

# **EVENING NEWS.** *Published Daily, Sunday Excepted, AT FOUR O'CLOCK.*

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 CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

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## **OF INTEREST TO TAXPAYERS.**

We are of the opinion that before our "Gentile" friends get through with special legislation against the "Mormons," they will be pretty sick of their support of, or tacit acquiescence in the schemes of the conspirators, who have done more to damage Utah than would be effected by a financial panic. If the Tucker-Edmunds bill becomes a law, and the control of the local offices passes out of "Mormon" hands, how many will be left for the "Gentiles" to vote for? They will nearly all become appalled, and the management of local financial and other affairs will be in the hands of persons not responsible to the people, either "Mormon" or "Gentile." We are as sure as we can be of that which is yet future, that the increased financial burden, which will be the consequence of denouement, and, debts, and jobs and high taxes, will cause many a sigh for the days of the simple "Mormon" regime with its light taxes and honest administration of public affairs.

And if the howl that the local agitators have set up about "Mormon disloyalty," is not appropriating money to pay an alleged debt to the Government which is not legally due, results in the passage of the Cullum bill, recently introduced in the Senate, will not our "Gentile" friends, who have any state in the country, bless (?) the impetuous adventurers who have caused them to be saddled with a debt of about \$300,000, to be paid in taxes levied and collected by, to them, irresponsible parties, within a period not to exceed four years? This will be in addition to the taxes levied and those that will become heavier each year, as sure as anti-"Mormon" schemers levy and collect the territorial revenue.

The plottings of the villains who have been sustained by the donation or silent consent of respectable "Gentiles" in Utah, have succeeded in getting a great deal more than their projects anticipated in the way of proposed legislation. And their hopes have been founded upon the "Mormon" question. They knew that congressmen will vote for extreme measures against the "Mormons," not because they consider them just, but because they are afraid that if they vote against them they will be accused of being favorable to "Mormonism," either for money or a leaning to "Mormon" principles.

But this same prejudice and cowardice are as likely to prevail in the passage of a stupid bill like Cullum's, which the Gentiles here do not want, as any measure that is like what they do want. And this is the reason why the "Mormon" question is so easily acquiesced in plots to oppress the "Mormons" will be likely to get something that they will make equal before they get through, a great deal louder than the thought of scheming and plotting. We have said and proved on several occasions that the alleged debt due to the Government, which the late Governor seemed so anxious to have repaid up this Territory, was not justly or legally owing by our citizens. The following, which is taken from a document on the necessity of a special session of the Utah Legislature, ably prepared by Hon. Joseph A. West, while in Washington, elucidates the matter of this alleged indebtedness so clearly and in such detail that we give place to it here, in preference to remarks of our own, for the edification of all who pay taxes and otherwise have a real interest in the question:

On the 23rd of June, 1874, Congress passed what is known as the Poland bill, doing away with territorial territorial officers having in charge the criminal prosecutions arising under territorial laws, and transferring this business and authority to the officers of the general government. This law also provided that the expenses of all those prosecutions should be chargeable to the Territory, and that the officers who took the places of territorial officers, elected by the people should be paid according to the United States fee bill, which in many instances would double the compensation allowed under the fee bill of the Territory. In addition to the increase of expenditure incident to this change, the appropriation for the highest courts, by a judicial proceeding, which do not include the cost of polygamy or other prosecution under the laws of Congress, have been nearly quadrupled in the last ten years, and yet the United States officials in the Territory have been charged with the general government enormous. Examine the following statements showing first, the amounts annually appropriated by the Territorial Legislature, and second, the amounts paid by the U. S. while it is claimed, are still properly chargeable against the Territory.

sion of 1875, total appropriation for 1875 and 1877.....	\$19,111.75
sion for 1876, total appropriation for 1876 and 1879.....	14,000.00
sion of 1880, total appropriation for 1880 and 1881.....	20,000.00
sion of 1882, total appropriation for 1882 and 1883.....	20,637.75
sion of 1884, total appropriation for 1884 and 1885.....	55,549.92
sion of 1886, total appropriation for 1886 and 1887.....	70,896.74
	\$229,115.50