

## SUCCESS OF CO-OPERATION.

AFTER a year's fair trial co-operation in Utah Territory is an established success. There have not been wanting individuals, with whom "the wish was father to the thought," who prophesied its failure in much less time than has already elapsed, and certain parties moved by interested motives have sought to do serious injury to the Institution in the great markets of the nation, but without success. Continued prosperity has falsified every prediction of failure, and probity in business transactions has turned the scale in its favor and against those who sought to do it direct injury. But now that a year has passed since operations were commenced under the co-operative movement, we may reasonably examine what it has accomplished, and in this instance the examination is a gratifying one.

The object in giving the principle form and consistence was to benefit the people of the Territory; to give to them as shareholders the profits which were passing into the hands of a few, and of which a considerable portion was being directly employed to bring trouble upon the community. As the influence which wealth generally has over the human mind in this age, as in previous ones, is greater than that of the love of truth or the fear of God, this object, when proposed by our leaders, stirred up a proportionate amount of opposition among some of those who were likely to be injured by co-operation. But the people saw and appreciated the value and importance of the movement, though many of them did not, at first, realize the full extent of the benefits that it would produce. When the matter was laid before them in the several wards, stock was taken promptly by hundreds of individuals; over six hundred persons becoming shareholders in the Parent Institution, and thousands in the various ward societies. And the share lists are still kept open, that all who desire may take stock in the Institution.

The first result, when operations were fairly commenced, was a notable tumbling in prices in the city, and this before the Pacific Railroad was finished and freight charges were thereby reduced. The influence which the co-operative movement exercised in the market here, and the reduction which the Institution made in the prices of goods, were, to an extent, the great causes of this; aided, no doubt, by a desire on the part of some to undersell so as to drive from business in a short time a rival that was destined to break up the monopoly in trading, which was practically in force here through a tacit understanding among most of the merchants. It was freely predicted that the importation of goods at a reduced freight by the railroad, would cause the Institution to collapse, on the ground, as it was asserted, that a large stock had been purchased a short time previous, by the Co-operative Society, which had cost high in freight. But wise management, and constant replenishing of stock at low freight charges, provided against this; and the Institution, instead of collapsing, took sure and firm ground and rapidly extended its operations. A large portion of the retail trade in this city was quickly diverted from the business part of the city and distributed through the various Wards, the people preferring to patronize their own stores, where they were part receivers of the profits, to giving support to those who, growing rich at their expense, in many cases, used the wealth thus gained to the general injury of the community.

If co-operation had accomplished no other result than this, it would have secured a public benefit difficult to estimate at its true value. Had it done nothing more than force down and keep down prices, the people would have reason to be satisfied with its success. But it has accomplished more for the benefit of the community. It has kept out swarms of needy adventurers, many of whom would have come here with stocks of goods obtained on credit, and, when unable to meet their paper, would have sold out at any figures they could realize to wholesale buyers, robbed their creditors, and brought the commercial character of the Territory into disrepute in the great markets. The Co-operative Institution kept steadily on, selling goods at the lowest possible margin of profit, paying fair dividends to the shareholders through its extraordinary heavy sales.

As people generally are not supposed to understand the "tricks of trade" a device was next resorted to that is not by any means new in the commercial world, but which had sufficient novelty here not to be apparent to a large portion of the buying public. Certain staple ar-

ticles in common use were ticketed down below actual first cost and were sold at a loss. Nobody is silly enough to believe that so much generosity exists among the mercantile community as to lead it to continually sacrifice its own interests, give up its profits, and willingly meet loss for the benefit of the public. The motive for selling goods at an actual loss could only be in the desire to break down the Co-operative Institution that the large profits formerly enjoyed might revert into their former channels. But while this motive was very apparent, the "trick" has been played without the assumed loss; for we have it on undoubted authority that the increased profit charged on other articles, in filling bills of goods, made an aggregate profit of more than an average percentage. This is done by the trade in many places, but without any effort at concealment; for nobody but those who are exceedingly innocent in regard to buying and selling goods believes in the sensation announcements of "enormous sacrifices" to benefit the purchasing public. In many places common factory goods, sugars and some other articles are sold lower or as low at retail as by wholesale. Such is the custom of trade; and these articles are merely kept in stock to accommodate customers, who have to pay on other articles the profits that should be assessed on these goods.

