

## EDITORIALS.

## CITIZENSHIP OF HON. GEORGE Q. CANNON.

THE attack which is being made upon Hon. George Q. Cannon's naturalization is only a part of the programme which has been laid down for the general attack upon the people of Utah. If there is a weak spot in our armor we may be sure that our enemies will aim their shafts thereat, and where there is no weak spot, but only a joint, they aim at that, hoping to penetrate it. No better evidence than this attack upon our Delegate can be given of the straits to which the "ring" is reduced in their warfare against the people of this Territory. The contestant for the seat of Delegate in the last Congress made the naturalization of our Delegate his chief point of attack. He had long months in which to make his preparations, to hunt up his authorities and to elaborate his arguments. He did his best before the Committee on Elections in the last Congress. It would have been a great triumph for him if he could have succeeded in ousting the Delegate from the seat to which he had been so overwhelmingly elected, even if he could not get the seat himself. He appreciated this fully. He took the greatest possible pains, therefore, with his argument. The committee was composed of eleven lawyers, part Republicans and part Democrats, and some of them men noted in their profession and several of whom had graced the bench in their own States. But what did he accomplish? Our delegate retained his seat undisturbed to the end of the Congress. There was no flaw found in his title to the position; his naturalization was deemed to be complete, and his contestant, it was unanimously decided by the entire committee, had made no point that was entitled to notice against him. So disgusted was the contestant with his failure that he had no thought of making any further attempt to contest the seat of the Delegate elect to this the 45th Congress, but the excitement growing out of the execution of Lee has been thought too good an opportunity to let pass without being improved. It has been hoped that wonderful things might be accomplished on the strength of that excitement and the prejudice growing out of it. Among other things the "ring" have hoped that the Courts here might be induced to do that which the Committee on Elections of the House of Representatives refused to do. Hence this attack upon the Delegate at the present time. We may have occasion to refer to this case more fully hereafter; but at present will only allude to the charge that George Q. Cannon was not a resident of the United States one year before he obtained his papers. Upon this point the authorities are very clear. The intention decides the question of residence. George Q. Cannon was not in the legal sense of the word a resident of the Sandwich Islands. He never had a residence there within the legal meaning of the word "residence." He went there with the intention of returning. We do not suppose that there ever was a moment while he was absent that he would not have gladly returned to his home in this valley, if he could have done so consistently with his obligations as a missionary and a servant of God. This is the case with every faithful Latter-day Saint missionary who goes on missions to foreign lands. He goes, he remains in the land to which he has been sent, because he feels it to be a duty to do so. But when the time expires for which he is required to stay, how gladly he seizes the opportunity to return! There is no land so bright, no people so attractive, no circumstances so desirable as to induce the faithful Latter-day Saint to forego his residence here. Elder Cannon was at the Sandwich Islands temporarily on business. He never acquired residence there, but was only a sojourner there. We think his answer upon this point emphatic and complete, and we do not doubt his ability to sustain it by the most ample and conclusive evidence.

## THE TIMBER LAWS.

RECENT dispatches have indicated the determination of the Federal Government to be very strict, much stricter than usual, in regard to the cutting of timber on the public domain, such strictness to extend over this western and mountain country as well as over the more level and better wooded country east of the Rocky Mountain Range.

It is right that the timber on the public lands should be properly taken care of and not allowed to be wasted, nor taken out of the country, except under specified conditions. But the timber on the public lands belongs to the country rather than to the Government, and should be held for the one use of building up and developing the country, and therefore that paramount object should be kept in view rather than the minor one of returning a comparatively very few dollars in revenue to the Government. The Government actually gains more by the settlement and development of the country than it does by the trifle it would obtain by an unnecessarily rigid policy in reference to cutting timber on the public domain.

Timber is needed in settling the country, and if the timber is tied up out of the reach of the people the settlement and development, the growth and prosperity of the country will be correspondingly retarded, retarded to an extent that would be poorly counterbalanced by the addition of a few dollars to the national treasury as income from the disposal of the timber lands under unnecessarily stringent conditions.

Much of the timber land in these mountains, after the useful timber has been cut from it, is worth nothing, so far as yet known, and the timber is scattered in many places. Consequently, if bought from the Government, it would be bought simply for the timber on it, and that is often very little, and only obtainable after the roads up the cañon have been made at an enormous expense. Perhaps the best way in regard to this land, or most of it, would be the passage of a law making the payment of a trifling stumpage to Government the only pecuniary liability necessary to its cutting for use in building up the immediate country around.

## THE MORMON SITUATION.

THE *Sacramento Record-Union* of May 29, in a brief article on "The Mormon Situation," commences thus—

"The evidences of a Mormon uprising are accumulating. Either the news reporters in Utah have chosen to become absurdly sensational or some unusual movement is on foot in this American Zion."

