

## EDITORIALS.

## A LITERARY TREASURE.

SOME time ago we found it necessary to animadvert on the gross misrepresentations of the "Mormons," their religion and their leaders, in some of the Cyclopaedias which are in use as standard works of reference. If there are any books which should avoid a sectarian, political or national bias, they are such as are placed before the public as dictionaries of general information. A description of the Roman Catholic Church by a Protestant, or of either of the Protestant denominations by a Catholic, is not likely to be thoroughly reliable. And much less is an account of the organization, tenets, and history of the Latter-day Saints likely to be correct and trustworthy, when penned by persons opposed to "Mormonism" in faith, training and practice.

It is unfortunate for the public that most of the references to the "Mormons" which appear in works of this character are the productions of their enemies. It does not make so much difference to us as to the world, for we are used to being vilified and can easily endure it, but it is a serious thing that so many people should be deceived and prejudiced against a people and a system whose object is to benefit mankind. In the sequel, too, it will prove unfortunate for the publishers and the reputation of their work. For, when it is discovered that in these important items the pretended information is incorrect and biased, confidence in other statements and data will naturally be weakened if not destroyed.

We are pleased to note that in the new edition of Chambers's Encyclopaedia, published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, these blemishes do not appear. Accuracy has been the evident aim of the publishers rather than popularity. As they state in their concluding notice: "The principle followed has been, not to pronounce an opinion for or against a particular doctrine, but to give a true and unprejudiced account of it. To do this, however, in regard to matters of still living controversy on which every one has more or less of a personal feeling, is next to impossible; and, therefore, the plan has been adopted of giving the opposing views, wherever it was practicable, as stated by their respective adherents." This is as fair as any reasonable person or society could ask and, so far as the "Mormon" people, their doctrines and history are concerned, we can find no fault of wilful error or inaccuracy in the Lippincott edition.

This edition has many features which recommend it for general use. While it is the cheapest it is the most comprehensive work of the kind in this country. It is really "A Dictionary of Universal Knowledge for the People." It is comprized in ten handy volumes including a supplement and index, each volume containing 820 pages or more, and illustrated with maps, engravings, diagrams, &c., the whole comprehending 8230 pages with 27,000 distinct articles on almost every subject that engages the attention of mankind. Its contributors embrace many of the foremost Professors of the various sciences among the leading nations of the world, and the whole work has been completed under the immediate supervision of Andrew Findlater, A. M. LL. D. of Edinburgh, with John M. Ross, A. M., Alex. Nichols, A. M., J. U. Hillhouse A. M., J. Robb, D. M. Smith and John S. Keltie, Esqs., as assistants.

It is sold for \$30 the set, which is a small price for so large and excellent a set of books. But James Dwyer, our enterprising local bookseller, who is agent for it, offers the complete work bound in cloth and gilt lettered for \$20, or in sheep for \$24. As Chamber's Encyclopaedia is a whole library in itself, this offer of Mr. Dwyer's places within the reach of a large number of our people, an epitome of useful information that cannot be equaled at the price in any other form. We can cordially recommend this valuable work to our readers as a comprehensive, reliable and well arranged combination of useful knowledge, which is really a literary treasure.

## MAJOR RENO AGAIN.

THE trial of Major Reno for his conduct in the engagement which resulted in the massacre of the gallant General Custer and his men, will take place at Chicago. A large number of witnesses will testify. Reno has expressed himself as confident of refuting the charges against him. But it is quite probable that the case will go very hard with him. There is no disputing the fact that he went into camp with his command and fortified himself as best he could, while the officer whom he was in duty bound to support, with his brave comrades, was surrounded by the savages close by, and that he remained in shelter while they were being cut to pieces.

Reno claims that the distance between him and Custer was such that he could not hear the firing. But testimony will be produced from officers who have been on the spot, that the firing of a rifle at the place where Custer died can be distinctly heard at the point where Reno hid up, even when the wind is blowing adversely. The taint of Reno's villainous conduct towards a brother officer's wife still hangs around him, and though it ought not to affect the inquiry into his alleged cowardice in the field, cannot but have an influence detrimental to his cause. For, a soldier who would seek to betray a comrade's confidence and violate his domestic sanctity, is quite likely to prove a traitor when danger stares him in the face.

Major Reno will undoubtedly have a fair trial, when, it is to be hoped, he will be able to clear himself of the suspicions which have clouded his name since the terrible slaughter of Custer and his braves; and if proofs are adduced substantiating the charges, that he will no longer be permitted to bear a title which should be a criterion of honor and fidelity.

