

## EDITORIALS.

## ANTI-"MORMON" RABIES.

THE Denver *Tribune* is afflicted with *Mormophobia*. It is not a new disease. Other papers have been attacked, and are subject to periodical recurrences of the complaint. It is a species of rabies, and varies in violence according to the temperament of the patient, and the political condition of the times and the locality in which it appears. It breaks out in the form of violent attacks on the "Mormons" characterized by folly, falsehood, recklessness, bigotry, and an utter disregard of consistency and constitutional principles. It is not dangerous to any one but the patient, except by contagion, but has the effect of rendering him blind to the truth, oblivious of facts, and unimpressible to reason or common sense. It comes by fits, passes off in starts, and puts the victim in such a condition that the name of "Mormon" is to him like a red rag to a bull.

The Denver *Tribune* has had several "convulsion fits" of this sort lately, and seems to be very much excited over the settlement by "Mormons" in some parts of Colorado. In an article on July 14th, that paper publishes some very foolish stories about "Mormon" concubines at Manassa, told by one "Moss Agate," (by the by, there are no "Mormon concubines" either in Colorado or elsewhere,) and after a variety of remarks indicating the symptoms above described, quiets down a little and sums up the case as follows:

"The important facts arrived at in this matter are these:

"The Mormons are settling in all the States and Territories with the evident purpose of controlling legislation.

Numbers of them have located in Colorado.

They invite others to come, and offer inducements.

They declare it to be the purpose of their people to build a line of towns across our entire State, from Utah to Kansas.

They openly evade and violate our laws with respect to the connubial relation.

They expect to be able to cast a sufficient vote to turn the election to the Democratic side.

To make sure of this they have introduced into Colorado immigrants from Utah and the Southern States.

These are the counts of the indictment upon which the State of Colorado and the Republican party are called to act."

Several of the small fry of the Colorado press swear by the *Tribune*, and follow as it leads. They are naturally liable to infection and are more or less afflicted in the same manner. The *Tribune* makes a point of repeating what they say as an endorsement of its own utterances, apparently oblivious of the fact that they are mere echoes of its own disordered vaporings. Some of these appear in the same paper from which we have made the above extract.

Now we would advise them all to keep as cool as possible during this season of exalted temperature, and not to talk too much on a subject on which they are all at sea. The object that the "Mormons" have in settling upon the public lands in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and other places is to make themselves homes by honest industry. If "numbers of them have located in Colorado, invited others to come, and offered inducements" to do so, they have only exercised the rights common to all people in the United States, who choose to occupy vacant land and obtain possession of it under the regulations of local or national law. If they design to build a line of towns anywhere, under lawful regulations and subject to legal restrictions,—although we are not aware of any such apparently startling proposition—we are of the opinion that they have a perfect right to endeavor to carry that design into effect.

As to the charge about "evading and violating the laws in respect to the connubial relation," we think the *Tribune* is talking under the influence of the disease before mentioned. But supposing the statement to be true, are not law-breakers amenable to the laws, and is such infraction of the law as is alleged against the "Mormons," to be at all

compared with the wholesale smashing of the laws and of public decency in Deadwood in the same State, to say nothing of the condition of affairs in some parts of Denver, where the *Tribune* is published? Yet that paper is not concerned over these things. If these new settlers break the law, let the law punish them; but first prove them guilty, then go ahead with your penalties; don't condemn them first and find out the facts afterwards.

The next is a terrible charge, and to use a common expression, is the real "milk in the cocoa-nut." These terrible "Mormons," who dare to settle on the public lands or buy farms and till them like other folk, actually expect to "turn the election to the Democratic side." We do not pretend to say whether there is any truth in this alarming statement or not. But supposing that the *Mormophobic* fears of the *Tribune* are correct. Have not these new settlers as much right to vote for the Democrats as for the Republicans, or vice versa? If not, why not? And should they exercise the common rights of American citizens what has either the State of Colorado or the Republican party to do with the matter?

The *Tribune* ought to be able, when the fit is over, to see what nonsense and drivel it has given to its readers. But in any case the people of Colorado should not be influenced by such ravings. They will find that the "Mormon" colonists in their State will make the very best kind of citizens. That they will greatly add to the wealth and prosperity of Colorado. That they will mind their own business diligently. That they will make a garden of the wilderness. That they will be keepers of the law. That they will promote peace and good will. And that if uninterfered with by meddlers, fanatics and persons attacked with *Mormophobia* they will give no trouble to anyone.

But they have the same rights as other settlers. They claim no more, they will be satisfied with no less. Let them alone while they obey the law and infringe upon no man's liberties. If they break the law deal with them as with any malefactor who is not a "Mormon." But do not inaugurate a religious or political crusade against them, on illegal and anti-American principles, nor be guided or influenced by persons or papers which have thrown reason and justice to the winds, and are under the terrible affliction of anti-"Mormon" rabies.

## UTAH'S INCREASE OF POPULATION.

THE Grand Rapids (Michigan) *Times*, a smart, shrewd, and generally impartial journal, has fallen into the same error as several other papers, in announcing that the census of Utah shows an increase of the non-"Mormon" population of 200 per cent. for the last ten years, while the "Mormons" have only increased 45 per cent. No estimate of the relative numbers or increase of the two sections of our population is afforded by the census, which was not designed to show the religious status of the people of the United States.

