

## EDITORIALS.

PERVERSIONS OF THE TRUTH  
BY COLLECTOR HOLLISTER—  
HE ASSAULTS THE LEGISLA-  
TIVE ASSEMBLY.

MR. O. J. HOLLISTER is U. S. Collector of Internal Revenue for this Territory, and, we believe, brother-in-law of Schuyler Colfax. Whatever may be the natural moral effect of the latter relation, a decent respect for the dignity, impartiality, and honesty which should attach to federal office would induce all incumbents thereof to refrain from bearing false witness of and slandering any portion of the community.

Some years ago Collector Hollister made himself notorious by continuous correspondence for certain papers, in which representations were made concerning the great majority of the inhabitants of this Territory, which representations they could not consider otherwise than false and slanderous. Afterwards for several years the Collector was little heard from by the public, except upon the small beer question. Subsequently he appears to have devoted his spare energies to the more worthy pursuit of vocal music. Just lately he rose again to the surface in the late split among the Republican partisans hereabout, as an assaulter of one of the factions and a defender of the other, in which character he wrote several letters, severely animadverting upon his opponent Republicans, and especially upon the impudent and insolent dictatorial course of the ring organ. Lastly he courts public attention, partly popularity, and fickle fame by returning, like the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire, to his ancient practice of misrepresenting and abusing the "Mormons," and that too apparently with all his old rancorous, vindictive, and rabid animus. We say apparently, because it is generally believed that his extreme exhibition of this spirit is only assumed for ulterior effect, and is actually a worse showing than his real disposition towards the people justifies. If so, then he acts the part of a hypocrite and an unscrupulous schemer, and thereby renders himself doubly and trebly despicable.

This last effort of Collector Hollister is a letter to the ring organ, in which he attacks the Legislative Assembly of this Territory in a most unfair and altogether unjustifiable manner. If federal officials cannot better employ their time than in first creating and fomenting a rumpus in the Republican party, and then badly misrepresenting and slandering the community in which their duties lie, it is time that they had more work and less pay, and less time to play the fool and disgrace their offices and the administration that appointed them, or that they were removed from office altogether, so that they might employ their whole time in doing the disreputable work for which they manifest such a decided liking and fitness. But here is the letter in question—

"Is it not a little singular that a Legislative Assembly of an American Territory has held its session of forty days, performed its work, adjourned and gone home, and nobody knows what it has done? The press of one party says it has failed to give any intelligence on the subject because the members of the assembly refused to give it any. But the press of the other party has done no better, and the public has not seen even a synopsis of a single bill introduced or passed by its Legislature.

"We presume that we have been saved from outrage and wrong by the vigilance of Gov. Emery. But was there ever a more striking comment on the non-American way things are done in Utah—on the arbitrary and high-handed policy of the dominant Church, in a word. On meeting, the Legislature first ousted the only non-Mormon member elected, and by arbitrarily, without law or justice, reason or sense, disfranchising a thousand or so of American citizens. It then sets out its time in secret conclave, refusing access to its doings to the opposition press, and keeping its own press mum with regard to the same.

"Now, suppose that the Governor of Utah had not the absolute veto power, or suppose that a jack-Mormon Governor had been in office, and certainly the Church has spared no effort to secure one or both of these contingencies, what show would the public have had. What might not have been done? What has the Church left undone to secure a secret session of its Legislature? Can a state of things which renders such an occurrence possible be expected to exist much longer within the United States.

"It is true that the Territorial Legislature has held a secret session, and the only assurance the Territory has that its secular interests have not been subordinated to the supposed interests of the most bigoted, intolerant, bloody and beastly Church known to modern history, is its belief in the ability of Governor Emery to rightly apprehend, and in his disposition to faithfully guard those interests. But is this an altogether safe dependence in a popular government? Suppose it had been Governor Axtell instead of Governor Emery?

"No more striking justification of the Utah opposition has ever been afforded than the action of the Mormon Church touching the late session of the Territorial Legislature.

