

Anyhow we are of the firm opinion that the "Mormons" of Idaho will let all political parties most severely alone, and will not swell the number of ballots at the first State election.

CLERICAL HYPOCRISY REBUKED.

MR. C. H. SPURGEON, the famous pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, in a recent number of his paper, *The Sword and the Trowel*, lifts up his voice and weeps over the corruption of the "Christian" clergy of our age. He says that clergymen no longer consider themselves bound to preach what they honestly believe, but they accept a position as preachers in any church, only for the sake of the salary. Once sure of the position, they ridicule the old-fashioned beliefs, first privately, then openly. And this is being done with impunity. The following is an extract from Mr. Spurgeon's article.

"Time was when good men would sooner have died than compromise themselves by seeming to profess faith in what they hold to be error; but this is now held to be morbid scrupulousness. It would not astonish us to see professing Christians officiating in Mohammedan mosques if the Moslems would permit them and find them a salary. Yet, if a preacher finds himself able to subscribe to a creed in which he has no faith he is a villain."

Mr. Spurgeon is as bold as he is right in trying to grapple with the monster of villainy that sucks the heart's blood of the "Christian" world through its hired priests. But he will not accomplish anything. Soren Kjerkegaard tried it many years ago, but accomplished nothing. Others have also failed. But it is certainly pleasant to see a clergyman of Mr. Spurgeon's eminence honest enough to acknowledge the hypocrisy and villainy of so many of his ministerial brethren. And it would be still more pleasant to learn that the reverend gentleman were sufficiently honest himself to leave his present position among villans and enter a society of honest men.

THE LIMITED POWERS OF CONGRESS.

IN RELATION to the "original package" bill there has been a great deal of discussion, involving the powers of Congress and the rights of States. We notice that the utterances of George Fiehnor Curtis on the subject are looked upon as having great weight, and that he is regarded by respectable journals as an

eminent constitutional authority. He says on this important matter:

"To hold that Congress can confer on the States a power that they do not now possess would be to hold that the creature can act as if it were the creator. Congress can no more confer on the States power to do something which they cannot now do than it can by legislation determine what the reserved powers of the States are. By no legislation whatever can Congress enlarge or diminish the reserved powers of the States."

This is sound doctrine, whatever ground may be taken by the advocates of centralization and what is called "a strong government." Any measure that seeks to encroach upon the powers of the States and of the people which are reserved to them by the national constitution, is revolutionary and dangerous to the popular welfare. No State or confederation of States ought to be permitted to defy or override the legitimate authority vested in the United States. But at the same time the Federal power should be confined to its constitutional limits, and checked when it seeks to entrench upon the domain of State and personal liberty.

COMMON IGNORANCE OF THE PRESS

IT seems that the simplest matters connected with Utah affairs are misunderstood by the press of this country. They never get hold of the right end of the string. The most appalling ignorance prevails in regard to "Mormon" doctrines and "Mormon" doings, in consequence of the indisposition of editors to inquire into facts, to look at both sides of the "Mormon" question, and to correct errors when they are plainly pointed out.

Here are a number of American journals commenting on

"The election in Salt Lake City for a Delegate to Congress, resulting in a defeat of the Mormons, who cannot hope to be again represented in Congress after Delegate Caine's term expires."

And the American public are informed that

"The Mormons have been so thoroughly beaten in municipal and Territorial elections that their former great power has dwindled down to almost nothing."

We are told also that

"Monday's election in Utah frees that Territory from Mormonism, and it will be represented in Congress for the first time by a Christian."

The boundaries of the knowledge which most editors have acquired on Utah affairs, are the lines of telegraphic dispatches from this city, and even these, intentionally misleading as they usually are, are not scanned intelligently or with

sufficient care to gain their full signification.

Our contemporaries at a distance are hereby respectfully informed that the election for Delegate will not take place in Utah until next November. That with all the frauds by which previous elections have been carried by non-"Mormons," it is very improbable that they can succeed in stealing the Delegateship. And that Delegate Caine will favorably compare in all the qualities which make up the Christian character, as defined in the New Testament, with the most exemplary Christian that can be found in the halls of Congress.

If a "Christian" is one who gains political place by trickery and corruption, by cheating lawful citizens out of their ballots, and by voting non-residents and purchased toughs and personators, Mr. Caine is not a "Christian." However, it is not unlikely that a "Christian" of that modern stamp will be put up for Congress by anti-"Mormons," but it is not likely that he can be elected.

Will the editors of the eastern papers ever learn to be commonly sensible on Utah affairs?

MAKING CONVERTS IN THE ORIENT

THE *Christian Cynosure* claims to know of a great religious revival in connection with the Turco-American Mission at Aintab, in Armenia, and that it has resulted in the addition of five hundred and thirty-four new members to the Protestant church.

This reminds us that there are different ways of making converts in Turkey. Sometimes a clerical missionary wants a servant, and any native willing to embrace the Protestant faith is accepted for the position and in church membership at one stroke. Sometimes a social party is arranged; natives are invited to a meeting and a cup of tea, and are promised future treats if they are willing to go to church occasionally and have their names enrolled on the list of enquirers.

Another scheme is this: A hospital is built, where the natives are treated to free medicine on condition that they will attend services in the church regularly. In addition to this, missionary societies often supply funds whereby the converts are released from their military duties.

As a general rule "conversions" in the Orient are the results of the display of some pecuniary considerations. Christ is being sold by the great bulk of missionaries out there,