

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE
DESERET NEWS COMPANY.

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WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 16, 1885

A WIRE-WORKER AT WASHINGTON.

Who is it that wants to go to Washington this winter, to wirework for the Utah conspirators? The begging box is being prepared for circulation and an assessment is to be made on the "truly loil" to pay expenses. Woe be to the hardy "Gentile" who refuses to dough over when called upon. He will be spotted for a "Jack Mormon" and may expect the organ of the blackmailers to turn loose on him at the first opportunity. The warning is sounded; money will be wanted. Some member of the ring is figuring for a winter in Washington with all the accessories, and expects the where-withal to be provided. He is to beg for more legislation. The favorite measure is a Legislative Commission, so that the conspirators may get some of their number on the Board and that the rest of them may get some of the local offices. If this cannot be secured the next best thing in the interest of the plotters is to be worked for. Anything that will play into their hands will be acceptable. Get your money ready, slaves of the ring! The word has gone out from the paper that holds the lash. Down with the dust or be blackguarded into submission. The flat has gone forth; a "capable and vigilant" conspirator is to be sent whether the President pitches into the "Mormons" or not in his message to Congress. The funds must be forthcoming.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE IT MAKES.

We suppose there is not a man or woman in Utah at all familiar with the Hopt case who doubts that the thrice condemned man is guilty of wilful murder. Yet the sentence of the law, thrice pronounced, has never been carried into execution. And why? Through the blunders of Courts and Prosecuting Attorneys. And is there not something else? Hopt is a Gentile, and he murdered a "Mormon." If the conditions had been reversed, is it likely that the culprit would have escaped the executioner? Again, the assassin so many times convicted on unmistakable evidence, is granted a new appeal. Judge Zane certifies that there is probable cause for the appeal and grants a stay of proceedings. It is quite possible that the case will go up again to the Supreme Court of the United States. But would Judge Zane do anything to give Angus M. Cannon, convicted of unlawful cohabitation with his wives, in opposition to the evidence, and in opposition to some of that Judge's own rulings, an opportunity to have his case tested on appeal to the court of last resort? Not at all. Mr. Cannon is a "Mormon," that makes a great difference. He is not a murderer—that is another. His case has been taken before the Supreme Court, not because Judge Zane did anything to help bring the questions involved in the case to a competent test, but in spite of his refusal to do so. A man who is charged with living with his wives appears to be, in the Judge's eyes, so much more of a criminal than an off-convicted murderer, that he should have no chance to test the questions of law that arose at his trial. What a difference it makes, who's who and what's what!

THE ALLEGED "CONSPIRACY."

The Grand Jury of the Third Judicial District, packed under the open venire process, has presented a report, in connection with six indictments under the Territorial laws, which will be found in another part of this paper. The object of the report is evidently to counteract the prosecutions for lewd and bestial conduct, instituted against a number of individuals, some of them officials who have been prominent in the "moral" crusade against the "Mormons." There is a great deal of comment and general assertion in the report, intended clearly for effect in the direction indicated; but boiled down to matter of fact it amounts to this:

The grand jury alleges that the information before that body shows that one individual, not a policeman, by the by, has entered into a conspiracy with

two loose women to obtain evidence against prominent individuals who might be induced to visit houses of assignation, established by those women for lewd purposes. It is not charged in the report that the "city officer not connected with the police" was engaged in establishing the houses of ill fame, but that "houses were rented and furnished for that purpose," leaving any inference that people might draw from the connection. It is further stated that the police, with two exceptions, engaged in detective work to see and obtain positive evidence against those who might frequent those houses for lascivious purposes, and that those women issued notes of invitation to prominent officials and citizens for the purpose of "entrapping" them.

The Mayor and all the city officials, with this single exception, are exonerated by the grand jury from any part in the alleged conspiracy. The police performed their detective work when "off duty." All persons against whom any evidence was procurable have been indicted, and they consist of the two women who established and kept the houses, and one "city officer not connected with the police."

This, then, is the sum and substance of the "conspiracy" which has been openly charged against the municipal officers and the "Mormon" Church in the Salt Lake Tribune, the organ of the prostitutes and apologist for lechery, as "one of the common vices of humanity," and which the dispatch fiend attached to its curious staff has sent over the wires to deceive and prejudice the public. There has been no evidence before the grand jury, according to the report, to implicate either the municipal officers or the Church in any way in this so-called conspiracy. And yet that apologist for prostitution, the Tribune, repeats its libels to-day and editorially assumes that the report presents "one phase of the workings of the Mormon Church," proceeding to make its usual venomous remarks on that hypothesis. That is the paper that argued in favor of prostitution as a means of rescuing young "Mormons" from the bondage of the Church and enabling them to "struggle upwards" into the "liberty" of whoredom and moral infamy.