"O. J. HOLLISTER.

"SALT LAKE, March 6, 1876."

We here take up some of the misrepresentations and falsehoods contained in the above venomous utterance—

1. It is not true that nobody knows what the Legislature has done. The NEWS and various other papers in the city and Territory published the legislative proceedings daily as they took place, also at the close of the session the NEWS and other local papers published a list of the bills presented in both houses, with the ultimate fate of those bills, so that the public knows which bills have become law.

2. Technically it may be true that no paper published synopses or abstracts of bills before the Legislature. But on Saturday last, March 4, one of the most important of the laws passed, the School law, was published entire in the daily NEWS, and subsequently in the semi-weekly and weekly NEWS, and the NEWS is more extensively read than any other paper in the Territory. During the course of the session the various local papers published what they pleased of the doings of the legislature, the bills presented, the discussions thereon, etc.

If Congress had provided the wherewithal to pay for the immediate publication of the laws passed during the session, they might have been promptly published for the benefit of the public. As it is, the Secretary of the Territory may publish them at his own option. But Congress allowed the members of the legislature to sit at their own individual expense, without any remuneration, or provision for publication of the doings of the Legislature. Congress not only refused to pay the members of the Legislature, but also forbid the Territory to pay them. As Congress set an example of such stingy economy, the local Legislature could hardly be expected to violate this economical precedent so glaringly as to appropriate the people's money with anything like extravagance, or profuse liberality. But the Legislature did do better than Congress—the Legislature did provide for the publication of its journals, etc., also of the whole Territorial laws in force, codified.

3. The Legislature prevented a person, who was not legally elected, from having a seat to which he was not entitled, and allowed it to a person who was legally elected from the same county. What less could the Legislature have done in this matter? In so doing, not one legal voter was disfranchised, but the rights of legal voters were protected.

4. It is not true that the Legislature held secret session or secret conclave. The Legislature did nothing tending that way. The federal officers and other gentlemen were accorded the freedom of the two houses, and the houses were open to the public generally, in the manner usual with Legislatures elsewhere. Collector

Hollister himself was tendered the freedom of the Council, and if the same courtesy was not extended to him by the House, it was a mere matter of oversight. The representatives of the press were there, and they reported and had published just what they pleased. If the Legislature held secret session, then Collector Hollister stands in the position of party to that secrecy.

5. The talk that the gubernatorial absolute veto is the only thing which saves secular interest is rubbish, as everybody knows. The legal voters of a hundred thousand people elect the members of the Legislature, and it is not only absolutely unrepugnant, but simply preposterous, to claim that a federal appointee to the governorship is endowed with superior wisdom to all these people and their elected representatives, and that it is a special blessing of an over-ruling Providence that this Governor exercises an absolute veto on what these 100,000 people and their chosen representatives do, lest they do themselves serious injury in matters pertaining almost solely to themselves. What wonderful republicanism this is, that the wisdom of this one man, in his gubernatorial capacity, is necessary to prevent the people and their representatives from doing themselves wilful and serious injury, enacting the part of a *felo-de-se*, or doing some other dreadful thing, and that this Governor's veto is the only preventive! Wonderful indeed! There is a providence, etc.

Our space diminishes, and we must close with remarking that this miserable attempt of the Collector to curry favor with the ring organ, recover party popularity, and help to heal party sores by foully attacking and vilely slandering the "Mormons" without the slightest reasonable occasion even for severe animadversion, will not make him much political capital. It is a poor kick for popularity. It is a pitiable thing to see a man, who is a federal officer, and who claims to be a gentleman, sacrifice his manhood in the prosecution of such a paltry purpose.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Belknap's salary was about \$8,000. How could a poor man live on that!

