

allel. Since Ross' voyage, with its hopeful results, hardly anything has been done. The reason for this is that the existence even of a passage would be no such boon to mankind as would one found in the North.

Four years ago Italy and the Argentine Republic contemplated a joint expedition under Bove, and Sir A. Young for England, was to have followed. Professor Nordenskjöld's expedition, if it goes, will have a better chance of success than its predecessors, and good results may be expected from it.

A GLOOMY PREDICTION.

GOVERNOR FOSTER is credited with expressing himself as follows to a representative of the Philadelphia News:

"I was very much surprised to hear what I did from a prominent public man here to-day. He said to me that he did not believe Cleveland would live out three months of his term. He believes that he will be killed by some one of the disappointed members of his own party. He thinks that Cleveland will disappoint the Bourbons of his party very bitterly. I do not believe, in the first place, that he will make any wholesale removals. Without a wholesale change in the offices he will fail to satisfy even in a moderate degree the inordinate demand of his party for places. His record and history are all against any policy of merely gaining power for the sake of the spoils. If he takes a high stand you may be sure some exasperated Bourbon crank will remove him."

THE PREACHING AND PRACTICE OF POLYGAMY.

We notice that some of the leading papers in the East are commenting on the report of the Utah Commission. The editors imitate the preachers in one thing: When they are at a loss for a subject on which to dilate without knowing much about it, they can always fall back on the "Mormon" question. "Pitching into the Mormons" is a favorite pastime for the press as well as the clergy.

This following excerpt from the report seems to be a favorite quotation:

"After more than two years' labor and experience here it becomes our duty to advise the government and the country that although the law has been successfully administered in respect to the disfranchisement of polygamists the effect of the same upon the preaching and practice of polygamy has not been to improve the tone of the former or materially diminish the latter."

This is cited as an evidence of "the failure of the Edmunds law." But from what part of that enactment was the inference drawn that the intent of the statute was to stop the preaching of polygamy? We have become pretty familiar with the wording of the law, but have failed to find anything in it which even squints in that direction. Opinion is protected therein with one exception, and only one. A juror in any prosecution for polygamy or unlawful cohabitation may be challenged on his belief in the rightfulness of those practices. But a voter may not be hindered in the exercise of the elective franchise on account of belief in polygamy. This is expressly provided in the Edmunds Act.

Preaching the doctrine of polygamy cannot be constitutionally hindered by law. It is a Bible doctrine. Belief in it, as conceded by the Supreme Court of the United States, cannot be lawfully interfered with. Take freedom of belief with that freedom of speech and of the press guaranteed by the Constitution, and how are you going to stop by law the preaching of polygamy as an article of faith?

We have heard considerable nonsense about the preaching of polygamy making the preacher *particeps criminis* as an accessory before the fact. A very little reflection will show the folly of such a notion. The expression of views as to the rightfulness or wrongfulness of any principle, tenet or doctrine cannot be distorted into a participation in any acts that people perform of their own volition. The act may be punishable, the opinion as to its rightfulness, and the expression of that opinion are unassailable by law.

To talk, then, about the failure of the Edmunds Act upon the preaching of polygamy is nonsensical on the part of the Commissioners, and equally so on the part of those editors who repeat the absurdity.

As to the practice of polygamy their remarks are nothing but the merest guesswork. They admit and complain of the secrecy which attends the ceremony of marriage against which the law is chiefly directed, and yet pretend to know something of the proportions into which they claim it is extending. The fact is, they know nothing at all about it. Neither do others who claim to have knowledge on this matter. If they know as much as they pretend to, why do they not give grand juries the information that they are so anxious to obtain?

Papers commenting on the report draw the inference that the Clawson case, related by the Commissioners, showed that certain leading Elders in the "Mormon" Church have no hesitation in lying, "whenever a lie is convenient to conceal evidence of polygamy," and that "this utter lack of scruple about lying pervades the whole Mor-

mon community." Anything that there is in the Commissioner's report which leads to that impression is incorrect, and despicable on the part of those who have endeavored to create this false impression.

In the case referred to the one great aim and object of the prosecution was to gain possession of certain marriage records, alleged to be kept by some "Mormon" official; who, nobody was able to specify. Because the witnesses who were supposed to know the whereabouts of those alleged records did not know who had them or where they were kept, the inference was drawn that the witnesses lied. People are at liberty to draw inferences, but they have no right to make grave charges without evidence. The witnesses said they did not know, and there was and is no evidence that they told anything but the strict and solemn truth. Baffled rage at not being able to find what was wanted, is no excuse for charging truthful and honorable gentlemen with lying. We will take their simple word to-day before the oath of many of their accusers.

