckeye's very "offensive partisanship" generally, would surely not constitute a bond of fraternal feeling between the two high function-

aries, but still it would not justify a public display of animosity on a national occasion, and those who know Mr. Cleveland, his habits and his training, and are not prejudiced, will readily believe him when he said that neither himself nor his wife made any distinction on any account on the 17th of last September.

This is like a great many other "dodges" the Republicans in the doubtful States have adopted out of which to manufacture political capital, with the hope of holding on to power where they have it and capturing it where they have not. The day episode became dead stock in a short time, and opposing politicians really seem to be about out of ammunition.

## ENTHUSIASM ABOUT THE NEW RAILROAD.

ASSURANCES continue to be given to the effect that the Salt Lake and Los Angeles Railroad will be constructed with vigor and rapidly, and that within a very short time there will be a call published here for a large number of railroad laborers. The Los Angeles *Evening Express* of the 29th ult. contains an account of a meeting of business men of that city, at which were present gentlemen from San Francisco and Pasadena. Considerable enthusiasm was displayed. Mayor Workman, of Los Angeles, presided, and made a speech, urging the necessity and benefits of the enterprise. Mr. Trumbo, of Salt Lake, and a Mr. Houghton, a capitalist of San Francisco, were also present. Mr. Trumbo made a statement of what had been done at Salt Lake City, and of the interest manifested here in the enterprise. He made the declaration that Mr. Houghton and the latter's associates had plenty of capital to build the road, and that the immediate object of the visit of himself and Mr. Houghton to Los Angeles was to get rights of way from where the road would enter the valley of the Azusa, or San Gabriel, to its point of terminus or depot. Also to see what arrangement could be made looking to the securing of sites for passenger and freight depots, for yard room, etc. "We have plenty of capital backing this enterprise," concluded the gentleman, "and of course we must ask something of you." Mayor Workman expressed the conviction that the projectors of the road would be met there than half way by Los Angeles city and county.

Mr. Trumbo further stated that the road was already graded through Deep Creek pass, the heaviest piece of work on the eastern division, and that rights of way to the California line had already been secured. What was wanted was aid from Los Angeles and Pasadena to get through the Sierra Madre mountains. To this Mayor Workman replied: "You can rely on getting all the help you want." On the spot it was determined to organize the "Salt Lake and Los Angeles road of California." The adoption of a motion to this effect was followed by the election of a board of directors, and articles of incorporation are to be immediately prepared and filed.

The Pasadena *Daily Star* of September 28th contains an account of a meeting of the business men of that city, held on the previous day, to consider the project of the new road. A committee was appointed to look after the interests of Pasadena in the matter, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the proposal to construct a line of railroad between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles, through the city of Pasadena, meets our hearty approval and we pledge earnest co-operation to that end."

A committee of two was appointed to secure funds to defray the expenses of a preliminary survey, and two or three gentlemen present addressed the meeting, describing the route of the proposed road and the benefits to be derived from it. An engineer was selected and the meeting adjourned, subject to the call of the committee on funds evidently with the purpose of pushing surveying operations as soon as means for meeting the expenses of the same are subscribed. Unquestionably the proceedings in Los Angeles and Pasadena, as described by the papers named, indicate a firm and enthusiastic purpose to push the new road through.

## THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

THE Knights of Labor are holding their annual representative conclave at Minneapolis, with a large attendance. Nothing of any consequence has been done so far, speech-making, caucusing and amusements, having taken up the time since Monday. Grand Master Workman Powderly is in attendance of course, and, like many others, has made a speech declaratory of his principles and purposes. He claims that he has been misrepresented, misconstrued and vilified by discontented elements within the order and nearly everybody without. Among other things, he referred to the statement which had been some-