—The Chicago Courier says, "The old adage that 'a guilty conscience needs no accusing,' was never more forcibly exemplified than in the case of Belknap, when, on the 13th of last January, a copy of the Courier of the day previous, containing the charges then for the first time given to the public, upon which he has been convicted, was shown him, he exclaimed, 'My God! what a horrible, damnable disgrace this is! It will ruin me. I shall scarcely dare return to Washington.'"

—It is stated that neither snow nor rain has fallen at Cheyenne since the middle of last September.

—Female highwaymen are complained of as infesting the neighborhood of Troy, Indiana.

—At a begging meeting at San Francisco, Feb. 29th, the *Alta California* says ex-Governor Woods of Utah officiated as chairman, and he told the audience that he considered that the "Mormon" "leaders should be executed as criminals by the decree of a court martial." After his ex-Excellency had thus shown that there was murder in his heart and blood in his thoughts, the collection plate was handed round to help on the "Christian" work.

—Miss Gracie N. Merrill, of Lowell, who has seen thirteen years of maidenhood, seems to be disgusted with that condition, and has announced her intention to marry a gentleman of twenty-two years.

—Sims Reeves sings three songs in the Alexandra Palace, London, on Good Friday, and is to receive \$750 for it.

—Those preachers, to the number of two, who love hard work and hard fare, can be accommodated by Bishop Garrett, of Northern Texas, who calls for them to itinerate in the "Wild South-West." He speaks thus encouragingly of the prospects before them—"Scant income and small sympathy, and polemical distrust and wearing solitude, and long, lonely journeys, and poor food and poorer shelter, and low spiritual companionship—these are the enemies to be dreaded."

—A Washington paper says

that 38 new newspapers were started in this country between the first of January and the fifteenth of February of this year, of which 35 have since suspended. The same paper says, "Cleanliness is a trifle ahead of the godliness of to-day, and the clean heathen can get through the gates of heaven where a dirty christian would be debarred."

—Yost, the ex-postmaster of Omaha, is reported to have said that he has been worried out of the best paying government office in the State. Still he is credited with saying that he would as leave keep postoffice in h—l as in the city named.

—Bread for the poor is collected in Boston by a wagon going through a street one day and another street the next day, the various house-keepers having been notified two days previously. The collections are usually over 200 loaves, which are taken to the police station, and distributed to the needy.

—As a congregation were coming out of a church at Cincinnati one evening, a revolver dropped from a man's pocket and exploded, sending a bullet among the feet of the people. The man slid away, two policemen slid up to the pistol, captured it, and locked it up in the station house. Nobody was hurt.

—Mr. Thomas M. Coleman, city editor of the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*, has been to Europe, and he gave a lecture, on what he had seen, in that city recently. He is thus reported—"The contrast in the modes of living is not so very marked as many would imagine, though economy is rendered necessary by the country being so thickly populated. There waste is almost unknown. One of the first things which strikes an American on entering London, and particularly a Philadelphian, is the cleanliness of the streets. The taxpayer there gets the full worth of his money as well in the construction of substantial works at a reasonable cost. They bear the stamp of honest workmanship and are built to stand for ages. In the railroad system of Europe, everything is for utility and nothing for show. What we spend in ornament is there expended on the road-bed, which is nearly as perfect as it is possible to make it. Once in Paris and there is an entire change in the character of the skies as well as of the people. It is a bright-looking, cheerful city, unlike London, which is smoky and foggy continually, and where the sun is seldom seen. In Paris bright days are the rule and not the exception. Life there is gay in the extreme; there is nothing approaching it in any city in this country."

—The Ogden Junction says that a lecture was delivered in the Methodist E. Church in that city, March 8, without being followed by the collection plate. The Junction explains this extraordinary occurrence by stating that the lecturer was not a reverend, but a mason and a gentleman. O!

—The first century of this great republic goes out badly, with poverty and destitution prevailing among the people, and corruption and rascality prevailing in the high places of the land.

—The Idaho *World* speaks in this way—"Gentile government officials in Utah, who seek immortality through abuse of the Mormons, are very short lived. They very seldom stick longer than twelve months, or until just as they think they have the twin relic by the throat, and the consequence is carpetbaggers ebb and flow at Salt Lake like the murmuring sea."

