

proved to our satisfaction in many ways. Among others, their newspaper diatribes and pulp harangues against the law and their exhortations to the (non-polygamous) Mormons to stand by their (polygamic) leaders and Elders. In these discourses the leading men of the Mormon Church still advocate the doctrine of polygamy as an essential part of their creed, as openly and vehemently as at any former period. Recently a number of discourses have been delivered in Salt Lake City, and other parts of the Territory, especially on this subject, by their most noted men. All were invited by public notices in the newspapers, and the meetings were largely attended. Evidently these meetings were gotten up by concerted action among the leaders; and our interpretation of their motives is that the discrimination of the act of Congress in favor of non-polygamist Mormons is producing such results upon the masses as to alarm their leading men. That they feel keenly the effects of this act is further shown by their instituting a large number of suits at law against the members of this Board, grounded on their exclusion from the polls.

Among the orthodox Mormons of Utah polygamy is a part of their religious faith, and while but a small percentage of the whole adult Mormon population have actually entered into the polygamic relation, yet all the faithful believe in it as a divine revelation. The Mormons believe in the Old Testament, the New Testament, and a great deal besides, namely, the Book of Mormon, and divers so-called revelations claimed to have been received by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and his successors, Brigham Young and John Taylor, which are mostly printed in their Book of Doctrine and Covenants. Among these so-called revelations is one in favor of plurality of wives. Doubtless there are many persons among the Mormons who would be glad to find a way out of polygamy. Devout and sincere in their religious faith, as we believe the generality of the people to be, yet there are degrees of faith among them as well as among sects, and the vast number of apostasies that have taken place from time to time is convincing evidence that the heaven of unbelief and skepticism is at work in many minds.

Whether the actual practice of polygamy is on the decrease or not, is a disputed question. Since our last report we have made additional investigation, and we are of the opinion that in the more rural districts, chiefly in the southern portion of the Territory, there has not been much decrease, while in Salt Lake County and other counties where there are considerable cities and towns there has been a decided decrease.

The physical geography and other conditions of the Territory present an obstacle to the speedy solution of the difficulty. The tide of emigration from the States which in so few years settled the status of the fertile State of the "Great West" will not be repeated in this Territory. There is little to attract American farmers to Utah. Its area is large—about 84,000 square miles; but the greater portion consists of barren, rocky mountains and deserts, so that perhaps not more than one acre in fifty will ever be susceptible of cultivation. But there are many valleys, that by means of irrigation from the mountain streams, are very fertile and productive. Nearly all of the agricultural land is already occupied, and it is very evident that Utah can never support a large population. The present population is estimated at 100,000, about four-fifths being Mormons. The people are generally engaged in agricultural pursuits, chiefly in a small way, relying mainly on irrigation.

Prior to the completion of the transcontinental railroad through Utah in 1869, there were very few non-Mormons in the Territory. Since that time the business of mining has become an important interest, several of the most valuable mines of silver and lead in the West being located there. Besides there are some gold mines and valuable deposits of coal, iron, copper and other minerals. The mines give good employment to a great many persons, and have been the means of attracting considerable non-Mormon population. Many of the non-Mormons (or Gentiles) are doing a prosperous business in baking, mining and mercantile pursuits. Candor requires us also to say that personal security and property rights appear to be as inviolate in Utah as in any of the States or Territories. However, business men of small capital, among the Gentiles, complain of dull times by reason of the clannishness of the Mormons in trading with each other rather than with the "Gentiles."

In the endeavor to present a fair and impartial account of Utah and its people, it would be disingenuous in us if we failed to put on record our conviction, after much reading, observation, and reflection, that during the last fifteen years there has been a great improvement in the condition of affairs in the Territory. For over twenty years prior to 1869, the Mormons were to a great extent isolated from all the world. Before the building of the railroad across the continent, they were for many years nearly a thousand miles from any civilized community. "Gathered" into the Great Salt Lake Valley and other valleys of Utah, under the leadership of a great but uncultivated born leader of men, who was imperious and fanatical, the Mormons were but little influenced by the outside world.

That there have been great changes for the better is admitted by every can-

did observer. Last year a graceful and able writer, in an editorial article in one of the non-Mormon newspapers of Salt Lake City, used the following language expressive of the improved condition of affairs in Utah:

Salt Lake is so changed from the Utah of ten years ago that could the old style of affairs be restored for a week, the old slavery, the old tyranny and the restrictions, the Mormon people themselves would rise up in rebellion. There are forces at work which are all-powerful, and which no article or restrictions, no falsehoods and no superstitions can resist.

