

of the future. Day after to-morrow the Republic will be 81 years old. We have no confidence in an opinion which pretends to have ascertained that the coming 80 years will pass more harmoniously than those now notched in the staff of time. There are young elements throughout the land, which are commencing to kick riotously and to disturb away down at the base of our National arrangement. The American united governments are losing their cohesiveness, and the central magnet is giving away the grandeur of its power. There must be confusion, there must be strife of words, conflict of opinion and outrage. Our politics and our intolerant sectionalism are the nearest kindred of universal anarchy and rebellion; we cannot marry their family ties away, or subdue their brutish animism, but by resorting to those liberal forces which have sustained the Federal Commonwealth until this period. The free effect of general prosperity and a fondness for the fruits of industry are stronger than the Government, and while they exist, there is a sure protection against extensive violence, but the restraints now placed upon fanatical feeling merely calm it a little.

The recent collision between the General Government and State authorities in Ohio is no more than a renewal, in another shape and quarter, of the Kansas difficulties, a series of devilish troubles, which agitation breeds and treason, disguised as a religious hermit, rears and schools for employment in scenes of confusion and outrage. There will be other collisions like the one in Ohio.

The election riot at the Capital was only one monster escaping from the cage of party; others like it will break out, and ghastly and red with human blood, spread terror where they run.—[Sacramento Age, July 4.]

The Sacramento Age has turned over an entire new leaf in the journalism of the day, and there is more real guiding truth to be found in one of its numbers, than there is in a year's volume of the New York Herald, New York Tribune and all that class so fond of vilifying the 'Mormons' and advocating extermination for religious belief, and the English colonial dragooning of officers upon American citizens contrary to the consent of the governed, which if persisted in will desolate with civil war the length and breadth of our country and place the Union in the history of the past.

**NOBLE SENTIMENT.**—Condemn no man for not thinking as you think. Let every one enjoy the full and free liberty of thinking for himself. Let every man use his own judgment, since every man must give an account of himself to God. Abhor every approach, in any kind of degree, to the spirit of persecution.—If you cannot reason, or persuade a man into the truth, never attempt to force him into it. If love will not compel him to come, leave him to God, the Judge of all.—[John Wesley.]

How do the Methodists in the United States reconcile the above wise and just counsel of their founder, with their own unhalloved persecution of the Saints in Utah? Verily has the worth and glory of Methodism departed! And most deeply would its founder deplore the abominable hypocrisy and oppression practiced by his followers.

**FIRE** destroyed the New York Lunatic Asylum in Utica, July 14; damage to the building, \$200,000.

**DIVORCES.**—Forty-two applications for divorce were before the last session of the Court in Worcester, Mass.

[Progress of civilization.]

## CORRESPONDENCE.

LONDON, June 24, 1857.

**BROTHER CARRINGTON.**—I write from London, the great city of the Gentiles, where vessels, laden with merchandise from all parts of the globe, pour in their stores of wealth. Here may be seen a perfect view of the wisdom and the folly, the wealth and the poverty, the virtue and the vice, the beauty and the deformity of the Gentiles of the last days. Alas! their wisdom is of this world, their wealth is that which will soon pass away, their virtue is but a sham and their beauty is but 'skin deep.'

When I look around me and think upon my mountain home, I exclaim, what a contrast! Here are noise, filth, darkness, tainted air, corruption, prostitution, priestcraft, contention, theft, murder, suicide, chains, disease and death; while at home, peace prevails in the habitations of Zion, and while the crimes and pollutions of proud Babylon are known only by the name, God's Priesthood spread the light of truth, to make glad the hearts of the people.

I suppose a little news from this far off land will be interesting to you, so I will endeavor to give you a little idea of things as they are.

The people have just recovered from the effects of a great fright! On the 13th June a comet was to have made its appearance and, falling to log-headers with old mother earth, was to have knocked her upside down, turned her inside out, and burned her to 'no-think' as the cockneys would say. The hearts of many 'failed them for fear', but the day has passed and the fear has gone with it. The star-gazers have made another blunder.

There has been a general election here. England got into a row with China; some of the members of Parliament not approving of it, censured Lord Palmerston, the Prime Minister. Parliament was dissolved, and Lord P. appealed to the

nation. A general election was the result, and as the people approved of Lord P's measures, the members returned were those favorable to him. Through this, several old and influential members have lost their seats. Of course they feel rather uneasy, having been used to sitting so long.