The truth is the Commissioners, who have a very soft thing and wish to keep hold of it as long as possible, go a long way out of the path of their duties, as defined in the law that created their office, and presume to do and say a great many things that are as foreign to their functions as the regulation of national affairs would be. They must appear to be doing something for their salaries, and having really very little to perform, they make up for it in long stories and crude advice to the government of the United States.

What the "Mormons" believe and preach are open subjects, but cannot be regulated or suppressed by law. What they practise, in violation of the law, should be proceeded against by legal methods. And if the Edmunds Act has done little towards stopping the former or preventing the latter, something that the Commissioners, so far as the latter is concerned, have no means of determining—it is certain that no greater results will be achieved by misrepresenting them; and that charging them with that of which they can show at least as clear a record as their accusers, will not materially aid in arresting the progress of the system which gives some people so much needless uneasiness.

THE OLD STORY.

THE case that occurred in Sanpete of a man being accidentally shot and killed by the careless handling of firearms, revives the consideration of the ghastly array of incidents of that description which occur here and elsewhere. They are in nearly every case caused by an absence of ordinary good judgment and care, and would seldom or never occur if one of the simplest rules imaginable were observed: Never to place a weapon, whether known to be loaded or supposed to be otherwise, so that the muzzle will be pointed toward either the person handling it or any other individual.

A great deal of criminal carelessness exists in relation to allowing children to handle firearms. The absence of the commonest kind of sense displayed by some parents in this regard is almost appalling, as it is among juveniles that most of the accidental killing and wounding occurs. Where fathers and mothers have the power to prevent their children from using or handling dangerous weapons and do not exercise it, they are highly censurable. The condemnation which is justly their due, however, is withheld when a disaster to life or limb occurs through their negligence, out of sympathy occasioned by the results of what they might have prevented. There is altogether too much of the subsequent kind of discretion in such matters, and a conspicuous scarcity of that previous kind which prevents.

WANTS AN OFFICE.

IT has been stated in several of the local papers that Associate Justice Twiss, whose term expires this month, is not an applicant for re-appointment, and that Jacob S. Boreman has applied for the office.

If someone is wanted to disgrace the position on account of ignorance of the law and an excess of fanaticism, then let the applicant have it.

He is not one of those whose hand is up to his ear, straining his auricular organ in listening for his country's call. He wishes to obtrude himself upon his country's attention. He tried once to hoist himself into an elective office in this country by a bogus appointment of the Governor, but failed.

The quality of his legal attainments is attested by an almost total absence of practice. Notwithstanding Mr. Boreman's anti-"Mormon" proclivities, which run into the fantastically ridiculous, we do not believe that his appointment to the position for which he is said to be "hunting and fishing" would receive the endorsement of the members of the bar of this Territory, who, with all their faults, desire to see the benches of the District Courts of Utah filled by men of at least fair intelligence and something over average legal ability. The little man who used to twist Territorial laws and apply them to United States cases, would have made a passable dry goods clerk,

or a local preacher of the Methodist persuasion, but his connection with the legal profession in any capacity is chiefly conspicuous as a failure.

The poor man is somewhat of an object of commiseration, but that is no reason why the public should be afflicted by his being put in the position of a round plug in a square aperture, by hoisting him into an office for which neither nature nor education has qualified him.

If impecuniosity is the cause of his alleged application, some other means of assisting him could be resorted to.

BARE-FACED DIABOLISM.

THE Salt Lake Tribune of this morning contained the following among a long string of other falsehoods, which are its staple commodity:

"The News editor thinks ruffians and assassins justifiable in plying their crimes on those connected with the Tribune. It has said such things before, and endeavored to incite mobs to attack this office. And yet, when we invited the cowardly scribes to head the mobs and ruffians they were endeavoring to incite, there was no response. Again we say, the News editor shouldn't shirk his own doctrine; if the Tribune has ever attacked anybody in this world, it has attacked him."

Here is an extract from the News article to which the slanderous sheet refers:

"Now we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not advocate the policy of violence. Anything that tends to mobocracy is wrong in principle. The law ought to be strong enough to vindicate itself. A legal wrong should have a legal remedy. Revenge is a motive to which men and women should not surrender themselves. Let those who break the law be punished by the law. We shall here be met with the objection that a libel suit against impecunious slanderers would only yield trouble for one's pains. Quite true. But there is the criminal law. Those malicious defamers of the reputation of ladies as well as gentlemen pretend to be very anxious for the prosecution of a certain class of offenders, and are so eager in this direction that they would punish people even for opinion's sake. Well if they break the criminal law, follow them up with the criminal law."

