

## THE POLAND BILL IN UTAH.

As the Poland bill, so-called, is awarded the credit of having worked a judicial revolution in Utah, let us examine the same by the fruit it has produced. It was a child of great promise at its birth, its sponsors promising that it should bring peace to a distracted people, restore rights to the oppressed and in the polite vernacular of the "ring," "humble the proud 'Mormon' theocracy," and the great boast of its friends is, that it has opened the hall of justice so that every man may demand and receive justice without delay.

Such are some only of the promises made on behalf of this bill, that was to bring order out of chaos, but what are the facts? The Third Judicial District Court, all the officers of which are appointed by United States authority, and are acting under this famous bill, has tried *three* cases since the first Monday in October. An attorney of the court informs me that there are on the docket about 400 cases, and if the past is any guide for the future, any one can fairly calculate when the other cases can be disposed of, but it is not likely to be in this day and generation.

If, as the "ring" asserts—the "Latter-day Saints" are all guilty of some crime—and it enumerates murder, polygamy and perjury as being taught in the Church, and therefore calling loudest for punishment—when will the day arrive when the accused can appear in court and show to the world their innocence of these infamous charges? The old cannot reasonably expect to live long enough, but must go down to their grave charged with crime without having had an opportunity to vindicate themselves, while the young may live long enough to stand at the bar of justice in their old age to answer the charges made in their youth. Is it right in any government to treat its citizens thus? Is it just that those accused of crime shall lie in prison without the right of trial? Must they linger in prison while civil cases drag themselves slowly through the courts, or must civil cases, involving thousands and millions of dollars, remain untried and untriable for ever? Is this picture to be admired? Does this bill accomplish all this? Is it the great panacea that cures all the ills of Utah? Would it not have been better to bear the ills we had than fly to those we know not of?

It is the right of the people to indict when a crime has been committed, and it is equally the right of the citizen to an early trial; but if the Poland bill is to govern, it would appear that the only right that can be exercised is that to indict, indeed it is admitted by some of the legal fraternity that the jury system under the Poland bill will never answer for a murder or capital case, as the names in the box will be exhausted long before a jury can be obtained. This would prevent a trial, but at the same time it would insure the party charged the opportunity of lying in prison for an indefinite time. But this in the polite English of the "ring," is good enough for the d—d Mormons. But another view of this case is, that during months and perhaps years' delay all prisoners are to be maintained at the public expense, which will pile up such a bill as no community can stand.

Again, it is well known in "ring" circles that the law is radically defective, and it is the intention to move Congress, at its next session, for an amendment, for it is understood perfectly well that the next, or the democratic, Congress, will not lend itself to radical legislation. It is also well known to the legal wing of the "ring" that, for the reasons herein stated, and others that are not now prudent to mention, no conviction can ever be had; for those crimes for which the "ring" has the most abhorrence. I have had the legal situation fully explained to me by an attorney, and he says the game of persecuting the Mormons is blocked, and no important criminal trials can take place until the law is amended. This famous law might be truthfully termed "A law to indict and imprison a whole community, and to deny the right of trial." Laws less infamous than this have cost monarchs their crowns; and this people must either quietly submit to this outrage and wrong, and even praise this abortion called a law, or they are at once charged with disloyalty; but they whom the gods would destroy they first make mad, so it is

with the authors of this iniquity—they are buried out of sight by the tumbling ruins of their own Babel, for this bill is as dead, judicially, as its author, Judge Poland, is politically.

## INDEX.

## The Politics of the Governors and Legislatures of the States.

A few years ago the Democracy had but one or two governors of States in the Union—now they have a majority. How is that for a dead party? We give below a table that will be of interest. The asterisk (\*) denotes governors and legislatures elect. Republicans in Roman; Democrats in *Italic*; Independent in SMALL CAPS. The legislatures of California, Illinois and Oregon are classed as Independent, because the Independents hold in them a controlling balance of power.