When this case comes to trial it will be seen how much evidence really exists to justify the charge of "conspiracy." The report of the grand jury establishes nothing of the kind. The question now is, how far this movement will accomplish the end in view, that is, to cripple the prosecution of the male prostitutes, who were so "entrapped" into houses of ill-fame as to commit acts of bestiality, that it is no wonder they and their friends are desperately anxious to keep from public knowledge?

We say, let the prosecutions go on, in spite of all these schemes to prevent them and the apparent odds in favor of the lechers. Let the community know what kind of "gentlemen" they are, who have been engaged to work up cases against the "Mormons" and aid in the conspiracy to destroy homes and plunge worthy and peaceful families into sorrow and ruin.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S MESSAGE.

The President's message to Congress is voluminous, but full of interest to those who pay much attention to public affairs. Although it has occupied so many columns in the DESERET NEWS it was not telegraphed in full, the latter part being somewhat condensed, to the relief no doubt of many of our readers. The report, however, is a good one and nothing appears to have been omitted which is necessary to an understanding of the President's recommendations. That part of the message which is of the greatest interest to the people in this region is, of course, the paragraph on Utah.

Reading it carefully, we do not discover in it anything calculated to cheer the hearts of the rabid clique of conspirators who are waiting like hungry wolves to prey upon this Territory. The President approves of the enforcement of the law for the suppression of polygamy, and is ready to approve of "further discreet legislation" for the same purpose. That is the substance of the message on the Utah question. The rest of the paragraph simply refers to the action of the Courts, the report of the Commissioners, and a homily on the subject of marriage and the family. Under existing circumstances the message is milder on this subject than we anticipated.

The election of men to local offices who are in sympathy with the large majority of voters, is referred to in the shape in which the matter was presented by the Utah Commissioners. But, in fact, it is one of the most natural things in the world. Is it to be expected that the People's Party of Utah will put into office men who are opposed to them and their interests? It is well known that most of the people of Utah hold the same opinion as to the rightfulness of plural marriage. Those who practice that principle have no votes. But those who hold the suffrage have their views and faith, to which they are entitled, and it would be the most height of inconsistency for them

to elect to office persons who are enemies to their cause and hostile to all that they hold sacred. They do as other people do, all over the country, who are in possession of their senses; they vote for their friends and not for their foes.

But this is not done out of any disrespect to any law, local or national. It is done to maintain what little remnant of a republican form of government is left to them by the anti-American policy pursued toward the Territories. It would be well enough for President Cleveland and all who consider this matter, to remember that there is nothing in the Constitution or laws of the United States, or in good public policy, which forbids any voter from believing what seems right to him, or of exercising the elective franchise in accordance with that belief. A man who votes in contradiction to his faith is either an idiot or a hypocrite.

We fully agree with President Cleveland that, "The strength, perpetuity and destiny of the nation rest upon our homes established by the law of God, guarded by parental care, regulated by parental authority, sanctified by parental love." But we know better than he when he assumes that, "These are not the homes of polygamy," if he means by that the marriage system of the Latter-day Saints in Utah. We are certain that of this system and its workings he knows next to nothing. His information depends upon reports made by persons as uninformed as himself on the subject, or the misrepresentations of interested persons. All the staple arguments against "polygamy" are framed in reference to Asiatic polygamy, and they do not bear on the subject. The homes we are and have been establishing are just such as he prescribes and praises. And they have been "established by the law of God." We are pleased to see the President recognizing God in this matter. It is "God's holy ordinance" revealed to us that we are endeavoring to live by. It cannot be shown that this Divine law and ordinance is contrary to that revealed in the Book which is said to be the word of God.

The President knows nothing about the mothers of our children or he would not class them as "crushed" or "unwomanly." If he could see them as they were before this family-wrecking raid was inaugurated, with their happy, laughing children in their homes, rejoicing in all that is pleasant in family life, and know of the liberty they enjoyed socially, religiously and politically, and learn what kind of women they are, he would change his mind about the "crushed" and have to acknowledge that no women in the world are more womanly. They do not aspire to "rule the nation," although they have the ballot equally with men, and seeing that the mothers, to whom the President alludes, have no vote in either national or local affairs, it seems rather a stretch of eulogy to say they "rule the nation." He is also mistaken in his remarks about the fathers of polygamous families not having "a stake in the country." If a man with one family has as take in the country, he who has two families and two homes has two stakes in the country and so on in proportion. The President's whole dissertation on this subject is founded on a misapprehension of it. For there is nothing in the marriage system of the Latter-day Saints which is opposed to anything of value in the institutions of this country, but on the contrary that system will strengthen, support, enlarge and help to perpetuate everything that the nation enjoys, under the Constitution which was given by inspiration from the same God that revealed the holy law and ordinance of celestial marriage.