—It is not generally known that what is termed the "twinkling of the stars" in the heavens is an optical delusion, attributable to the intervention between the observer and the stars of atmospheres, vapors, etc., and that if the stars are viewed from the top of a very high mountain, where the observer is above the dense atmospheres, vapors, etc., which encircle the earth, and where the atmosphere is more rare, the twinkling is not observable.

—The citizens of Chicago objected to paying their taxes, which were very heavy, and the common council proceeded to reduce them, beginning with the appropriations for the public schools, striking off all estimates for new buildings, and finally reducing the total estimate for school purposes \$177,800.

—The *Pail Mall Gazette* quotes

M. Disraeli to the effect that "England is a Mahommedan power." England is the chief supporter of Mahommedan Turkey, and has 10,000,000 of Mahommedan subjects in Hindostan.

DELEGATES OF PARTY, NOT OF  
THE PEOPLE.

IN this Territory, as is generally understood, the population is divided into two parts, constituting a majority and a minority, very unequal in numbers, and in the mass very much opposed to each other in their views upon many things. Nine-tenths, at least, of the people are known as Latter-day Saints, or "Mormons." The remaining one-tenth are often spoken of collectively as "Gentiles," and consist of nearly all sorts of people, good, bad, and indifferent. Some of them are honorable people, while others of them are anything but honorable. The minority are very seldom united or harmonious upon any subject. The matter upon which the greatest number of them can be brought to anything like union is opposition to the majority, and this opposition assumes with many of them so unprincipled and brutal a character that the more fair-minded persons of this minority are greatly disgusted thereat, and hence dissensions, quarrels, and divisions ensue among them. This minority as a whole is divided politically and mainly into Republicans and Democrats, both of which are again divided into at least two parties each. Each of these two minority parties sends a delegation to its respective national convention this year to nominate a candidate for the presidency of the United States. There was a probability that each of the sub-parties would send a delegation, so great were their dissensions.

These delegates, it will be seen, can not be said to represent the people of this Territory in the least degree. In the first place the two parties and the four sub-parties send two sets of Delegates at least—Republican and Democratic. Both sets of delegates, at most, can only be said to represent one-tenth of the people, and consequently each set must be held to represent not more than one-twentieth of the people. The delegates chosen by the Republican Convention—McKean and Black, no more represent the people of this Territory than they represent the people of the moon, if that planet or satellite is inhabited. If the Democratic Convention shall choose delegates no more in harmony with the views and spirit of the people, than the Republican delegates are, then, so far as the delegations from Utah are concerned, the Republican and Democratic national conventions will be complete farces, for each delegation from Utah may or may not represent its respective party, but one thing is absolutely certain—it will not represent the people in the most remote degree. It is not likely that a people would choose for their delegates and representatives those whom they consider, for well-grounded reasons, their deadly enemies.

There is reason to suppose that the delegations from the States and Territories generally, unlike these so-called Republican delegates from Utah, to the two national conventions, will fairly represent the people of their respective States and Territories. If the delegations generally no more represent the people than do these Republican delegates from Utah, those national conventions will not be conventions of the people, by the people, and for the people, but conventions of parties, by parties, and for parties solely, and if such conventions rule, what is there to hinder this great and glorious republic of the United States from going post haste on a down grade to the dogs?

## DEED.

At Moroni, Sanpete Co., Utah, Feb. 25th, 1876, JOHN L., aged 21 days, child of Lars N. and Perulla Larsen.

Scandinavian Star, please copy.

At Bradford, Jan. 16, 1876, MARIA COOK, aged 74 years.

Deceased was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.—[COM.]—*Millennial Star*.

At Hull, January 31, 1876, of bronchitis, ARTHUR B., son of Wm. B. and Patience D. Armstrong, born March 2, 1873.—*Millennial Star*.