In considering this question the public should not expect any considerable change as the immediate result of the present laws of Congress, nor of any legislation that is likely to be devised. Such legislation will not speedily induce the Moamon people to renounce their religious creed concerning the marriage relation and other so-called "revelations." The most that can be predicted of such legislation is, that it will, in connection with other influences, place the obnoxious features of "Mormonism" in a condition of gradual declension and final extinction. In presenting this view of the condition of Utah, honorable mention is due to the many Christian denominations that have established colleges, schools and churches in Salt Lake City and many other parts of the Territory. Among these are churches or schools maintained by the Presbyterians, Methodists, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Baptists, Catholics, and perhaps others, all, or nearly all of which have been accomplished within the last fifteen years. Some one or more of these churches and schools may be found in nearly all the principal cities in the Territory, and are chiefly supported by the benevolence of the people and the churches of the States. There are in addition to those common schools established by the Mormons by legislative authority. The denominational schools now number 79, with an average daily attendance of nearly 6,000 pupils, many of whom are the children of Mormon parents. These schools are distributed as follows: Episcopal, 5; Methodist, 10; Congregational, 27; Presbyterian, 35; Baptist, 2; Catholic, 1.

The noble and self-sacrificing men and women of these various religious denominations, who, as ministers and teachers, have consecrated themselves to this good work, are deserving of the thanks and gratitude of every Christian and philanthropist, and it may be that their labors under Divine Providence may accomplish more than the wisdom of lawgivers.

Nevertheless, the vigorous execution of efficient laws of Congress should go along with other instrumentalities and influences, and it will be the marvel and mystery of the ages if a mere handful of people in the heart of the continent can long withstand the combined wisdom, power and Christian influence of fifty-five millions of people.

In regard to those provisions of the act of Congress relating to the punishment of the crime of polygamy (which appertains to the courts of justice and not to this Commission,) we beg leave to suggest that a vigorous enforcement of those provisions ought to go *pari passu* with the execution of those provisions that come under the authority of this Board; and we are assured that by vigorous and energetic action, the guilty parties can be brought to justice in very many cases.

Since our last report a number of city elections have been held in Utah, under the supervision of the Commission, notably in Salt Lake City, the capital, and the largest city in the Territory, with a population of about 30,000. Formerly almost all the municipal officers of the city, nineteen in number, were in polygamy. At the last election all of them were chosen from Mormons who have never gone into polygamy. County and Deputy registration officers for the June revision of the registry have been appointed by the Commission, and rules and regulations for all registrations during the year 1874 have been prepared and promulgated.

The Legislative Assembly of the Territory, consisting of twenty-four members of the Council and twenty-four members of the House, assembled in Salt Lake City on the 14th day of January, and after a session of sixty days adjourned *sine die*. The members of this body were all Mormons, but none of them disqualified under the act of Congress (not being in polygamy). No act was passed concerning the marriage relation. A bill relating to registration and elections, and declaring the qualification of voters and office-holders, was passed in both houses, but failed to receive the approval of the Governor. A copy of this bill is hereto attached.

By Congressional law the Governor is a part of the legislative authority in Utah, and no law can take effect without his approval. In the opinion of the Governor, as set forth elaborately in his veto message, the bill was an evasion of the law of Congress, and did not come up to the requirements of the country in regard to polygamy. His reasons are fully set forth in his message (a copy of which is annexed.)

We call attention to the recommendations made in our report of Oct. 30, 1873, which are included in Senate bill No. 1,233 reported by the judiciary committee.

In addition, we would also recommend the enactment of a law by Congress giving to the first (or legal) wife her right of dower as at common law, or other interest in the real estate of her husband as provided in the statutes of many of the States.

In order to facilitate the execution of the punitive provisions of the law, it would be well to provide for a fund, to be furnished by the Department of Justice to the proper legal authorities in the Territory.

The justices of the peace of Utah, being nearly all Mormons, we think it would be an act of justice to the non-Mormons to confer upon the United States Commissioners current jurisdiction with the justices of the peace in matters civil and criminal.

We would also suggest the advisability of considering a law for the appointment by the Governor or District Judges of certain Territorial and county officers which are now elective. We are aware that many good people of Utah and elsewhere are in favor of a Legislative Commission, which, in the opinion of high legal authority, is of doubtful constitutionality. Without presuming to decide this question, we think that it is the part of wisdom to unite all the friends of effective legislation upon some plan which is likely to meet their approbation rather than to attempt that which may be unattainable at the present time.