"The firm but just execution of the laws" is to be expected of the Executive. That is what he is sworn to see effected. But it will yet be known that this is far from what has been the practice in Utah. The laws are being wrested from their plain signification. They are interpreted in favor of the lecherous and debauched. They are used so as to be virtual persecution instead of just prosecution. The breaking up of happy homes, the inauguration of a reign of terror by hired spotters, spies and informers, the forcible searches and seizures to which quiet and respectable people have been subjected, the hauling of women and children before packed juries and prejudiced courts, and the forced revelation from mothers and daughters, under pain of imprisonment, of the private and domestic acts of husbands and fathers, with other most despicable acts too numerous to detail, are not a just execution of the laws. And no "discreet legislation" will impart further power to the partial and unjust officials who, while hounding men for living with their wives, use all the power of their positions to deliver the bestial, lewd and depraved from exposure and punishment.

There are other portions of the message which have a bearing upon the interests of this Territory. One of these is the recommendation to abolish the fee system for United States Marshals and District Attorneys. Every person who knows how the fee business has been manipulated in the schemes by which the persecution of the "Mormons" have been made the means of enriching grasping officials, will approve of fixing the compensation of those officers by salary alone. If some method could be adopted of extending the principle, so

that neither courts nor their officers could profit by that undue zeal which is stimulated by the prospect of fees, justice would have a fairer opportunity and the people of Utah, if no others, would be greatly benefited.

The recommendation to suspend the coinage of silver will have a dampening effect upon one of the great industries of the country and will be felt more in the West than anywhere else, if it should be followed by corresponding legislation. The President treats the subject of bi-metalism at great length but from the standpoint of the gold kings alone. It is quite likely that Congress will take action on this matter unfavorably to the silver interest.

The naturalization question is judiciously handled, and it is to be hoped that Congress will consider it in the spirit of the suggestions, so that there may be a spirit of uniformity between national and local regulations, also that provision may be made by which American citizens removing to other countries may have the same privileges as foreigners settling in the United States.

The outrages against the Chinese are very properly denounced, but the President favors the policy of excluding those cheap-working heathens from competition with the laboring men of this country. This will be generally satisfactory to the people of the West.

The rights of American citizens abroad are touched upon and might have occupied more attention in this important message, for it is a matter of great importance to those whose business requires occasional lengthy visits to European countries.

The views of the President in regard to the Postal Department, the reduction of the fee for postal orders to five cents, and maintenance of its agencies for the public benefit even if its expenses may exceed its income, are such as will meet with general approbation.

The message touches upon too great a variety of subjects to receive comment in one article. Suffice it to say, that it is an able, though rather verbose State paper, and bears the impress of several hands in its production. It might have been more terse and simple in its composition with advantage to the general reader, but the document shows that the new Administration has well considered the general interests of this great country, and is anxious to promote its welfare, and also to gain the approval of as many voters of all parties as may be won to its support.

THE MUNICIPAL INVESTIGATION.

The City Council has done a proper thing in its labor of investigation into the rumors which have been so manipulated, by the Governor of this Territory and others, as to give reason for the forwarding of additional troops to this city, and to deceive the country into the belief that a "Mormon" rebellion has been inaugurated. Ample opportunity has been afforded to all who have started those rumors to give any information they may have or have claimed to possess.

Not a fact, tending to show that there has been any cause whatever for the stories that have been sent to Washington and the country generally, has been elicited. There has been no sign of any riot, popular disturbance or outbreak of any kind. Simply, advantage has been taken of an affray that might have occurred in any other part of the country without causing anything more than passing comment, to deceive the Government and the public into further prejudice against the "Mormons." Falsehood has been freely resorted to in this shameful work, and if there is any justice left in the land its effects will rebound on the heads of those who have wilfully maligned the people here and hoodwinked the President.

The Tribune of this city published the report that "armed men" had entered the city from the South; that nine armed men "in couples" were seen by "several people;" "part of them on horseback, all of them travel-stained, and the horses presented a jaded appearance;" that "a body of armed Mormons had arranged to visit the Penitentiary, take deputy Collin out and murder him." Yet when the reporter was questioned about these rumors he said he had heard of them, but knew nothing himself, and did not think them important enough to publish them.