One of the subjects which are troubling their learned heads at present, is divorce. Cases of brutality of husbands to their wives (and often visa versa) happen so frequently and adultery is so common that they are in a fix. To obtain a divorce under the present law, costs several thousand pounds, and takes a long time to effect it. Thus a poor man, if his wife is ever so great an adulteress or drunkard, or a poor woman, if her husband is ever so worthless, abandoned and brutal, can gain no permanent redress.

Well, some sensible men want to put it in the power of the poor to obtain a divorce and to make the woman a possessor of property as well as the man, for in England a woman married can claim nothing but her wedding ring and a garment to cover her. They have been puzzling over it for some time and don't know what to do with it. They will have to come to Zion for wisdom, yet!

Science is progressing. The chemists have demonstrated that the sea contains in solution two million tons of silver. And a further discovery has been made, that old ocean contains also a large quantity of copper. A Frenchman, M. Elie de Beaumont, announces that he has discovered a means of reproducing animal life, a complete plan of navigating the air, a project for a universal language and the infallible cure for cholera!

They have not yet learned how to quench the violence of fire. During last year, 957 fires occurred in London alone. A great fire broke out a few days ago and destroyed property valued at a quarter of a million sterling.

The Princess Royal is to be married to the Prince of Prussia. She has been voted £40,000 as a dowry and her allowance is to be £8000 per annum.

London grows fast. In 1801 the population was 958,863; now it is estimated at 2,625,000. Among this vast number of people, 'Mormonism' is making a mighty stir. The Elders are preaching in the streets and the sisters are distributing tracts. A plan has been established to send a series of tracts to every house, a vast undertaking, looking at the size of the place.

The editors here are very bitter; they publish all the lies and filth they can rake together against us, but refuse to publish our refutations. We have got the plate of the Temple and a brief description of the building into the Illustrated London News, a large and popular paper.

We have here many 'anti-mormons,' who spend their time in opposing the truth; because of them and scripture readers, who 'creep into houses and lead captive silly women,' our sisters get grossly insulted and abused in their work, and the brethren have to resist a storm of opposition in their ministry. Notwithstanding this, the work goes ahead, the gospel is preached, the brethren refusing to waste their time in useless discussion, and honest hearts are found—though like angels visits few and far between—who embrace the truth and rejoice.

The Reformation is burning with a sure and steady blaze here, and many who were fast asleep have awoke, rubbed their eyes, and after being washed in the waters of regeneration, are now warning their neighbors and working for the kingdom.

The devil has been busier than for many years. I suppose he is reforming too, for he seems to have jumped up from a doze and is kicking on all sides and storming furiously; his friends, the white-throated, black-coated, long-phizog'd fraternity, are whining, snuffing and canting and vomiting the filth out of their black hearts against the 'Mormons,' but the mischief is, they don't lose any of the corruption by their beastly evasions, but get worse and worse. Ugh! they are a stink in my nostrils and an abomination in my sight.

Truly the Lord is long suffering and full of tender mercy, or he would blast them from the earth and crush them from existence. The inhabitants of Sodom in the day of judgment, will look white alongside of them.

The cruel assassination of br. Parley has caused a deep feeling of sadness to rest upon the hearts of the Saints and the cry to be raised, 'How long, oh Lord, wilt thou withhold thine hand from vengeance? When wilt thou rise in thine anger and avenge the blood of thy Prophets and thine Apostles?' But all is well. His work on the earth was mighty and his power will be great in the world of spirits to assist in the redemption of the just. The Gentiles are rejoicing. They have threatened to serve me in the same way, but I am in the hands of the Lord and the poor curses cannot harm me against his will.

I thank God that I feel the fire of Zion more than ever upon me and desire to thunder the truth and wake up the Saints, for I realize that the work is mighty and the opposition is great. But 'Mormonism' against all the world!—'Mormonism' for ever! The devil must yield, falsehood must flee, kingdoms must fall, for 'Mormonism' shall triumph and the Lord Jesus shall reign; and all his Prophets and Apostles shall be crowned with him, and his Saints shall have the glories of his kingdom, while the liar and the adulterer, the murderer and the thief and all those who fight against this glorious work shall be damned for their corruptions and their repentance shall be in hell.

Br. Orson Pratt is well; he is laboring with all his might, writing and preaching and publishing the truth.

May the God of Brigham and of Heber bless you for ever. May the lamp of the Spirit never grow dim in your heart, nor the light of the gospel in your mind; and may Zion, the pure, the free and the noble, soon become the joy of the whole earth and the dwelling place of her King, when he comes in his beauty to reward all the faithful of his people.

With these feelings, and desiring your prayers

and faith on my behalf, I remain, as ever, yours in the bonds of the Everlasting Covenant.