But the *Times* draws its conclusions from an alleged statement of the "Mormon population as reported at the late April Conference." No such statement has been published by authority of the Church, and therefore the *Times* has started on an unsafe foundation. The statistical report read at the April conference was not perfect, and if it had been it would not represent the "Mormon population," because quite a number of children not baptized into the Church to which their parents belong and to which they will in due time become formally attached, were not counted in that report. They are, however, numbered in the census.

The *Times* places the "Gentile" population in Utah at 32,000, which is more than double their actual number. Another mistake is the notion of that paper that immigrants to Utah have been "largely composed of non-believers in the faith." The exact reverse is the truth. The Utah immigration, it is well known, is almost entirely composed of believers in "Mormonism," and that fact is so well recognized that not long ago Secretary Evarts made a futile attempt to decrease it by his senile anti-"Mor-

mon" letter to the consuls at foreign ports. The New York papers, too, frequently groan over the large numbers of "Mormon" immigrants that land at Castle Garden.

It is rarely that the *Times* tumbles into such a mass of mistakes as occur in the article to which we have referred, and in this instance its trip is traceable to excess of confidence in an unreliable report of "Mormon" affairs, which the average newspaper account of our beliefs and doings is, almost invariably. The *Times* should take warning by this misstep and beware of anti-"Mormon" statements of "Mormon" matters.

The "Mormon" population is rapidly increasing, not only by foreign immigration but by home immigration, that is, natural increase, and by the time another census is taken our numbers will be likely to astonish, not only the natives but the whole civilized world.

## HOW ARE THEY GOING TO DO IT?

THE Cincinnati *Times-Star* is very much concerned over the "presence of Mormons in Colorado," calls on the Government to "eradicate the great evil," and says "the duty of the Government is plain. The deadly Upas tree should be destroyed root and branch. This result can be accomplished by adopting an aggressive policy and sticking to it."

There are quite a number of persons and papers which are very forward to demand or advise an "aggressive policy against the Mormons." But they are not very clear in defining what they mean. "An aggressive policy" may be interpreted in various ways. We do not believe they can give a definite explanation of it themselves. They want the "Mormon sect broken up" to use the very liberal and American sentiment of the *Times-Star*, but for the life of them they cannot suggest a lawful and feasible method of doing the work.

To destroy "Mormonism" root and branch they will have to dig deeper than they or any of their tools will reach. The roots are in the human heart and conscience. They cannot get down to these points with anything but truth and reason. Misrepresentation and sophistry do not touch either, force is equally powerless, and these are the weapons with which they hack at the branches and think to get down to the root of the matter. But the tree grows on, root and branch, not like the fabled thing to which the *Times-Star* likens it, but like the mustard tree of the sacred parable, and like the tree of life with leaves that will be for the healing of the nations.

But our double-headed contemporary has gone off wrong as usual in regard to the facts. Its whole diatribe is based on the statement that the "Mormons are moving from Utah to Colorado." This is incorrect. Our colony in Colorado is mainly composed of Latter-day Saints who have embraced the faith in the States, and have moved to Colorado where they can get land and make homes. A very few experienced men from Utah have selected the site for them and directed their labors.

We would ask the *Times-Star* whether people who believe in the tenets of our Church have not just as much right to settle in any part of the United States that suits them, as the same number of Catholics, Protestants, Jews or infidels? And should they break the laws of the State—which is very improbable, as the "Mormons" are noted for their obedience to the laws of the localities where they sojourn or reside—cannot the authorities of the State proceed against them as against any other law-breakers? And further, will that paper please to tell us what business the Government of the United States has to do with a company of settlers of any creed or party, in a free and independent State of the Union? If the *Times-Star* will reflect a little on these simple questions it will surely see its lack of sense in punching up the Government to "adopt an aggressive policy and stick to it." We would advise the Government, the *Times-Star* and everyone anxious to "destroy the Mormon sect," to adopt the policy of minding its own business, and then "stick to it."

## A SINGULAR MISSIONARY INCIDENT.

THERE is no country on earth in which the Elders of this Church have been protected by the legal authorities more faithfully and fairly than Great Britain. True there has been some persecution of the Saints and mobbing of the brethren while preaching the gospel. But the disturbances have been of a local character, and with but few exceptions the police and the magistrates have been willing to deal out evenhanded justice, to shield the assailed and punish the disturbers of the peace.