Governor Murray and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Varian aided in spreading these absurd rumors by going to Fort Douglas and deceiving Gen. McCook into the notion that military help was needed, and induced him to give color to the deception by sending troops to take the deputy from the Pen to the Fort. Commissioner McKay joined in the scheme to spread these reports. But none of them has a word to say now when proofs are wanted. Varian referred to Mr. Van Horn as his authority for some of the statements; Van Horn declares that the man who said he had made such assertions is "a liar." Varian's authority for the claim that a rope was had, ready to hang Collin, affirms that he never saw any rope nor said he had seen one in that connection. Every assertion made to stir up this excitement turns out to be a falsehood, and the villains who started it when pressed to the proof are driven into a corner and stand convicted of lying.

The result of the investigations of the City Council will do but little good by merely appearing in the local newspapers. It should be forwarded to the President of the United States and made at least as public as the libel. And the world as well as the people of Utah ought to be made acquainted with the character of the official and other deceivers, who make and circulate the sensational stories that do and have done so much to retard the progress and damage the material interests of the Territory, as well as to fan the flames of passion and prejudice against the majority of its people.

MORE HELP FOR THE DEBAUCHEES.

ANOTHER extinguisher is to be put on the efforts of the local authorities to punish the lewd and lascivious persons who resort to houses of ill-fame. It was expected that the new proceedings under the Territorial statute would be treated if possible in the same way as the prosecution under the municipal ordinance, though other tactics would have to be invented. Any twisting of words or strained application of sentences will do to shield the depraved and licentious, particularly if the parties charged with crime are highly-scented Federal officials.

"Resorting to a house of prostitution for lewdness" is to be made out no crime. We were aware that a great many shorting denouncers of plural marriage, are of that opinion, if their actions are any guide, but did not expect that the idea would be acknowledged in so bare-faced a manner. This determined opposition to the local authorities in their endeavors to punish the numerous violators of law and decency, shows how much sincerity there is in the howls against polygamy which are daily emitted from the throats of those who are helping the male prostitutes to cover up their crimes.

The plea has not yet been made that any of the accused are innocent, except that the poor, tender creatures were "entrapped" by those wicked women into their vile houses and filthy proceedings, but all that has been done in their aid has been to cover a sheet over the proofs of their abominations. It is well known that those proofs are such as cannot be turned aside by any kind of rebuttal, and that is why these technical obstructions are placed in the way of justice. The record of these attempts to screen the debauchees will make a dark and shameful page in the blotted history of judicial proceedings in Utah.

VANDERBILT DEAD.

The telegraph brings the information that Wm. H. Vanderbilt, the colossal millionaire, died suddenly at half-past two o'clock this afternoon, at his residence in New York. The fact was kept from the public, perhaps through fear of a panic in stocks, but it seems to have leaked out shortly after its occurrence and got to the Associated Press reporter in time for our issue of to-day.

Wm. H. Vanderbilt was the wealthiest man in the world, his estimated possessions surpassing those of any one member of the Rothschilds family. It is popularly supposed that his wealth went up quite closely to a quarter of a billion, and it is known that it will not fall more than a hundred millions short of that figure. His life was not distinguished by one great or unselfish act of generosity or charity, and if his money counts anything to his advantage in the land to which he has gone, we have no objections to offer.

The king of all the hosts of Mammon yesterday; to-day poorer than the lowliest among the overworked army from whose hard hands he wrung his wealth and to whom he grudgingly gave enough in compensation to keep body and soul together. Not one of them now so poor as to do him reverence.

LOCAL NEWS.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, DEC. 11

Grand Larceny.—Henry Kellow was arrested to-day, on a charge of grand larceny, the complaint setting forth that the accused stole two horses, each of the value of \$100, from Daniel T. and Charlotte Smith. He was taken before Commissioner McKay, and his bail fixed at \$1,000.

Lorenzo Snow Arraigned.—In the First District Court, at Ogden, yesterday, before Judge Powers, Apostle Lorenzo Snow, was arraigned on three indictments, charging him with unlawful cohabitation with his wives, the three years prior to the finding of the indictments being divided into three periods by the "segregating" process adopted by the "highly moral" grand juries now empaneled in the District Courts. The defendant was not represented by attorney, and was allowed until Monday to enter his plea.

Apostle Snow is now in the seventy-second year of his age.

Burglary in the Sixteenth Ward.—Between the hours of 12 and 1 yes-