## A SUGGESTION TO THE TERRITORIES.

THE following editorial from the Montana Herald contains some excellent suggestions. The arguments advanced in their support are similar to those which have been urged by this and other Utah journals:

"We advocate the immediate creation of all the territories into states, and their admission into the Union. Despairing of ever securing the attention of congress and the people of the states to the necessity of amending the constitution so as to provide suitable governments for these younger and less populous communities, we take the ground that there is no other just and constitutional course except to admit all at once as states. It is a disgrace to the intelligence of the age to claim that the provision in the constitution for congress to make needful rules and regulations concerning the territories and other property of the United States confers or carries with it the power to frame the government, to enact the fundamental laws and appoint the ruler for the people who live in these territories. To hold that the people are only an attachment or incident to the soil, is the naked assertion of serfdom that was a few years since abolished even in despot Russia. Such governments as exist in the territories were never contemplated in the constitution. They are contrary to all the fundamental principles contained in that instrument. They are usurpations by the strong over the weak, which the people have better right to resist with force and arms than our forefathers had to resist British oppression.

It is time to begin a crusade on this subject. We would have the territories all join hands, first to assert the right of self-government under the constitution, and not under the laws of congress. We hold and believe that under that instrument our people have just as much and as full rights of self-government as the people of any of the states. Whether the Senate and House would admit the Senators and Representatives that we might send to congress is a little matter over which we do not believe they would hesitate long. At any rate it has nothing to do with our instituting a state government and under it governing ourselves by our own laws and public servants. The

constitution nowhere gives the initiative to congress in so establishing governments. On the contrary, the warrant is clear that the right resides in the people.

We should like to see our legislature when it meets take up this question like "men who know their rights and knowing dare maintain;" call a convention to frame a state constitution, appoint a committee of correspondence with the legislatures of other territories, that the move may be made in unison and great force. This union would not add to the reasonableness of our claim, but it would make it so important as to command attention, and would bring the issue to a speedier settlement. Of the result we have no doubt whatever. Our complete enfranchisement would be secured within two years, and the travesty of territorial governments would never be heard of again."

There is one error in the above article. Congress is not empowered by the Constitution "to make all needful rules and regulations for the Territories," but for "the territory and other property of the United States." The word territory, we hold, refers to land, or the public domain, and not to organized local governments, which cannot be consistently called "the property of the United States." The object and intent of the Constitution is to secure to all the people under its dominion a republican form of government. The territorial system is not republican, but bears some of the worst features of the monarchical system, and is therefore opposed to the spirit of American institutions.

## WOMAN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION.

THE eminent ladies who are managing the Woman Suffrage Convention at Washington, have welcomed the Utah delegates, who have taken their seats in the assembly. These ladies are representatives of plural marriage as well as other woman's rights, and this is well known by the representatives of a vast number of the women of America now deliberating at the seat of government. These two ladies have the confidence and faith of their sisters in this Territory, and are both practical and consistent supporters of the doctrine of plural marriage, Mrs. Emeline B. Wells being a respected and experienced plural wife, and Mrs. Z. Young Williams being a daughter of our late esteemed President and the plural widow of an honorable and honored gentleman.

The workings of woman suffrage in the two Territories where it is authorized by law, have been very much misrepresented. It might be expected that they would be, in Utah, because the ladies—God bless them—cannot be manipulated against the "Mormons" and in favor of their enemies. But the same reason does not exist in Wyoming. Yet it has been repeatedly declared that the measure in that Territory was a failure, and only used in the interest of disreputable persons.

These statements, however, have been authoritatively contradicted. The Cheyenne Leader bears testimony to the good effects of the system, and refutes the unfavorable reports concerning it. All the Governors who have been in office since the woman suffrage law has been in operation speak in its support. Governor Campbell, at the close of his second term, said:

"Two years more of observation of the practical working of the system have only served to deepen my conviction that what we, in this Territory, have done, has been well done, and that our system of impartial suffrage is an unqualified success."

His successor, Governor Thayer, speaking after it had been six years on trial, remarked:

"Its results have been beneficial, and its influence favorable to the best interests of the community."

And Governor Hoyt bears the following testimony to its workings and the effects of the presence of women in politics:

"Their influence at the polls is admirable, as I can testify after careful observation during the recent general election (when there was unusual activity), and it is

urged by leading men, in position to know, that it proves also effective and beneficial upon all legislation in aid of good order and public morality. Woman suffrage in Wyoming may, therefore, be considered an established success in so far as the general interests of the people are affected thereby."

As Wyoming has been misrepresented on this question, so has it been with Utah, and no one can truthfully assert that the granting to women of equal rights with men at the polls, has been productive of anything but benefit to this Territory.

We wish the ladies at Washington abundant success in their endeavors to obtain that political liberty for their sex to which they are as fully entitled as any of the "lords of creation."

## OPPOSITION TO THE CHINESE.

CHINESE cheap labor has made considerable stir in this country, but more especially on the Pacific coast. The East is not affected so largely by the question as the West, because the number of the moon-eyed "Celestials" there is less and the general population is greater, and therefore society scarcely feels the consequences, while in California especially, their presence influences unfavorably many branches of trade and industry and has a strong bearing upon public affairs. The Constitutional Convention now sitting in that State find the question of preventing any further considerable influx of the heathen a difficult one, and Congress will be puzzled as to the best method of solving the problem, in view of existing treaties.