In view of this the arrest and temporary detention of two of the Elders now on missions to England, by the police authorities, although it was not of a serious character, is certainly remarkable, and we therefore clip from the *Millennial Star* of July 12 the following letter, addressed by two traveling Elders to the President of the London Conference, believing that it will interest a large number of our readers:

"STANTONBURY, BUCKS,  
June 24th, 1880.  
President Geo. H. Taylor:

Dear Bro.—On Sunday last, we held an out-door meeting at this place to a fair-sized and attentive congregation, have distributed about 150 tracts, and had many opportunities of speaking to the people on the principles of the Gospel. Yesterday we visited Newport Pagnell, anxious for a chance to engage anyone's attention with our message, which desire was soon granted in the following manner: A thunder-shower coming on, we took shelter underneath an awning, and a conversation was opened by a young man. Several policemen were in the vicinity, and Inspectors John Moore and Joseph Howes came up and informed us we were wanted, but would not state for what. In their company and that of four policemen, we marched to the station-house, where the chief inspector read from a printed gazette a description of us as follows: One about 35 or 40 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches in height, dark, full, curly beard, dress hat and black suit, and the inevitable umbrella, etc. The other about 30 or 35 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches in height, thin, sandy beard, dress hat, grey top coat, dark suit, umbrella, etc.

"After the reading of this excellent description of ourselves and from such a source, we were then interrogated as to being at Stoney and Old Stratford the previous day. Our answer in the affirmative seemed acceptable, so we enquired what these proceedings meant, to which Inspector Moore replied that we answered the descriptions read—that we had been seen sitting by the wayside, reading the Testament, walking about, etc., and he asked, "Where did you stay last night?" We informed him that it was at Brother Charles Smith's, Stantonbury. At this two of the force took a trap for a three mile ride to Stantonbury. The inspector continued his examination by asking us our profession, which we answered by informing him that we were ministers of the gospel. We passed him and others some of our tracts, and gave them an exposition of the first principles of the apostolic gospel.

"Inspector Moore brought out his Bible, fearing ours was incorrect, and we had an exceedingly interesting time for over an hour, when he furnished us an excellent "tea." In the meantime the officers sent to Brother Smith's returned verifying our statement. The patriarchal order of marriage being introduced, we offered Scriptural proof, but received opinion and tradition in reply. A description of Salt Lake City was given by us and, having spent two hours and half most agreeably, we bade them good bye.

Inspector Moore's conduct was quite courteous, and on parting, he offered us our railway fares to Stantonbury, which we declined. He also expressed himself as entertaining a very different idea of our principles, from our conversation, to what he had formerly conceived. We left, feeling grateful to our heavenly Father for the opportunity thus opened of again bearing our testimony to the truth, and if it were his will we would not object to being taken into custody every day.

"On arriving at Brother Charles Smith's, we found that he and his wife had taken train to Newport Pagnell, to render us aid, if necessary. On their return we enjoyed

the relation of the several parts of this little episode, feeling extremely grateful to Brother and Mrs. Smith for their solicitude for our welfare.

"We remain, yours truly in the gospel,  
WM. WALLACE WILLIAMS,  
T. C. GRIGGS."

There is no law in England reading the New Testament, the Testament or any other book by the wayside, but it is possible the Inspector may have heard of something of Evarts' circular, and posed that some extra vigilance be necessary in case of "Mormon missionaries." However, no harm done, but as it will generally be the result was an opportunity of preaching the gospel, which wise would perhaps have never obtained.

## FOULING THE MOUNTAIN STREAMS.

THE annexed letter, which received this morning, is worth attention:

SALT LAKE CITY,  
July 31st,  
Editors Deseret News:

In your paper last night, the heading "What Tanager On," I find the following sparkling, rippling stream flow down from our heights, bear in their cooling a wealth of vigor, nutritive quality." See rest of the article.

While reading this, my mind went back to last Wednesday noon, when coming down Clifton, about four miles from water tanks, I saw two thousand sheep in a bend of the creek, some standing in the water and others running in and out. Above them was all portrayed it, but below them very muddy and filled with droppings from the sheep, which colored the water brown. The water tanks, in fact, clear city.

Such will be the case many times during the summer, and been the case many times many former summers, and will be. There are skeletons lying in the creek bed, and the rain there till the flesh is all off the bones.

The fouling of the water are used for domestic purposes, a large number of the people city, is a subject of great importance. The seepage of organic matter into wells is acknowledged the cause of many fevers and diseases which assume epidemic form. If this kind of deposit well water, why not a stream? It is true that water will eventually purify but how far it has to run, before its impurities are settled and it is the exceedingly minute particles, held almost if not quite motionless, which work the mischief imbibed into the human system and how much of such deadly imperceptible stuff will remain in a stream containing the drainage of a decaying carcass, is a question better measured than us.

Some time since we saw the death of a large number of children in one of our extreme eastern settlements, and after, learned of the presence of numerous carcasses of perished animals on the banks of the stream, which furnished that with its water. Can effect appeared to us to be traced in that instance, and will hold good in one likely to do the same in a similar character.

We hope the statement will be noticed by the authorities, and that the nuisance danger described will be removed. The "sparkling, rippling stream" which we all desire to be so for the shallow wells of our cities, by extended water must not be allowed to carry "nutriment" as that described our correspondent. Apart from deposits—which are foreign to the clearness of the stream, bright brooks of the canyon can deny that the stream Utah's mountains bear in its depths a wealth of vitality."

Uncle Sam's Nerve and Briment is the most effective Rheumatism, Bruises, Scratches, and many other ailments to man and beast. Sold by Godbe, Pitts & Co.