State.	Governor.	Legislature.
Alabama.....	George S. Houston.....	Dem
Arkansas.....	Augustus H. Garland.....	Dem
California.....	Newton Booth.....	IND
Connecticut.....	Charles F. Tugwell.....	Dem
Delaware.....	John P. Cochran.....	Dem
Florida.....	Marcellus L. Stearns.....	Dem
Georgia.....	James M. Smith.....	Dem
Illinois.....	John L. Beveridge.....	IND
Indiana.....	Thomas A. Hendricks.....	Dem
Iowa.....	Cyrus C. Carpenter.....	Rep
Kansas.....	Thomas A. Osborn.....	Rep
Kentucky.....	Preston H. Leslie.....	Dem
Louisiana.....	William Pitt Kellogg.....	Dem
Maine.....	Nelson Dingley, Jr.....	Rep
Maryland.....	James B. Groome.....	Dem
Massachusetts.....	William Gaston.....	Rep
Michigan.....	John J. Bagley.....	Rep
Minnesota.....	Kushman K. Davis.....	Rep
Mississippi.....	Adelbert Ames.....	Rep
Missouri.....	Charles H. Hardin.....	Rep
Nebraska.....	Shilas Garber.....	Dem
Nevada.....	L. J. Bradley.....	Rep
New Hampshire.....	James A. Weston.....	Dem
New Jersey.....	Joseph D. Bodie.....	Dem
New York.....	Samuel J. Tilden.....	Dem
North Carolina.....	Charles H. Brocken.....	Dem
Ohio.....	William Allen.....	Dem
Oregon.....	Lafayette F. Grover.....	IND
Pennsylvania.....	John F. Hartranft.....	Dem
Rhode Island.....	Henry Howard.....	Rep
South Carolina.....	Dan L. Chamberlain.....	Rep
Tennessee.....	James D. Porter, Jr.....	Dem
Texas.....	Richard Coke.....	Dem
Vermont.....	Abel Peck.....	Rep
Virginia.....	James L. Kempner.....	Dem
West Virginia.....	John J. Jacob.....	Dem
Wisconsin.....	William R. Taylor.....	Rep

## RECAPITULATION.

Governors.	Legislatures
Republican.....15	Republican.....13
Democrat.....20	Democrat.....11
Independent.....2	Independent.....3

The Legislature of Arkansas, elected in October, is now in session. By the time Congress assembles and shortly afterward, there will be twenty-eight legislatures of states in session.

—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS THERETO.

In these days of amending constitutions it is proper to recall the fact that there are now before Congress more than a score of propositions to alter and add to our National Charter, some of great and some of small importance. We give herewith the substance of the various propositions, with the names of their sponsors in the order of time:

In Senate, Jan. 7, 1873, by Mr. Frelinghuysen: A new article that the Supreme Court shall decide in case of dispute with regard to persons chosen Electors of President in any State.

Jan. 31, 1873, by Senator Harlan: That United States Senators be elected by the people, as members of the House of Representatives now are.

Dec. 31, 1873, by Senator Sumner: That the people shall vote directly for President on the first Monday of April, 1876, and every four years thereafter, under rules to be prescribed by Congress. The votes to be certified and sent to Washington, and canvassed by Congress, in joint convention, on the third Monday of May. If no person has a majority, another election shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, the votes to be canvassed on the third Monday of December, when the person having the highest number, although it may not be a majority, shall be declared the President elect. No President shall be eligible to re-election. If a President dies, or is impeached or removed, or resigns, or is disabled, his official functions shall devolve upon the head of the Executive Department senior in years in office; if there be no such head, then the Senator who has served longest shall temporarily act as President. But if Congress is in session when such a vacancy occurs, it shall elect a President by a majority of the members, each Senator or Representative having one vote, to be

cast viva voce. A quorum for such election must embrace a majority in each House of duly qualified members. If Congress is not in session, it shall be convened within thirty days after a vacancy. The office of Vice-President is abolished, and the Senate is to choose its own presiding officer.

On the same day Mr. Sumner further proposed that the term of the President shall be six years, and he shall thereafter be ineligible to the office.

Dec. 1, 1873, by Senator Windom: For the election of U. S. Senators by popular vote.

Dec. 10, 1873, by Senator Hamilton: The United States shall never make anything but gold and silver coin a tender for the payment of public or private debts.

May 19, 1874, by Senator Wright: Prohibiting Congress or the Executive or Judicial power from entertaining any claim against the U. S. not presented within ten years after accruing.

May 25, 1874, by Senator Stewart: If any State fails to maintain a common school system under which all persons between the ages of five and eighteen may receive such free elementary education as Congress may prescribe, Congress may establish such system and cause it to be maintained at the expense of the State.