But the trouble is not confined to this country. Australia is beginning to manifest opposition to the increase of Chinese immigration, and in British Columbia there has been considerable agitation upon the subject. At Sydney there has been a strike of European sailors consequent on the employment of Mongolians on steam vessels. An attempt is being made to arrest the evil by legislation.

The Chinese must have a poor opinion of Christian consistency. England assailed them with shot and shell, when they tried to prevent the importation of opium from British India because it was inflicting deadly damage on their country. And after the United States had, by persistent effort broken down the walls of isolation that had separated the Chinese from the world for centuries, and induced them to make a treaty which promised equal protection in either country for the citizens of both, the great question with this Government now is how to arrest the further flow of those people to our shores, and the cry of "the Chinese must go," is raised on our western coast. We are afraid that the worshippers of Joss are not likely to be very favorably impressed with the virtues of the professed followers of Jesus.

## DIVIDED COUNSELS.

THE ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States in the "polygamy" case will bring the subject of "Mormonism" prominently before the world once more. The course to be pursued in relation to the Latter-day Saints will be pointed out from the pulpit and the press, according to the spirit which prompts the speaker or writer. Some, among whom we may count most of the priests who "preach for hire and divine for money," will counsel extreme measures looking to the punishment, to the utmost extremity, of all who dare to put in practice their unpopular religious faith. Others will advise moderation and moral agencies for convincing the "Mormons" of their "errors." These we may expect to find in the ranks of those who make no loud professions of "Christianity," and among the avowed skeptics who practice more true Christ-like virtues than the over pious, while rejecting theories which they cannot receive.

As specimens of the opposing sentiments that we may expect from different sources, we give the following quotations from two different papers. These are from the San Francisco Chronicle:

"All their high talk about such a law interfering with the right of conscience and religion is chaff and nonsense, and the hypocritical cant of a pack of infamous scoundrels, who, for more than a quarter of a century, have been using the name of religion to face this and darker crimes."

To circumvent these methods it may be requisite to adopt a new code of laws relating to evidence, and to strike at the church itself which fosters and subsists upon these infamies. The secrets of the Endowment House must be ripped open at whatever cost—and the sooner the better; for already the curse of the abomination has spread and taken root in four Territories besides Utah.

As the evil is an extraordinary one, so it may be necessary to apply extraordinary and novel remedies. But at any cost it must be uprooted and destroyed."

And these are from the Sacramento Record-Union:

"The difficulty of dealing with polygamy arises from causes which have no connection with judicial decisions. Whether or not Congress can legislate in the premises is not, and never has been, the most important consideration. The question really is, how can a system be broken up which has been built up on a substructure of religious belief and sentiment, and which cannot be separated from that belief and sentiment, in the minds of the people who are chiefly concerned?"

History assures us that no delusion has been suppressed by violence, unless that violence went the length of actual extermination. If therefore, the Mormons are pursued in the courts for their polygamous practices, it must be expected that the effect will be to stimulate their fanaticism, and to intrench them in their bigotry. No community has ever yet surrendered a religious conviction upon compulsion. On the contrary, persecution has invariably fostered the growth of religious sentiment."

If, however, the clamor of those orthodox people who favor the most extreme measures in such cases is responded to, we have very little doubt that the ultimate result will be the rapid increase of Mormon proselytism, and the complete practical failure of the repressive experiment."

These will serve as samples of many articles and speeches that will be made on this subject. But we believe that the abominable principles advocated by the Chronicle, will find comparatively few supporters. The nation, we think, has not yet sunk so low as to throw aside the established rules of evidence, the right of accused persons to a fair trial, and the requirement of proof before condemnation and sentence. If it has, the world may confidently look for its speedy dissolution. But whatever course may be taken let all men and women know that there is a God in Israel, and that while he is abundantly able to sustain his own commandments and those who obey them, he can, at the same time, bring down the oppressor and the proud, and lay the boasted strength and wrath of men and nations low in dust.

## A MOVEMENT TOWARDS PALESTINE.

FROM a German paper published in New York, we learn that a society has been organized at Frankfort-on-the-Main, the object of which is the colonization and settlement of Palestine by the Jews. It is likely to become a very extensive and powerful organization, and proposes to send copies of its by-laws all over the world, and to give Hebrews everywhere an opportunity of becoming members, which they can do by paying the sum of three marks a year.

The funds of the society are required by its by-laws to be secured in safe State bonds only, and to be used for acquiring land in Palestine, to be turned over to Hebrews only, in equal sub-divisions, according to a plan arranged.

This is one of the signs of the times, and is evidence of a desire