The Co-operative Institution has adopted a fair tariff on all goods, and makes no effort to gull the public by proposing to sell a few articles at less than New York wholesale cost price, making up the deficiency by charging enormous profits on other articles. This is the course adopted here by some, which makes their profits larger in the aggregate than those obtained by the Institution; yet the latter, by its enormous sales, realizes a sufficient percentage to meet the expectation of its shareholders.

There was a time when traders in this city could hold a staple article and pretend there was none of it in market, until some one was found bold enough to ask a price for it so exorbitant that even the most rapacious hesitated. This was the case with sugar a few years ago, when that article was held in secret until some one would have the effrontery to ask a dollar a pound for it. That day will not come again in Utah, and for this Co-operation may be thanked. The people see the benefits arising from the Institution they have built up, and rejoice at its success through the entire Territory.

## THE NEW CRUSADE.

Mr. Cullom's bill to suppress polygamy in Utah means war; for that it will bring war, if an attempt is ever made to enforce it, may be regarded as a moral certainty. Perhaps we should not stop to consider such a consequence. Perhaps a war which would cost two or three hundred millions a year, and probably more lives than there are Mormons, would be worth the cost by distinguishing our piety; but let us enter upon the moral sacrifice with our eyes open. If any one fancies that the Mormons will not fight against the execution of this stamping out measure, he has read the history of religious fanaticism to little purpose, as well as the history of this peculiar people, and he underrates the qualities of his own race.

The main features of the bill punish polygamy with fine, imprisonment, disfranchisement, disability to sit as jurors or to hold office, provide extraordinary facilities for making proof of polygamy, make the first wife a witness against her husband, provide a twenty year penalty and a fine for adultery, and for adding a count for this offense to a prosecution for polygamy, provide an ironclad anti-polygamous oath for all officers, prescribe that only justices of the peace shall administer marriage, and provide for enforcing all this by the army, or in effect for setting up martial law in the Territory.

Does any sane person imagine that the Mormons of Utah will submit to this crushing power? Have they proven themselves destitute of manhood, or of self-supporting independence, or of sturdy determination, or of religious fanaticism or social pride? Will they sit down abjectly and allow their leading men to be seized, stripped of their property, imprisoned, disfranchised, their families scattered and their wives treated with contumely as cast off concubines? Will a population of 100,000 of the Anglo-Saxon race, who have set up an independent State, and whose able bodied men are under military organization, submit to be reduced

to a population of felons? No rational man can believe this, and therefore he must believe that this measure means war, and they who advocate it must calculate the cost of the war.

This momentous undertaking is proposed just at a time when the conditions and influences are beginning which it has generally been supposed would cause the extinction of polygamy by moral means; when a railroad has brought them into communication with the world and into the line of emigration. It is believed that a family relation so repugnant to the Western races, and which our civilization holds degraded, can not endure contact with the general moral and social influences. Why not try the effect of these before we rush into a war which can not but be a costly and bloody one, and in which success would require extermination?

Already there are signs of the working of these influences in breaking up the religious despotism that rules Utah. The number of Gentile inhabitants is increasing, and they are growing bolder. Recently a schism has taken place in the Mormon Church, and the reformers have strength enough to sustain themselves, and have announced their possession of the revelation. These have declared for breaking down the autocratic power in the church, and for dropping the distinctions between Saints and Gentiles, and for loyalty to the United States. And while they do not condemn polygamy, they lay down a doctrine as to plural wives, which rejects that upon polygamy, as advocated by Brigham Young, and which shows that they will condemn it as soon as they become strong enough.

The Mormon problem is working itself out. Polygamy will die. Mormonism bids fair to live and increase, but it will be, by conforming to the laws and customs of the American people. But if we enact this bill we shall consolidate all Mormonism by what they will deem an attempt to take away their rights of conscience, and shall arouse in them all the self-sacrificing determination that comes from religious fanaticism excited by persecution. And when we have conquered these people, what a deplorable picture shall we have created! There is no political, religious or moral demand for such a crusade. What it would accomplish by successful war, would be such a moral picture as would make fiends laugh. Polygamy will die sooner than we could kill it with an army of a quarter of a million. Let us not give it new life by watering it with blood.—Cincinnati Gazette.

## Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY,  
February 28th, 1870.