May 28, 1874, by Senator Morton, (a report from the Committee on Privileges and Elections): 1. The President and Vice-President shall be elected by direct vote of the people, each State to be divided into as many districts as it has members of Congress, and one Presidential Elector to be chosen in each district. 2. The person having the highest number of electoral votes in a State shall have the two votes at large of that State. 3. The person having the highest number of votes in the nation shall be President. In case of a tie in any State, the parties tied shall each have one of the votes at large. 4. The same provisions apply to the election of Vice-President. 5. Congress to provide for such elections and establish tribunals to decide contests. 6. States shall be districted by the Legislatures, but Congress may make or alter districts. In the House, Dec. 9, 1872, by Mr. Lynch: Provides for direct vote of the people for President and Vice President, and in case no person has a majority, a choice from the three highest by the House of Representatives (each State having one vote as now). For Vice President, if no one has a majority, choice to be made by the Senate as now.

Dec. 9, 1872, by Mr. Hubbard: Congress shall have power to provide for the election of State officers in all the States on a single day, to be in the respective second and fourth years, the years when Congressmen and Presidential Electors are chosen, on the day fixed for such elections.

Dec. 9, 1872, by Mr. Banks: Makes the President hold office six years, and thereafter ineligible; President and Vice President to be chosen by electors qualified to vote for members of Congress.

Dec. 9, 1872, by Mr. Coghlan: The public lands (mineral excepted) shall not be disposed of except to actual settlers, and then only in quantities limited by general laws.

Dec. 20, 1872, by Mr. Porter: A plan for the election of President and Vice President by popular vote. Also that United States senators shall be elected by the people.

Jan. 6, 1873, by Mr. Porter: That members of the House of Representatives be chosen as now, but for four years, and at the same time that Presidential Electors are chosen.

Jan. 13, 1873, by Mr. B. F. Meyers: Congress shall have power to impose duties on imports for the payment of interest or principal of the public debt, but for no other purpose. The present debt shall be consolidated at a uniform rate of interest; fifty millions of the principal shall be paid annually, and all the interest semi-annually. The current expenses of the General Government shall be assessed upon the States and Territories in proportion to their valuation by the last census, and if any State fails to pay its quota within a year, Congress shall have power to enforce collection.

Jan. 13, 1873, by Mr. Porter: When three-fifths of both Houses of Congress shall deem necessary, Congress may propose amendments to the Constitution, or may call a

convention to revise it, and shall call such convention on the application of the Legislatures of any number of States embracing three-fifths of the population of the several States; and amendments so proposed shall be a part of the Constitution when ratified by a majority of the electors in the several States voting thereon.

Feb. 17, 1873, by Mr. Potter: Another plan for choosing President and Vice President by direct vote of the people, not differing materially from Senator Morton's.

Dec. 4, 1873, by Mr. Arthur: No law increasing the compensation of Senators or Representatives shall apply to the Congress which enacts it.

Dec. 4, 1873, by Mr. De Witt: No law increasing the compensation of Senators and Representatives shall take effect until an election for Representatives shall have intervened.

Dec. 4, 1873, by Mr. McCrary: Civil officers except judges, heads of departments, and officers whose duties are temporary, shall hold office for four years, unless a longer term be fixed by law. Congress may provide for the election by the people of postmasters and other officers whose duties are to be performed within a State or part of a State; but the President may remove such officers for cause, excepting political or religious opinions.

Dec. 8, 1873, by Mr. E. Hale: (Same as Mr. Arthur's amendment, above given).

Jan. 5, 1874, by Mr. Coburn: Congress may provide for the election by the people in their several localities (when not in insurrection or rebellion) of all United States officers, except judges and officers of United States courts, such elected officers being subject to the direction of the President and heads of departments, and to arrest, suspension and removal by the President.

April 14, 1874, by Mr. Creamer: That United States Senators shall be elected by the people, and, in case of vacancy, the State Executive shall order an election.

May 11, 1874, by Mr. Morrison: Extending the President's term to six years, and that he shall not be eligible for re-election until he has been six years out of the office.

June 1, 1874, by Mr. L. C. Parker: For the election of United States Senators by the people, Congress to provide for conducting such elections.

All these proposed amendments are among the unfinished business of last session, and may be called up at any time when Congress is sitting. [On Dec. 16, 1872, there was a vote on Mr. Morgan's amendment in the House to make naturalized citizens eligible to the Presidency and Vice Presidency. The question was on suspending the rules to take up the amendment by section, and the vote was, yeas 82, nays 71—not enough to suspend—and so the amendment was not taken up.]