E. T. BENSON.

P.S. Ever since last Christmas I have been afflicted with a very bad cold and cough; it is now a little better. The best thing I have taken for it is garlic morning and evening, and I will recommend it to my friends. Take a lump as large as the end of your finger up to the first joint. E.T.B.

## Fashionable Religion.

It would be very interesting to know exactly how New York spends its Sabbaths, particularly when we remember that there are not churches enough to seat one-half the population of the metropolis, and that the places of worship which are open are with a few exceptions never more than half-filled. The Roman Catholics are very constant in their attendance at church, but the poor Protestant generally finds the temple too fine, the congregation too much impregnated with mammon worship and too splendid in attire for the proper understanding of the dispensation of Him who was meek and lowly and had no place to lay His head.

So the poor Protestant falls into loose habits on Sunday. He reads novels or sleeps, and is speedily accounted among the ungodly that are to be cast into the outer darkness where there is weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth.

The churches as well as the theatres have followed the fashionable movement up town. On all the avenues may be found religious edifices generally more able—more suggestive of the pomps and vanities of this wicked world than of the pure and holy precepts which should be inculcated within their walls. The gorgeousness of the edifice—the magnificence of the congregation—the Pecksniffian discourse of the fashionable preacher—the gems from the last improper opera are worked into sacred music for the choir—all these are the elements of religion after the modern improved style.

Fashionable religion is generally a good speculation in a pecuniary point of view. The pews are sold at auction after the fashion that Barnum disposed of the choice seats to hear Jenny Lind. Very large sums are netted in this way. Occasionally, the fashionable churches burst like other mercantile speculations.

One of the most exclusive, situated in the Fifth avenue, is now in a tight place, financially speaking. It is heavily in debt, and in danger of being sold out by the sheriff. It is a Baptist church, but the preacher is not exactly the type of Him who preached in the wilderness of Judea. His raiment is not of camel's hair, but of the finest broadcloth; his meat is something more elaborate than locusts and wild honey; the water of his Jordan comes from far away in the country, and is carefully warmed for fear that the faithful might take cold in immersion. He does not cry 'Repeat ye, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand,' but he preaches pleasant dulcet discourses, showing the whitest of hands—the most immaculate of pocket handkerchiefs—the most splendid of ambrosial curls.

He is a sweet preacher for the ladies, and thoroughly understands the dilettanism of modern Christianity. Decidedly, John the Baptist would be astonished at his Fifth avenue representative. It is to be hoped that the bulls and bears of Wall street will forget their quarrels for a while and come down handsomely for the relief of the modern John the Baptist.

It is a curious fact that the Reformation was brought about by the luxury, corruption and effeminacy which crept into the bosom of the mother church and that now those who profess Protestantism, are following in the same evil courses against which Knox, Calvin and Luther launched their thunders. In simplicity of attire, abstinent habits of life and devotion to the interests of their flocks, the Catholic clergy now stands pre-eminent. On the other hand, the representatives of the stern old Puritans, who could not bear the sight of a surplice, are turning away to all sorts of abominations.

There is no more of the solid old Cotton Mather piety left among us. There are velvet cushions, artistic music, sweet preachers, nicely worded somnolent discourses, worshippers rolled up in Russian sables and loaded with diamonds, splendid churches, where the atmosphere is redolent with perfumes, and the very light shaded with many colored tints, heavy floating debts, crushing mortgages, but not a drop of the manna of righteousness, unless a poor sinner for a moment, under fear of the mighty sexton offers up his lonely prayer in a free seat.

Such is fashionable religion in New York in these latter days. Read Christ's Sermon on the Mount, and let us have a fashionable discourse, with the thirteenth verse for a text.—[New York Herald.]

**A WORD FROM THE WORKSHOP.**—Occupying the position of people's rights defenders, and wielding a potent weapon, we call upon you to speak words that will arouse our citizens to do their duty to the community and to themselves. The primary election will soon take place; heretofore it has been controlled and conducted by demagogues, gamblers, brothel pimps, grogshops and even petty thieves who are the human cattle of 'respectable scoundrels.' They hit hard and fast on the heads and hearts of men who work at the bench and anvil, and all others who are the real producers of wealth. Tell the people to come out and select their officers themselves, and not permit the political lezaroni to ride over them any longer. What! be governed by these bummers and their masters! fellows who are a disgrace to any community—who never earn a square meal honestly, whose lodging is in a harlot's den, who have not done a day's work for two years, who would cut your throat for a ten dollar piece!—are these the men who are to control the workmen of Sacramento! to tell them who to vote for, and when to hurrah? Sirs, true American citizens will not endure this much longer.—