Editor Deseret News:—I left this city the first day of last November, in company with some eighty Elders, to visit my friends in the Eastern States, and to offer to them and others the words of life. I took the cars at Uintah and had a pleasant trip over the plains to Omaha, where we separated. I went east to West Stockbridge, Mass., in company with Elder C. V. Spencer, where we hired a hall and delivered a lecture upon the first principles of the gospel. I then left for the north part of Vermont, where I spent some time in visiting and preaching to the people. In Westfield I found a few Saints who expect to emigrate to Utah in the spring. I went as far as Canada and then returned to St. Johnsbury, Vermont, the place of my birth, where I found a few of the companions of my youth, who appeared glad to see me after the lapse of thirty-five years, and took me in their carriages from place to place.

I then went to New Hampshire, where my grandfather and mother lived and died. There were living many of my connections, a few of whom belonged to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

After a stay of two or three weeks I returned west, stopping at different points, finding relatives scattered through every State as I passed, all of whom were in a state of unbelief except my wife's sister, Lydia, who joined the Church in her youth, but married a man out of the Church. I found her strong in the faith of the gospel. She intends to pay her friends in Utah a visit this season.

In Atchison County, Mo., I held several meetings, which were well attended; but, as a general thing, the people have but little relish for the truth, consequently I have not held many public meetings, but have talked much in private, about as much as my lungs would bear. The people of the United States are joined to their idols. They say that

they are satisfied with their God and their religion. Many of them excuse themselves and lay the responsibility of their acts upon God, who, they say, made them with minds and passions subject and under the control of surrounding circumstances, which operate either for good or evil. Spiritualism is taking with many in the East. They say that they can work miracles, heal the sick and have free and open communication with the spirit world. It appears to me that the time has come of which the Revelator John spake, when men would go about deceiving and being deceived, and all the world would wonder after the beast.

It is often asserted that the children of Utah are inferior and feeble, as the result of polygamy. While in the States I noted a few cases which came under my own observation, to see how monogamy compared with polygamy in the production of our race; and I find that the comparison is greatly in favor of polygamy. I have visited families where there were two or three deaf, one subject to fits and one almost blind. Another family had one idiot; and in another family one was blind. A friend of mine told me of another case where there were six idiots in one family. Several other cases I might mention but the above will suffice for my purpose. I have traveled in most of the settlements of Utah, and have found nothing that begins to compare with the cases referred to.

I left Omaha on the 22d inst, and arrived in this city on the 26th, quite satisfied to live with my friends in Utah.

May the Lord bless Israel and especially those who preside over them.

Yours respectfully,

J. GATES.

## HARDY GRAPE VINES!

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EARLIEST AND BEST VARIETIES  
That require  
NO COVERING IN THE WINTER

Two, Three and Four year old, warranted  
true to kind and grown from

PERFECT AND RIPE WOOD!

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## BLACKBERRY PLANTS!

WILSON'S EARLY,  
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FOR SALE AT LOW PRICES.  
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Twentieth Ward. w4-3w

## ESTRAY.

I HAVE had at my place, since July, 1869, a small white MARE, branded B J on the nigh hip. The owner will please pay charges and take her away. JAMES LAIRD,  
Hardy's Station, Parley's Canyon.  
Feb 19th, 1870. d75w3s6-1ea

## NOTICE!

TO whom it may concern; that cash entry, No. 192, for the townsite of Bountiful, embracing Sections 19 and 20, township 2 north, range 1 east, has been suspended for further proof, and this is to notify all claimants that on the 9th day of March, 1870, at 10 o'clock a.m., I will appear at the U. S. Land office, Salt Lake City, U. T., to make the necessary proof and show that I am entitled to have the entry of said land confirmed under the town site Act, of March 2nd, 1867, for the use and benefit of the inhabitants thereof, at which time and place any person or persons so disposed can appear and attest.

s3-1mw2-4

HECTOR C. HAIGHT,  
Probate Judge.

## NOTICE.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN; that cash entry, No. 51, for the town site of Farmington, embracing west half Section 18, south-west quarter Section 18, township 8 north, range 1 east, and south-east quarter Section 18, east half Section 24 township 8 north, range 1 west, has been suspended for further proof, and this is to notify all claimants that on the 9th day of March A.D. 1870, at 10 o'clock a.m., I will appear at the U. S. Land Office, Salt Lake City, U. T., to make the proof required and show that I am entitled to have the entry of said land confirmed under the town site act of March 2, 1867, for the use and benefit of the inhabitants thereof, at which time and place any person or persons can appear and contest if they see proper.

s3-1mw2-4

HECTOR C. HAIGHT,  
Probate Judge.