

hope of preventing for a short season at least their wives from being made widows and their children fatherless.

There is great danger that the sanguinary incident referred to will lead to a bloody war. Those who are fleeing for their lives are doubtless driven to desperation. They may resolve to sell their lives as dearly as possible, and thus, by one step succeeding another, many scenes of bloodshed may be enacted.

### LATTER-DAY IGNORANCE AND BRUTALITY.

In spite of the boasts that are made of the progress of civilization and the spread of liberal and Christian sentiment in the world, bigotry and intolerance still hold great sway, and the spirit that kindled the martyr's fire, that crucified Christ, and that tortured and killed the prophets of old, fills the hearts of men with bitterness and murder today, against those whose faith runs counter to their own.

Whatever excuses may have been made or reasons alleged for the mobbing and driving of the Latter-day Saints, the assassination of their leading ministers and the persecutions against the Elders and members of the Church, religious intolerance and sectarian hatred were the moving causes of the hellish acts that disgrace the present century.

The outrage perpetrated in Howe's Valley, Hardin County, Kentucky, referred to in another column, is but one of the outbursts of this Satanic spirit by which professedly "Christian" people permit themselves to be actuated. In all the deeds of violence perpetrated in the South upon the Latter-day Saints, there has never been anything that could be truthfully urged in justification of those shameful attacks upon peaceable citizens. They have been purely evil, unlawful and anti-Christian.

The responsibility for them rests not only upon the individuals who perpetrated them, but upon those who, by falsehood and misrepresentation, aroused the worst passions of the human heart against innocent and God-fearing men and women. The preachers of different churches, the editors of several papers, and the officials of the States and localities where the violence has occurred, will have to meet their share of the responsibility before the bar of eternal justice. They who instigated these crimes, and they who failed to bring the

guilty persons to justice, will find themselves arraigned together and will have to suffer the penalty for their wrong-doing.

If people who believe in Christ may not be baptized in His name and observe those ordinances and commandments which He instituted, without being subjected, in this land of alleged civil and religious liberty, to the stripes and cruelties endured by our friends in Kentucky, the guaranties of freedom that are supposed to be inalienable are nothing but a snare, and we are not living in a land or an age of free thought and liberty of conscience.

We sympathize with our friends who have thus been maltreated for the truth's sake, and deeply deplore the ignorance, brutality and anti-Christian conduct of people who pretend to be Christians and Americans.

### A TEST OF STABILITY.

ANYTHING that relates to the "Mormons," that is if it is or appears to be unfavorable, seems to make an impression on the minds of newspaper men, and if it be ever so unimportant it is caught up and handed around and copied from paper to paper, till the whole country has an opportunity of seeing or hearing of it.

We noticed, some time ago, the comments that were being made over a story about some Pennsylvania "Mormons," who had returned to that State from Utah, "disgusted with their experience." The story is still going the rounds, with various remarks. Fifteen persons are said to have returned to the Cumberland Valley, and it appears that their chief, if not only complaint, was that they did not succeed so well, temporally as they expected to do. It is stated that they lived "in a canyon where the sun scarcely ever penetrated," and if so there is no wonder their farming operations were not very profitable.

Of course it is alleged that they were "induced" to come to Utah by highly colored inducements from "Mormon" Elders, who promised them an easy life and land without limit; all of which is entirely erroneous, for "Mormon" missionaries simply preach the gospel of Christ including the gathering of the Saints, and have no worldly inducements of any kind to offer to converts.

It seems to us that reflecting people ought to be able to see, that

among the numbers of people who come to these mountains from the Eastern States and from the Old World, there are sure to be some who will be dissatisfied and regret the change, and who will desire to retrace their steps. It takes considerable independence of character and stability of purpose to meet successfully the novel experiences, new difficulties and unexpected trials, attending such a change of life and locality as is involved in starting a new home in these mountain valleys, and every colonizer its not equal to it. The wonder should be that so few become dissatisfied.

The return of an occasional family from Utah to their former place of residence has no bearing upon the question of the truth or error of "Mormonism." It merely stands as a test of the individuals, their proclivities, their stability, their adaptability to new conditions or their lack of vim, endurance and enterprise.

The Bridgeport, Conn., *Standard* refers to this subject and makes some sensible remarks connected with it, from which we take the following:

"After all, these men have only experienced, in a greater or less degree, what thousands of others have gone through with who have left the hills of old New England, not at the call of a 'later day saint,' but for the pursuit of an *ignis fatuus* which promised less work, more riches and, in short a bettered condition generally. Thousands of these adventurers have died in the struggle to work out their fortunes, and other thousands have managed to live along somehow, or have gone home disgusted with the craze for new adventures. At the same time, we must not forget that the bone and sinew of western enterprise and accomplishment has been of eastern origin. But not all who have gone West to grow up with the country, have ever 'caught on' long enough to be elevated even temporarily above their old and habitual surroundings.

"A lazy man is not made capable and active by transplanting to a country where, it is alleged, that more of the necessities of life can be produced with less labor than at home. If he goes at all, it is for the less labor, and the access of results may take care of itself.

"Probably the Pennsylvania converts to Mormonism were caught by the stories of big crops and little work, and found that the distance between the State which they left and the new land of their adoption had not abrogated the divine fiat which makes labor and the 'sweat of the brow' the price of average human progress and success. They know better now."

### COOK'S INCONSISTENCY.

THE Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston, one of the most pronounced egotists of the century, has, since leaving here, opened his mud and