MORE ABOUT THE MAORIES.

By courtesy of Sister Elizabeth Newby, of Joseph, Sevier County, we are enabled to publish the following extract from her husband, Elder Edward Newby, giving an account of a missionary experience among the aborigines of New Zealand. Owing to the almost phenomenal work in progress among the Maories it will doubtless be perused with interest by many of our readers:

On the morning of the 25th of October I got ready to go to Ngatarawa, and the people sent a buggy for me from that place and we started to Hastings, and when we arrived there were four more buggies loaded, waiting for us, containing the Saints of Pakohai. After a few delays we started for Ngatarawa and arrived there after about two hours' ride. We were greeted with cries of welcome and waving of handkerchiefs, and then one of the Maories came to us and told us they wanted Newby to dedicate a new "Where" that had been built there. So I proceeded to the "Where" and I can say it is a beautifully built house, and finished off very nicely. I then had the bell rung and then the people assembled till they filled the house full, and I should judge there must have been one hundred and fifty congregated from Pakohai, Karawyati, Owhiti, Omahu, Lehaute, Pake Padi, Tikokino and Nuhaka and some from other places that I do not know the name. I opened the meeting by singing and prayer and then addressed them on the principles of the Gospel of Christ. I was followed by a few of the native brethren. I dismissed the meeting and then we sat down to dinner, which was quite sumptuous.

I then appointed a meeting in the evening. The house was again filled. After opening the meeting in the usual way I then preached to the people on the first principles of the Gospel in Maori, in my feeble way, and occupied about one hour, and was followed by some of the native brethren.

Twenty-three presented their names for baptism and four to be blessed. I appointed 9 o'clock next morning to attend to the baptisms. He went down to the River Ngaroro. The people began to come, and I can tell you it was a beautiful sight, the white clothes making a contrast with the dusky skins of the people. After arranging them in rotation, I offered a few words of prayer to God, entered the water, and baptized the twenty-three. The day was a fine one, and everything passed off in a quiet and orderly manner.

I then appointed meeting at 1 o'clock, when two rich sheep owners visited us to see our way of serving the Lord. After opening in the usual manner, I preached to them (first having obtained a young man to interpret to the Maories) the first principles of the Gospel, the mode of baptizing and conferring the Holy

Ghost. I then confirmed those who had been baptized members of the Church, and addressed them on the ordinance of partaking of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and as to what manner of men and women they ought to be. The sacrament was then administered and the Saints bore their testimonies, after which they were dismissed.

I had quite a friendly chat with the gentlemen before alluded to, who said they would see me again and then rode off.

In the evening we held another meeting, at which I ordained three Priests and two Teachers. The Saints kept this meeting up all night.

On Monday the Maories held another meeting, for the purpose of raising some means to help the Saints in the Kikokino district to build a meeting house, and they subscribed £7 to that purpose. The Maories kept their meeting up three days and three nights, so you can judge what kind of people they be. On Tuesday evening we returned to Taonoke, having been repayed for our visit. The Lord blessed us with His holy Spirit and we have enjoyed ourselves very much. Brothers Otene, Mcihana and Oterene Rahi are good men and did a great deal to help on the work.

CURSORY COMMENT.

Grover Cleveland is the first elected President New York State has had in nearly half a century. Forty-eight years ago Martin Van Buren was elected to that office. Since that time two vice-presidents, Fillmore and Arthur, have succeeded to the Presidency by the death of the President.

A letter from Elder James Roskelly, written at Lee Valley, Hawkins County, Tennessee, indicates that he is alive to the importance of the work of the ministry. He states that many people are convinced of the truth of the work in which the Latter-day Saints are engaged, but have not the courage and independence of character to embrace the Gospel in the face of existing bitter opposition to its adherents.

The proposal of a prominent management, mentioned in the News a short time since, to star Mr. Louis James, is a deserved compliment to that gentleman's striking histrionic ability. In our opinion he is close upon the heels of Mr. Barrett, with whom he performed in this city, with the advantage of a finer voice and more commanding presence. His Brutus is not much, if anything, inferior to Mr. Barrett's Cassius.

A short time since little Walt, Whitmore, of Eureka, Nevada, came in from play, and being urged by his mother to run out again, said that he didn't want to because his mate, the four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, couldn't play any more; that he was in the water in the stone quarry near by. Fearing the worst, Mrs. Whitmore ran over to Mrs. Edwards and told her what she had heard. Then they both went briskly to the quarry to find the little boy lying dead under the cliff in the edge of a pool of water, with his skull crushed. He had been dead for some minutes already.