Respectfully,
ALEX. RAMSEY,
G. L. GODFREY,
A. B. CARLTON,
J. R. PETTIGREW.
Hon. Henry M. Teller,
Secretary of the Interior.

THE WATER QUESTION.

REPORTS have reached us to the effect that there is much intensity and even bitterness of feeling among a number of the residents of the "north bench" part of the city in reference to the water question. It appears that their prayers to the corporation have remained so long unanswered that their stock of patience is well nigh worn out, and some are talking of extreme steps.

While the justice of the cause of the people who complain cannot be properly denied, in view of the faith of the corporation having been pledged to give them the relief they ask for, their payment of taxes in common with other citizens, the urgency of their needs and other numerous reasons, yet extreme methods will not help the matter along. On the contrary, we believe they would operate against the interests of the people on the "bench." There is now a wide public sympathy for them, but any exhibition of rashness on their part would turn the tide of sentiment in the other direction.

Besides, the committee to whom the subject was recently referred are considering it, and will probably be in a position to report to the Council at an early day. The only thing that can be done under the circumstances is to await the action of that body. It may appear to be asking too much to request patience from people who have been waiting the solution of a matter in which their health, comfort and lives are to a considerable extent involved, and which has been pending for a period of sixteen years. But it is the best advice that can be given under the circumstances. We believe also that the solution of the question must be approaching. The growth and development of the city, as well as the needs of a large body of citizens, calls for it.

Speaking of the urgency of the desired water supply, the statement of a man who had resided high up on the "bench" for fifteen years reached us the other day. He had carried water from the sect to his house during all that time for every purpose, using it frequently when several days old from the creek. Lately he has been too feeble to carry the water, and being such hard labor he was almost compelled to use harshness toward his children before they would perform the work. This necessity of using compulsion toward his children distressed him more than all the hardship he had endured personally from the scarcity of water and his being compelled to convey it by hand to his premises. This is but one case out of many involving similar inconveniences.

It is to be hoped that the corporation will be able soon to afford some permanent relief to the scorched and parched section of this beautiful city.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS.

The base paths of the Chicago League Club are eight feet wide.

It costs \$45 to be burned in the LeMoine crematory in Pennsylvania.

To succeed one must sometimes be very bold, and sometimes very prudent.—Napoleon.

Capt. Eads now proclaims that his Tehuantepec ship railway is to be built by English capitalists.

Two Boston men have played 23,000 games of cribbage. One of the players is one game ahead of the other.

There were 1,517 murders committed in the United States in 1883. There were 93 legal executions and 118 lynchings.

Slade has been challenged to a hard-glove match for \$500 a side by the gigantic pugilist, Jas. A. Slattery of San Francisco.

T. Egginton Hogg is the name of the president of Oregon Pacific railway. He invariably discharges a man who alludes to him as "Ham and eggs."

It is much easier to find a score of men wise enough to discover the truth than to find one intrepid enough, in the face of opposition, to stand up for it.

"Shall I take your love to your mother?" said a lady visitor, who was going to see the mother in question, to a little child of three years. "She has my love," was the quaint reply.

At the late republican State convention in Missouri, Ex-Senator Henderson declared that the trouble in St. Louis republican politics is that there are no followers but ten thousand republican leaders.

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THE LIVER AND ITS FUNCTIONS.

It has become a well established fact that the larger portion of diseases to which the human family is subject arise in the first place from some derangement of the Liver. This organ is not only the largest, but at the same time one of the most important. The venous blood, on its return to the heart, passes through this organ, and in its passage the impurities, as also the secretions which are necessary for digestion as well as for a cathartic to assist in the removal of waste material &c. are eliminated. From this it is easily seen that the Liver is liable to get out of order to a greater or less extent, and when this occurs it is impossible for it to properly fulfil its office of removing all objectionable matter from the blood, but allows it to pass through, carrying with it the poisons of which it should have been relieved.

With impure blood the whole system becomes affected, and no organ can properly perform its function unless it is supplied with pure blood to maintain its strength. So the Liver becomes all important, and when one has the feeling of being continually tired, worn out, or constipated, with tenderness to Piles, Headache, Sick Stomach, Sallow Complexion, Eruptions of Skin, etc., they may be sure their Liver is out of order, and a remedy is required to assist nature in relieving which will remove all accumulations, and restore it to its original strength and vigor. For all the complaints of the kind there is no medicine that equals

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