

could not bear the possibility of her becoming a queen.

In Europe the present marriage will be regarded as a mesalliance in royal and aristocratic circles. The Duke of Teck, father of the bride, is of morganatic birth. He is son of Alexander of Wurtemberg and of his morganatic wife a Hungarian Countess. But in England it is probable that this will cut no figure. The young lady is looked on as a thoroughly English girl, and is popular with both the nobility and people. The match is regarded as a love one, and the Teck family has been financially embarrassed for some time. This may induce Parliament to take a sentimental view of the matter, and make provision for young Albert Victor.

RUSSIAN REFUGEES AND THE "MORMONS."

THE harsh measures instituted by the Russian Government against the Hebrews has excited the indignation of the whole civilized world. The Czar is denounced, and sympathy is aroused for the unfortunate Jews who have been made the victims of imperial wrath. There is another side to the subject, of course, and apologists are not wanting for the Muscovite edicts. We do not propose now to discuss the merits of this question. But a suggestion has been made which attracts some public attention and that bears some relation to Utah, and we therefore give it passing notice.

It is proposed to send to this Territory a body of refugees from the land of the Czar, that by their influence and example may be brought about "a reformation or abolishment of the principles and practices inculcated by the Book of Mormon." The polygamous tendencies of "Mormonism" would, it is asserted, be thus counteracted. This, to people acquainted with the "Mormons" and the Book from which their nickname has been derived, is really laughable. It seems there are still editors in the United States who do not know that polygamous marriages have ceased for some years in Utah. And it is very certain that few if any of them know anything about the Book of Mormon. "The principles and practices inculcated" in that volume cannot be objected to on moral grounds by Christian or Hebrew. As to polygamy, that was forbidden to the ancient people whose history and religion the Book of Mormon contains. It is a great pity that writers for the press, as well as preachers in the pulpit, will not examine the book about which they are so often seriously exercised.

If the accounts we have read of the condition of those Russian refugees are anything near correct, reformation in most respects is what they sadly need themselves. If the object in view was the improvement of the expatriated Hebrews, there might be some good reasons for locating them in Utah, where they would be surrounded by influences and examples of an elevating character. But the proposition to use them as a reforming agency among the "Mormons" is as absurd as most of the absurdities uttered by sapient writers on the "Mormon" question, who need nothing so much as a little correct information themselves.

The *New York Mail and Express* takes up the subject and, in criticising the suggestion, displays as much ignorance and nonsense as the authors of the proposition. It says "The Jews are proverbially pure in their family life, the Mormons are not." It is afraid that the refugees, if colonized in Utah, might imagine that the "Mormons" are "typical model citizens, worthy of imitation." And concludes that, "It is a duty to see that the Mormons are not allowed the opportunity of contaminating them."

We have nothing to say about the lives of the Jews in general. We have many reputable Hebrews in Utah who are justly esteemed by their "Mormon" fellow-citizens. Occasionally we have others whose purity is nothing to boast of. There are good and bad among all races and religions. But neither Jews nor Gentiles who tell the truth, will say anything about the purity of "Mormon" family life in general but that which is in commendation. Some of our most vigorous opponents have conceded this. While prosecuting persons charged with polygamy, officers of the government have acknowledged the fact that the "Mormon" people are comparatively free from the common vices and sexual crimes of the age.

In the duties of citizenship, as a rule, the "Mormon" people set as good an example as can be found in the country. What do the writers in the *Mail and Express* know about this? And do they mean to say that the class of people among whom these Russian refugees are likely to mingle in New York City will furnish good examples of family purity, worthy citizenship and general model conduct?

The people of Utah are not anxious to have the immigrants from Russia quartered among them, but should some of them find their way here, they would escape those pernicious influences of which the *M. and E.* seems afraid in Utah, but which abound right under the shadow of its office and within seeing and smelling distance,

if no nearer, of the reporters who gather its news.

We are inclined to think that the same animus towards the "Mormons" still inspires the utterances of that paper, which prompted one of its writers, a few years ago, who, in a burst of profanity expressed his utter indifference as to whether what he said about the "Mormons" was true or not, he wanted to see them all destroyed, anyhow. We do not reproduce the language, for while it might be suitable to the office of the *M. and E.* it would not be fit for the ears of the people whom that scripture-quoting paper delights to defame.

The Russian Jews who come to this country might find many worse places than Utah, in which to make a home and learn the duties and privileges of American citizenship, but we do not think they could find a worse place in the respects named by that paper than the city where the *Mail and Express* is published. However, country districts in some of the Western States would be preferable to a Territory of the Union, if political liberty is one of the objects in view in finding them a home. They should not be delivered from one kind of vassalage only to be transferred to another.

THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

It is universally admitted by all educated Americans that Prof. Bryce, the author of a book entitled "The American Commonwealth," is a man thoroughly familiar with American institutions, though a native of the British Islands. In the *North American Review* for December, he has an article on the negro question which is attracting wide attention. His thoughts and opinions on this very vexed subject are worthy of serious consideration, inasmuch as he is, outside of any personal prepossessions or political interests in the matter, and his insight, judgment and impartiality can not be impugned.

The Professor says that the problems which foreign observers consider the gravest of American issues are the labor question, universal suffrage, and the position of the negro in the South. The one which he regards as most urgent, most serious, and most dangerous is that of the colored people. Compared with it the tariff, the currency and the railway questions sink into insignificance.

In social life the negro is now more distinctly separated from the whites than during slavery times. The law prohibits intermarriage in nearly all the Southern States, even the illicit relations between the sexes which pre-