

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A humorist, who had a hard time of it, says: "When a man begins to go down hill he finds everything good for the occasion." Probably Mr. Pierce thinks he is just about right.

A Washington woman who was acquitted of murder on the grounds of insanity, some time ago, has just married her lawyer. There is undoubtedly insanity somewhere in the crowd.

The total force of police and constabulary in England and Wales is, according to the recently published "Judicial Statistics," \$3,173, being a larger number by 1,141 than in 1880-81.

The New York World says: "Our esteemed artistic contemporary, the Graphic, should not dwell too long and seriously on the Mormon question. When looked at intently the Mormon problem has a tendency to produce a watery condition of the brain."

The English propose to have the trial of O'Donnell left to themselves. No American lawyer will be permitted to take an active part in the defense. General Roger A. Prior will not be able to point his finger or shake his fist in the face of the Court, or paralyze it with his vehement eloquence.

The Prince of Wales is an expensive ornament to the British Government, and at the same time he has his uses. He makes speeches at the opening and closing of all the exhibitions, attends to the laying of corner stones, and is always on hand to give a pretty address a good deal out. He comes high, but they must have him.

The Rev. J. W. Bain, of Philadelphia, preaching in Pittsburgh, enumerated the things not to be found in heaven. "There is no darkness there, no clouds, no sickness, no graves, no funerals, no preachers."

At this point, seeing a smile rippling over the congregation, he explained: "I mean there's no preaching there."

The New York Mail and Express says: It is to be regretted that the Commissioners did not direct attention to the growth of Mormonism through immigration and recommend the enactment of a law excluding Mormon immigrants. The Commission are rather to be commended for not recommending such an impractical absurdity.

The University of Zurich has now thirty-one women students, of whom only seven are German. Twenty are studying medicine, ten philosophy, and one chemistry. Zurich has conferred the doctor's degree on thirty women in the ten years during which the university has been open to them. Twenty-three were doctors of medicine; the remaining had the Ph. D. degree.

It develops that the Mr. Moore, city editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch who prolonged the grand jury documents which reflected so severely upon Governor Crittenden, is a cousin of Mrs. Julia A. Moore, the sweet singer of Michigan. It was to him that the poetess inscribed her sweet lines "To Cousin Henry in Kalamazoo," the young gentleman being at that time associate editor of the People's Forum in the latter city.

The Chicago News says: A critical St. Louis paper observes that Massachusetts orators, as a rule, are not intense. This is true, as viewed from the Missouri standpoint. Intensity in Missouri is that divine attribute which enables a man to enter a railway car and exclaim "Hold up your hands!" with such sublime emotion and indescribable pathos that the passengers fall off their seats, while the express messenger gives up the combination of the safe.

Every sphere, according to the French proverb, has its heresies. This explains the reception given to the new hangman, Mr. Bartholomew Bemis, successor to Marwood, when he arrived at his native village of Dewsbury. The doomsman of England made his entry amid a scene of the wildest enthusiasm, a number of local musicians preceding the procession, which marched to the strains of "See the Conquering Hero comes."

The Chicago Herald says that Robert H. Vickers lectured before the Liberal League one night lately on "Religious Beliefs and Representative Legislation." The lecture was quite favorably received and discussed. The civil rights bill was especially denounced. In speaking of polygamous religion, some of the members declared there was more more polygamy in Chicago than in Salt Lake City, and the city of Washington, D. C., was worse for its harems than Constantinople.

more severe in Finland than in other parts of Russia, those who wanted to escape military service came to St. Petersburg and committed the larcenies, which have hitherto been visited with very light sentences.

The N. Y. Mail and Express candidly says: "It hardly seems worth while to cable the more revolting details of crime for American readers, when this city, with the help of New Jersey and Connecticut, can furnish enough material for twenty columns a day of thoroughly disgusting and revolting crimes. Indeed, the resources of a single block in some of the vilest districts in New York might furnish to a corps of active American Zolaistes the facts for a continuous stream of the most appalling foulness, brutality and horror. In fact, the real capacity of New York for sensational journalism has not yet been even a hundredth part exhausted." Never mind, send on some regenerators to redeem the "Mormons," and let the journals pitch into them and give it to them hot. Let consistency go to the winds and truth stand aghast.

THE PAVILION AGAIN.

A SHORT TIME SINCE we commented upon the character of skating pavilions in general. Our position is that they tend to vitiate the morals of the young, by giving opportunities to designing men to lead the youthful and unsuspecting astray.