One other important question was decided in February last by a report from the Judiciary Committee of the House, through Mr. B. F. Butler, on a petition asking Congress for "an acknowledgment of Almighty God and the Christian religion" in the Constitution. The Committee reported that such legislation would be inexpedient, and asked to be discharged from its consideration, and that the petition be laid upon the table. This was done without opposition.—*N. Y. Republic*.

## Switzerland and Germany.

Berne, October 14th, 1874.

Prest. J. F. Smith.

Dear Brother,—Having just returned to Berne, I take pleasure in communicating a few items to you. \* \* After leaving Rotterdam I made my way through the Netherlands and Rhein-Prussia to Karlsruhe (Baden), where I visited some Saints and held a meeting with them, giving them instructions as the spirit dictated. From thence proceeded to Inx, a village in the north of the kingdom of Wurtemberg, where Brother Theurer baptized a family some time in May last. Here I preached and bore testimony to a number of people, and found it wisdom to ordain Brother G. Angerbauer an Elder, and put him in a position to administer in the holy ordinances of the priesthood; he is a promising young man, and I think may do some good in

that locality. From this place I went to a southern or rather central part of Wurtemberg, where I had some addresses to people residing in that locality; made the acquaintance of a number of good people belonging to a society called the German Temple, whose main object is to gather to Jerusalem or Palestine, to prepare themselves for the second advent of our Savior. I was well received as also my testimony, and I hope and trust that the Gospel seed sown may take root and grow unto perfection. The name of this place is Horschweiler, a village in Oberamt Freudenstadt.

In Ravensburg, near the southeastern extremity of Wurtemberg, we found a small branch of eleven members; in this place I baptized one person, held a meeting and organized them into a branch; gave them timely instructions, and encouraged them to oneness and faithfulness, advised them to hold meetings, as they had not done so hitherto.

I learn that in Wurtemberg and Baden they enjoy religious liberty, that all sects are tolerated and to a certain degree sustained by law, and I can see nothing to hinder our Elders from going to work in those countries, proclaiming the gospel of Christ and gathering out the blood of Israel. I was also in Munich (Bavaria) and vicinity, as we have a few scattered members there, but the laws in that country are very strict as regards religion and anything that is done there has to be done secretly. There has been a small Branch of the Church in Munich some years back, but some are emigrated, and others have scattered abroad, so that there is but one family of Saints left in that city. I have supplied them with books and advised them to work carefully among those that are willing to read and hear the words of eternal life, and by occasional visits from Elders, assisted by this family, something may be done even under these circumstances, for diligence and perseverance will accomplish a great deal sometimes.

Returning from Germany I visited some of the Branches in East-Swiss; Elder F. Theurer is laboring faithfully in that part of the mission; he tells me the meetings are well attended and the inquiry after truth is on the increase. Elder J. J. Walser is laboring diligently in the Office here, visiting occasionally neighboring branches. Brother John Schiess is laboring as traveling Elder in West-Swiss; he reports success and plenty of work.

In a day or two I intend to go west to visit the Branches in West-Swiss.

Elder Jacob Zundel arrived here last Thursday; he has suffered a little from a cold, but is nearly recovered and is in good spirits; he will start for Germany in a few days, to try to labor among his kindred and old friends in the vicinity of Stuttgart.

J. U. STUCKI.

—Millennial Star.

## TOO LATE.

THE Pioche Record has the following—

"A number of the administration leaders and toadies are assembled in Washington and are discussing the causes which led to the late political revolution. The causes are apparent—stealing and corruption. The remedy that is spoken of, is continuing the course of purification from swindling and incompetent officials, that was lately commenced in Texas. It is too late. More than two years ago in Texas, the writer, who was then editing a well known journal in Texas, daily for months and months, beseeched the administration to take some heed of the villainies that were being perpetrated by the Federal officials in that State. Names, dates and deeds were given, but it was no use. Not the slightest attention was paid to those remonstrances, though backed by the best and most reliable citizens of the State. To show how little was cared about such matters, we will state, that Tom Ochiltree, a notorious bum, was appointed U. S. Marshal, and Clark, a most unmitigated scoundrel, was made Postmaster of Galveston. At the time these and other worthless knaves were selected for important offices, Grant's administration was well advised of their entire lack of qualification for those offices. It was, however, no use to say any-