

**"GLOBE-DEMOCRAT" NONSENSE.**

THE St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* has no more sense, or regard for truth, than to print this little batch of nonsense for which one R. A. Henderson is made responsible:

"The proper way to extirpate Mormonism is to stamp out the Mormon schools. In the Church schools of Utah the Mormon children are taught that the United States Government is the worst form of tyranny that can be invented, that a United States judge is hired to oppress the Mormon people, and that an army officer or soldier is an emissary of the devil. Of course the children believe all this, and grow up under the impression that the Church is under a cloud of persecution. If the government abolishes the Mormon schools, forbids Mormon teachers to undertake the training of youth and establishes Stateschools in the Territory with compulsory attendance, Mormonism will disappear, root and branch, in one generation."

Now, in the first place, we are sorry to say there are but few distinctively "Mormon" schools in the Territory. There ought to be, and we hope will be, many more. The school system of Utah is conducted under the law and is entirely non-sectarian. In none of the district schools has any such stuff as that which R. A. Henderson has manufactured and the *Globe-Democrat* has printed, ever been taught to the children.

In the "Mormon" schools the children are taught that the United States Government is the best on earth; that the Constitution is a divinely inspired instrument; that all officers of the government are to be respected in their respective positions, and that obedience to law is the duty of all citizens.

This is part of the creed of the "Mormons." It is declared in the revelations of God to the Church. Not only do the children *not* believe the rubbish invented by R. A. Henderson—whoever he may be—but their parents and leaders do not believe it, but the very reverse.

As to the army, some of the sons of our foremost men were educated for the army and are officers under the Government. And between the military officers quartered in this city and the "Mormon" people there have been maintained the pleasantest of relations.

The Government has not the lawful power to abolish "Mormon" schools. It can no more abolish them than it can abolish Methodist or Presbyterian schools. And if it could and did do so, it would simply wipe out a means of training the youth of Utah in loyalty to the Government and devotion to the principles of the American constitution.

The *Globe-Democrat* ought to know better than to publish such effusions as that which we have reproduced. And if it does know better it should do better, and has ample opportunity and a wide field for self-reform.

**A FALSE REPORT.**

SEVERAL New York papers, in speaking of the dispute about sending back to Europe two or three persons who were alleged to be polygamists, have made the following statement:

"A government agent who has lately been through Utah Territory and has made a careful study of Mormon life, dropped into the Barge Office this morning and in the course of conversation said: 'It's all very well for Mormons to talk about polygamy being abolished. It's a lie. While I was in Salt Lake City there were between fifty and sixty convictions for polygamy every month.'"

We do not know whether or not the alleged "Government agent" is reported correctly, but we do know that the assertion that there have been fifty or sixty or any number of convictions per month for "Mormon" polygamy, during the past two or three years, is untrue. A Government agent could scarcely have uttered such a falsehood in the face of the court records, which would completely refute the charge.

From a communication published in the New York *Journal* over the signature of Emigration Commissioner O'Beirne, which contains a number of misstatements, we are inclined to the opinion that the inaccuracy in the Government agent's remarks is due to General O'Beirne's report of them, rather than to the agent's actual statement.

Anyhow, it is not true, and any man, official or otherwise, who lends his name to such a libel, simply exposes his own mendacity and shows that his word is not entitled to the least respect.

**THE ESCHEAT MUDDLE.**

THE Springfield, Mass., *Republican* of the 5th inst. has an editorial on the subject of the "Mormon" Church property case. It gives a succinct account of the matter from the passage of the escheat act to the decision of the Supreme Court and says:

"The decree now issued, which is somewhat modified from its original form, decides this doubtful point only in a general manner, and leaves it still open for Congress or the Court to further modify. It does not specify the purposes to which the property shall be devoted, or order its immediate disposal, but leaves it in the hands of the receiver until otherwise ordered, and provides for a report from a master in chancery upon the best method of distributing this fund in accordance with the decree of the court. The ground upon which Justices Harlan, Gray, Brewer and Brown dissent, concerns the power of the court to order any disposition of this property in accordance with the terms of the decree. The decree provides that the property shall be devoted to such lawful purposes, charitable in their character, as may mostly nearly correspond to those for which it was originally intended. Just here is one difficulty, it being urged that the purposes for which

this property was intended were unlawful, because it was principally designed for the support of a corporation which encouraged and supported polygamy, and therefore there exist no lawful purposes like those for which it was gathered. Technically this objection may be sound enough, although less real practically, for a large part of the Mormon church income went to purposes for which lawful analogies can be found. The church supported schools and religious observances, and cared for its poor and infirm; and it would not require a great stretch of analogy to decide that higher institutions of learning and hospitals would nearly correspond to some of the purposes for which this property was intended.

"The dissenting judges appear to doubt the power of the court to dispose of the property. It is properly a judicial act to determine the constitutionality of a law, to confirm or overthrow the interpretation given a law by a lower court, and to approve or disapprove the condemnation of property real or personal; but may it go farther and order the disposition of this property without encroaching upon the legislative function which belongs to Congress? The point is both interesting and important, and the close division of the court upon it shows its delicate character. It is a difficult matter to determine the limit to which the court may go in enforcing its interpretation of the intent of the law; but, aside from that question, this disposition of the Mormon wealth will secure the benefit of its use to the people of Utah from whom it was drawn."

**UTAH COUNTY "LIBERALS."**

POLITICS are growing warm in Provo. A half dozen officer-made "Liberals" are still shivering round the old standard of hate, but those whose better intelligence is not stultified by their old inconsistencies, and who are not committed by years of perpetual raving to a policy of eternal bitterness, are seizing upon the new issues and cordially falling in with the progressive changes that are taking place all over the territory.

A meeting of the Utah county "Liberal" committee was called there on Friday. It is reported that only a minority was present. It is significant that the members enjoying the "emoluments of office" were the moving force on that occasion. They had most of the declaiming to do, and carried the burthen of the enthusiasm. The apostate orators could not be switched from the regular programme of anti-"Mormon" abuse, but the other side of the house devoted its attention to Messrs. Saxey, Eldredge and others whose progressive and aggressive ideas are breaking up the old camp.

From all that we can learn we judge that the Utah county contingent of the Powers-Goodwin combine will expire with the terms of the present "Liberal" office holders of that section, and what they may resolve on behalf of the perpetuation of "Liberalism" will make very little difference to the present issues or their outcome. The average salary politician dies hard, but when strangulation fails to choke him off decapitation will fix him.