The article gave considerable general satisfaction to the thinking class of citizens who have the welfare of the community at heart. We observe that the Southern Union gives it a hearty endorsement, and follows up an approving comment by a statement of the fact that such institutions have been declared nuisances in many of the cities of the East, and are in numbers of places under the ban of prohibition.

We are more than pleased to learn that many of the young people in this city have given their attention to the subject since it was treated in the News. In the Sixth Ward, for instance, the article was made a subject for consideration at the "Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association," at its last meeting, and the sentiments and views expressed in it were unanimously endorsed.

Some people have taken a different view of the subject, however, and have assumed the position that there can be no more harm in attending the exercises of a skating pavilion than a dance. This appears to be a very attenuated argument. Those who use it appear to think that because one thing is no worse than some other it should not be discouraged. We are not prepared to entirely agree with the proposition that ordinary dances are quite as dangerous to good morals as gatherings at skating pavilions, the latter having rows of side-rooms for skate-fastening facilities, and perhaps more favorable opportunities generally for the forming of intimate acquaintanceships between "reigning villians and unwary young women. But the difference between the pavilion business and promiscuous gatherings for dancing is perhaps not very great, and we are opposed, on the same ground, to both. Our advice always has been, and will always continue to be, to young people having a standing in the Church, to refrain from taking part in such gatherings, which can be so easily transformed into the means of accomplishing ruin and misery to the thoughtless and rash. Furthermore, the mixing up in promiscuous crowds after that fashion is not generally considered respectable in any part of the world. We know that it is fraught with danger to the young people in this community. Facts are stubborn things, and we have learned a few relating to this subject that render our position upon it simply invulnerable.

So far as the opposition to the position we take on these questions is concerned, as coming from the anti-Mormon press, we care nothing about it. In fact we rather like it, as it is another evidence to the minds of a good many that our position is right, if the leading journals in that line did not take a stand in favor of skating risks, promiscuous dance gatherings and other demoralizing institutions, it would not be in harmony with its policy as exhibited in its assent to the demoralizing exultation once expressed at the prospect of "Mormon" young men visiting lewd houses, gambling dens and dram shops, as means of drawing them away from the influence of "Mormon" religion. This was probably the most infernal theory ever endorsed by any public journal published in any country.

The young should have amusement, but it should be exclusively legitimate, and surrounded by the most solid safeguards. The young will do well to listen to those who have their welfare at heart, and shun the base precepts of the low, unscrupulous and cunning schemers who make it a business to gild and paint in bright, attractive colors the tempting road to ruin and bidding shades the path of safety. They are silly snakes whose fangs shoot out. They lose no opportunity of injecting their venom into the body social and religious, that through its arteries may course the deadly poison of immorality, their own most congenial element.

THE PIERCE BANKRUPTCY.

We have been slow to condemn the Rev. G. M. Pierce, and have cherished his friends to extend a charitable sentiment toward him. Our position has occasioned some surprise in view of the flood of damaging facts that has been gradually overwhelming him. But we considered it nothing but fair that the gentleman should have a chance to explain the methods by which he reached his unenviable position. We hoped the explanation would come and that it would be shown that the financial situation in which he finds himself was the result of circumstances over which he had no control. We have waited in vain. The only shadow of an explanation that

we know of is that he paid enormous interest on the sums borrowed from his scores of dupes. This excuse is worse than none. It is grimly absurd, especially to those who claim he has defrauded them. It is impossible that this could have been the cause of his failure and comparatively enormous deficit. And if it was, it was in the nature of something he could have controlled, by refraining from it.

We have no epithets nor denunciations to hurl at the head of the Rev. Mr. Pierce, his actions stamp upon his infatuation and all the condemnation that is needful. When a man makes scores of financial victims, who doubtless become his dupes because of their belief in his piety, it is bad enough, but when the sufferers include women and children, some of them even said to be widows and orphans, to what greater depths of villainy can a human being descend. Here is a pretentious shepherd of a religious flock against whom the cry of the helpless ascends to heaven. Epithetic denunciations directed at such a miserable object is effort expended to no purpose. The point of the aim is too despicable to be worth the endeavor. The actions of such insignificant souls stand as an eternal anathema upon them in deepest letters, that can only be dimmed by the most contrite repentance, to which we now call the pretended representative of the Savior of the world.