There is a storm brewing, and should not the better part of the community come forward and select their own servants and drive out these pestilent vermin of primary meetings, the Democratic party will be deserted by honest and good men who have all their lives honored and supported by honest and good men who have all their lives honored and supported a party whose cardinal principle is that the people shall govern.—The people do not govern here; they are themselves governed, hoodwinked and driven on the treadmill by fellows so low in the scale of decency and morality that a decent man will not be seen talking with them in the street. They cannot gain admission to a mechanic's fireside except in an official capacity. And yet these fellows are the sovereigns; they are the wire-workers that make the people dance; these are the men who nominate candidates for Democrats to vote for. Hail Columbia! Who wouldn't be a Democrat to vote under such dictation?

I am glad to hear you speak in their defense. There are many strong arms and brave hearts, that you know not of, that will defend and support you. Do your whole duty, and you will have built a monument on which the mechanics of Sacramento will inscribe 'The Guardian of the People's Rights.'—[Sacramento Age, June 20.]

SECOND WARD.

The above is applicable to the condition of politics in every State in the Union, and also to those pertaining to the General Government.

**A PARSON'S OPINION.**—Parson Brownlow, of the Knoxville Whig, has been scrutinizing the moral condition of mankind in this generation, and gives the result of his observations in the following plain, blunt language:

The Gospel is preached to the people regularly, all over the country, religious papers and magazines are circulated in families, and many valuable persons set good examples before the world, but notwithstanding all this, and more, observation teaches that rascality abounds in all classes of society.

Petty thefts are daily committed, such as robbing money drawers, stealing clothes and dry goods, chickens, ducks, corn and other vegetables. Strolling vagabonds, dealing in counterfeit money and diseased horses, are all over the country. Gamblers, traveling and local, and resident rogues, are all on the alert. Pious villains, with faces as sanctified as the moral law, are keeping false accounts and swearing to them, for the sake of gain. Whisky shops are selling by the small in violation of the liquor law, drug stores are training up drunkards in high life, and affording facilities for Sabbath drinking, which can be had nowhere else. The rich are oppressing the poor, and the poor are content to live in rags and idleness.

Dealers in produce come to town and exact two prices for all they have to sell, and the owners of real estate in towns are asking double rents, to the injury of business and the growth of towns. Banks and corporations, intended for the public good, have their favorites, and are partial in the distribution of favors. Families persecute and envy each other. Individuals slander their betters. Persons of low origin put on airs, and falsely pretend to be more than they are.

Cheatings and misrepresentations are the order of the day generally. In politics there is very little patriotism or love of country, while demagogues seek to mislead and build up their fortunes at the hazard of ruining the country.

In religion there is more hypocrisy than grace, and the biggest scoundrels living crowd into the church with a view to cloak their rascally designs and more effectually serve the devil!

In a word, rascality abounds in all classes, and in all countries. The devil is stalking abroad in open daylight, without the precaution to dress himself. And if the present generation of men could see themselves in the Gospel glass, they are as black as hell.

**METHODISM WORSE THAN CHOLERA.**—During the last cholera season, a newly caught Dutchman made his advent in the city of New Orleans, and set forth in quest of a boarding house. He inquired at the first one he saw if they had the cholera in the house; the reply was 'Yes,' and Dutchy moved his boots. He asked the same question, and received the same answer, at three or four others. Finally he found a landlord who assured him he had no cholera in the house; and there the Dutchman concluded to 'tarry awhile.' The landlord was a pious man, and always had family worship before separating for the night. According to the custom, therefore, the family assembled for prayer. During the progress of the exercise, the 'paterfamilias' groaned, and up popped Dutchy with—

'O Lor! vat ish ter matter!'

'Nothing,' says mine host, and the reading of the Scriptures went on. In a short time, however, the landlord groaned again, and again Dutchy started up with his eyes like saucers; saying—

'Oh mine Gott! dere is someding de matter mit you!'

'No,' said the landlord, adding, by way of quieting the Dutchman, 'I'm a Methodist, and it's a habit of the members of that church to groan during religious exercises.'

Up jumped Dutchy, hat and baggage, and scudded along the street, at a pace that would shame a 2:40 racer. Seeing a physician's sign, he called a halt, and called the doctor to run quick to No. —.

'What is the matter there,' said the doctor, 'have they got the cholera?'

'No, but mine Gott and Himmelf, dey has got der mettdodis—more worse as der golera, and der landlord will die mit it before you kits dare, if you don't run fast.'

WHOEVER is afraid of submitting a question, civil or religious, to the test of free discussion, is more in love with his opinion than truth.