Broom drill in public is becoming favorite pastime with the young ladies. It is a pretty spectacle and doubtless affords a healthful exercise, but it is to be hoped that it will not entirely supersede the less ostentatious but much more effective drill with the same weapon in the household. There is no movement so pretty as that involved in skimming the floor with the formidable implement muzzle down, while it makes the dust and scraps fly before it. Young ladies who rush after the military broom-drill and turn up their noses at healthy exercise with that weapon in the household, are about as useful as a mantle-piece ornament.

At the entrance to one of the principal dry goods stores on Federal Street, Alleghany, Pa., recently, a lady, remarkable for the wax-like appearance of her complexion stood waiting for a car. A young man, accompanied by two ladies, passed in and came out in a few minutes. The lady was still standing like a statue in the same position. The young man said: "Now just look at this," and raised his hand and struck the supposed figure a smart slap on the cheek. The statue turned a pair of flashing black eyes on him and writhed him with a look. He stammered incoherently: "I—I—thought you were a dummy," and almost ran away, allowing his companions to follow as best they could.

Mr. Gladstone's franchise bill, which the Lords have agreed to pass, makes every household a voter. Within a few years England will doubtless take the one remaining step—a short one—to universal manhood suffrage. Great Britain is gradually drifting toward republicanism.

At last the Tichborne claimant is making his speculation play. He is said to be earning about \$1,000 a week showing himself in the London variety theatres. He is quite a curiosity, firstly because of his peculiar history and secondly because he is enormously and abnormally fat.

According to the Chicago News Col. Samuel Ralston, father-in-law of Frank James, is a candidate for the postmastership of Independence, Mo. If the Colonel will promise to put his daughter's husband in charge of the money-order department he can probably get a petition as big as a Missouri census report.

Mrs. President Polk has attained the ripe age of 81 years, and is resident in Nashville. She looks back through forty years upon her residence in the White House with great pleasure, and considers her husband's administration as among the best the country has ever had. She is one of the women who look upon their husbands as heroes.

El Mahdi and Chinese Gordon are both extraordinary men. We have heard that the former was dead and buried, and now he is marching on Khartoum. Gordon has been successively put to the sword and starved to death. At last accounts he was quite lively and cheerful. "To be continued in our next."

Ingersoll was lecturing in Chicago, and in tones eloquently impressive inquired: "What minister has ever done so much for the world as Darwin?" Promptly a voice from the audience rang out, "Burchard." The reply rather knocked out the Colonel, but he soon righted himself and properly explained that that was not what he meant. But the joke went against him.

Governor Eli H. Murray is said to have gone east. The object of the trip is probably to make an effort to retain his official head. He is said to have slipped off silently and the journey is likely not to be for the purpose of having himself interviewed by newspaper men. The taffy bee recommended by the News has evidently been postponed until his return, and will be contingent upon his official decapitation being deferred indefinitely.

An exchange cruelly says: "Lord Tenyson's new poem 'Freedom' is not likely to add to his fame. Had it been written by an unknown poet and submitted to an American editor it would never have seen the light." This means that there is no poetry in the production, or in the average American editor's soul. The latter condition is of course dependent upon the existence of the editorial soul.

The chief of police of Waverly, N.Y., was recently shot and killed by one of his men. He had found the front door of a store open in the night, and had gone inside to see what was up. Another officer had at about the same time found the rear door open and had also gone inside. The two met in the store, and the officer, supposing he had come upon a burglar, shot his chief. Shooting at a fellow-being is of sufficient importance to demand some sort of an investigation as to whether the right man is aimed at.

It is to be presumed that from now on the questionable method of getting money out of the people's pockets, known as the fair, inaugurated for the sole purpose of "raising the wind" will be in vogue. If by chance the unwary should be drawn into a fair, the way he is assailed recalls the traditions of "Petticoat Lane." He must eat weak oyster stew, vote for a cane for the most popular clergyman, politician, car-conductor, ball-player or whom else may be supposed to have an element of popularity sufficient to make his friends canvass for dimes.

It has been sensibly said that Mr. Cleveland's friends are doing their best to make him appear ridiculous. They are boasting about the simplicity of his habits, the repugnance which he feels to display and the dislike with which he views all ostentatious ceremony. These are all very praiseworthy qualities; but when Mr. Cleveland's friends proceed to prophecy that on the day of his inauguration he will insist upon walking from the Capitol to the White House and upon taking the three-cent bootless cabs from the White House to the Capitol, they are making him out a snob and a demagogue. An ostentatious rejection of ostentation is more despicable than an admiration for it; while a quiet submission on the part of the President to the honors which the people's master, wish to confer upon him, is the more to be admired, the more repugnant it is to his natural sentiments.

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