We would dispense ourselves were we to descend to the level of the class of which Mr. Pierce is a leading representative, when they speak of "Mormonism" and the "Mormons." His contemptible and degrading conduct has nothing to do with Methodism—the religion of which he was esteemed as a leading light in this locality. Attenuated as we esteem that system to be, we would feel ashamed of ourselves to pretend to lay his conduct at its door. No matter how deficient in the power of Godliness that religion is, Mr. Pierce's course is repugnant to its precepts. His business course was a living libel upon a religion that does, with all its faults, inculcate the theory of honesty. And we presume that Methodism has no further use for a man placing himself in the position that Mr. Pierce has.

The subject of this article has been guilty of palming off the most infamous slanders and falsehoods upon the "Mormons." He has made a business of it. His object was, similar to that which inspired him to scoop in money from everybody that would lend him from 25 cents up to thousands of dollars. He was after "the God he adored"—mammon. We have taken occasion to point this out occasionally. We have named others who are of the same piece of cloth. They are hungry for pelf, and exhibit it in all their outcries against the "Mormons." They make it the objective point of every anti-Mormon discourse.

On one occasion Dr. Fisher, whom we have always believed to be one of the oldest hypocrites that ever wore the garb of bigoted sectarianism, once protested to us because we pointed out his double-faced course. He also alluded to our having mentioned Mr. Pierce after the same fashion. He extolled the latter as a model Christian, while we have always held that he was simply a model priestly specimen of an anti-Mormon. Time has proved how much Dr. Fisher's estimate accorded with the true status of his sample sectarian.

It is currently reported by those who claim to know, that the Rev. Mr. Pierce is merely the head-centre of this financial scandal, while others are badly tainted with the offensive odor it emits. It is a notable fact, too, that each individual against whom the damaging charges are preferred, are conspicuous for their rabid and senseless opposition to everything and everybody bearing the impress of "Mormonism." But this is nothing new. Only a few more instances illustrative of the fact that those who follow that course eventually land in the ditch of failure or disgrace.

NORTH-WESTERN STATES MISSION.

FLIGHT OF A MOB BEFORE A MAN WITH AN AXE—REMARKS OF THE AGENT FEATURES—RAPID CHANGE OF SENTIMENT—FIVE ADDITIONS TO THE CHURCH.

COVINGTON, Fountain County, Indiana, Nov. 4, 1883.

Editor Deseret News: Four of the missionaries called to the Northwestern Mission left Salt Lake City Oct. 16, on the D. & R. R. for Covington, Ind. The Elders Jensen and Erickson turned off at Minnesota, and Elder Ashby and myself came here, arriving Oct. 23. The city of Covington is found here and at Johnsonville. Elders Marks, Miner, Duffee and Butler, all well except the last, who is suffering with chills and fever. Brother Robert Graham and family are expecting to emigrate this season, and the Elders have been assisting him some to gather his crops.

On Sunday, Oct. 28, we held meeting at Johnsonville, but it was stormy, and there were not many out. The late rains have raised the Wabash River, and much corn has been overflooded. It has lowered again now, and a large part of the corn will probably be saved.

Elders Lapham and Coont returned here, having been laboring in southeast Illinois since the last conference, held in September, and report doing a good work, but no baptisms as yet. Elders Coont and Ashby have gone north from here, Lapham and Miner into Illinois, Farnsworth and Anderson in and about Morgan Co., Barnes and Davis to Hancock Co., Duffee, Butler Marks and myself in this County. Elders Farnsworth and Anderson visited Franklin Co., where two of our Elders received two converts gratifying to us. A mob assembled to treat them also as the spirit of the devil might dictate, and were met in the yard by Mr. Deacon and the gentlemen at whose house the Elders were stopping. He demanded of the mob "their writs for the boys. Of course they had none, and he refused to give them. The altercation was somewhat loud and a hired man thinking there were law-breakers of some sort about called out a mob when he was seen by some of the mob, who got alarmed and reported one of the "Mormons" after them with a double barreled shot gun. The mob then

bered over one hundred and each member of it tried in a lively manner to keep some one close between him and the "Mormon." The other side of the picture was two men laughing and the "Mormon" Elders quietly enjoying their bed.

Last week Elder Marks and myself visited Vanderberg. There was a sister Thomas living there who belonged to the Church, having recently joined. We also found others who were anxious to learn some thing more of our faith.

We visited around and held one meeting at the house of Brother Johnson. By this time the news was spread that there were two "Mormons" in town, and early next morning we received word that if we did not leave the place by 4 o'clock that afternoon we were to be tarred and feathered. We had been thinking of going on to Crawfordsville, but when we heard that, we thought that we were making a better impression than we had supposed, and as Brother Marks had been through the driving and reported to be like a stung cat, not so bad as it looked, we concluded not to go.

In the evening quite a number assembled at the house, some in good faith to seek information, and others for different purposes. We talked to all freely. Those who, as we were afterwards informed, came for violence, divided among themselves, a majority agreeing that our explanations of the Scriptures were correct, and all left with apparently better feelings for coming. One gentleman afterwards told us that he learned more from us than he had by attending sectarian meetings all his life.

We stayed here not molested, and as the result of our labors there were added five members to the Church from that place to day, who came here and were baptized, making six since last Conference in this County.

The Elders are enjoying their labors very much, and the blessings of the Lord are upon them. We hope all is well in Zion, and that we may have the faith and prayers of the Saints, for if we did not have that with the blessings of the Lord, we would be ready to return home for all the good we could do.

J. E. BOOTH.

THE RAILROAD RAILROAD.

BOZEMAN, 10.—The committee appointed to investigate the official connection of Jno. B. Fiske and J. W. Haven with the Rutland Railroad during the 16 years they were respectively president and treasurer, report in substance an immediate payment of \$45,000; that stock was over-valued \$239,000, par value, \$40,000 market value; and that during the 16 years there were disbursements to the railroad to the amount of \$250,000, for which no proper vouchers can be found. An effort will be made to secure the indictment of the implicated officers.

FOREIGN.

LATEST TRANS-ATLANTIC DISPATCHES.

Financial Failure.

LONDON, 10.—Edward C. Madison, financial agent, has failed. His liabilities are placed at \$300,000.

Sunk in the Sea.

Spanish Frigate.

Madrid, 10.—The visit of the Crown Prince of Germany is viewed here as conclusive proof of the growing importance of Spain in the eyes of the powers of Europe, as evinced by the prompt courtesy of Germany, contrasted with the reluctant repatriation afforded by France for the insults to Alfonso.

The Second Suez Canal.

Caño, 10.—There is reason to believe that the Egyptian government is not disposed to admit De Lesseps's company in the construction of the new Suez Canal.

British Bridge.

LONDON, 9.—Parliament is prorogued till December 19th.

Deaths by the Moorfield colliery explosion, 97.

The Lord Mayor's Banquet.

The Lord Mayor's banquet this evening was attended by many distinguished persons. Waddington, French Ambassador, replying to a toast in honor of the Foreign Ministers, said there was no greater guarantee of peace than the cordial and loyal friendship of Great Britain and France. France had great progress, and he had every confidence that the future policy of the French was not one of aggression, but of holding her own. The French government is earnestly trying to settle pending questions affecting France. His mission to London is one of peace. France wished to approach Great Britain in a spirit of good will, and he met the same desire on the part of England (Cheers).

ing interviews with the merchants and ship owners of Great Britain on the Suez Canal question, the spirit of fair play by which he would be guided would dissipate all disagreements.

General Items.

FARMS.—The Times says during a recent storm in the direction of Benlith, a Japanese officer accompanying the French, saw banners of the Chinese regulars among the troops occupying Benlith.

Berlin, 9.—The North German Gazette says: So far from the Crown Prince's proposed visit to Spain being aimed against France, it will be made in the interest of peace, as was King Alfonso's visit to Hamburg.

Vienna, 9.—The Luther festival was inaugurated to-day.

Eisleben, 9.—Protestants, Catholics and Jews unite to render effective the Lutheran celebration which began to-day. The houses throughout the town were decorated. The great bronze statue in the market place, representing Luther burning the papal bull, was guarded by four hundred riflemen as a guard of honor. Enormous galleries were erected on all sides of the statue to accommodate the spectators at the unveiling ceremonies. Thousands visited the house where Luther died. Crowds thronged to see the colossal picture representing Luther finishing his address in the Diet of Worms. The pulpit in the Church of St. Andrew where the reformer preached was decked with exotics. There were many English and American visitors. Herr Von Gossler, Minister of Public Instruction and ecclesiastical Affairs, represents the Emperor William.

A gentleman visiting a school had a book put into his hand for the purpose of examining a class. The word "intemperance" occurring in the verse, the querist interrogated one of the youngsters as follows: "What is an inheritance?"—"Patrimony."

"What is patrimony?"—"Something left by a father."

"What would you call it if left by a mother?"—"Matrimony."

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