And concludes thus—

"The stories bear a closer resemblance to an attempt to prejudice the Mormon people before the country, and excite and enrage popular sentiment against them, than the sober report of any existing facts."

In these two utterances our *Sacramento* contemporary grasps and expresses the facts with a good degree of clearness. Some of the news reporters in Utah certainly have chosen to become absurdly sensational. In fact those reporters are nothing if not sensational, which, being interpreted, means that unless they tell falsehoods or in some way miscolor the situation their occupation is gone and nobody takes any notice of them or of what they say.

There is without doubt an attempt to prejudice the "Mormon" people before the country and excite and enrage popular sentiment against them, which is an unjust and most wicked course of action. The "Mormon" people are not one bit more disposed to uprising, insurrection, or rebellion now than they were last year, or five years ago, or ten years ago, or fifteen years ago. They have no more thought now of such things than they have had for all those years and more. The sensation stories to the contrary are wholly and entirely false from beginning to end. There never was a people more desirous of peace than the "Mormons" are

at this time and all the time. If any people desire war, it is those very people who raise up the excitement about such things. The "Mormons" are pre-eminently a people of peace, but their unscrupulous enemies are always talking of war and trouble, and are always trying to excite such things and bring them about. Such vicious characters will be publicly and generally known in their true colors after a while, and then they will be as generally despised and detested.

## A MORMON WAR.

"ARE we to have a Mormon war?" asks the *Cleveland Leader*. Better wait until we get through instructing the Russians how to whip the Turks.—*San Francisco Chronicle*.

The *New York Herald* and a few other papers are working to inaugurate a "Mormon war," but we believe, and it is to be hoped, they will fail, and fail signally, for the simple reason that a "Mormon war" is entirely unnecessary, and would be a gross piece of wickedness by the inaugurators. The ridiculous stories which have been retailed so industriously of late concerning Utah affairs, are a disgrace to the country, and only designed to create and foster prejudice and stir up strife. As for war, further than the present war of words, we are not aware that anybody hereabouts expects it, though there are a few vicious people who are wishing for it, and they are they who are getting up the sensational stories about Utah.

## SEWING MACHINE PRICES.

THE *New York Herald* of May 26 reports the substance of interviews held the day previous with representatives of various sewing machine companies in that city, respecting the reduction in the price of machines, the condition of the business, etc. Mr. Woods, of the Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine Company, said there had been no great reduction in the price of machines. The patents on the needle and the feeding gear had lapsed, but that company held other patents which were good for years. The public expected a greater revolution than could possibly take place in prices. The result was a diminution rather than a stimulus to trade. Prices were about as low as they would be for some time. Agents and middlemen would feel the change most. People were waiting for the great reduction.

Wilcox and Gibbs Company had noted no material change in the tide of business. Their new machine had been put on the market at reduced prices on account of its mechanism and finish. Their old style tension machines they had reduced from \$56 to \$25.

The Singer Company claimed an increase of trade, with a reduction of about fifty per cent. in the prices of machines.

The Domestic Company believed there had been a decided increase of cash sales. The company had reduced the family machine from \$70 to \$50, and had reduced \$20 on every style of machine, with ten per cent. discount for cash.

The Home Company announced the reduction of their \$60 machine to \$30, and all other machines at proportionately lessening prices.

There was a prevailing belief that the market was pretty well stocked with machines.

## TACTICS OF THE OPPOSITION.

THE various tactics of those who array themselves as the violent opposers of "Mormonism" and the "Mormons" are of a very peculiar kind, and the divers resorts of the same characters are very peculiar too.

In the first place truth, principle, justice, conscientious scruples, and everything of that kind are thrown completely out of the question. The object is to win, and in aggressions upon the "Mormons" anything and everything are considered fair, or at least fair enough. The most vile slanders, libels, misrep-

resentations, and falsehoods are sedulously invented and put into circulation to affect the public mind prejudicially against the people here, and to create political capital. The heated statements, high exaggerations, and absolute falsehoods of known and declared enemies are eagerly picked up as choice morsels and published abroad as Gospel truth concerning the "Mormons"—statements, many of them, as unlikely and as absurd as it is possible to imagine, and the more outrageous the more sensational, and therefore the more acceptable to the sensation makers and sensation lovers.

Such ever has been the case since the Church of Christ was organized in these latter days, and such will probably continue to be the case until the time comes when truth and righteousness shall prevail over the earth, and people generally have more regard for the truth than for that which is sensational and false. Then the sensation mongers will find that theirs is not a paying business, and moreover that it is a business which will no longer be tolerated by public opinion.

## THE "MORMON" HUBBUB.

WHAT is all this hubbub about?

What hubbub?

Why, this Mormon hubbub.

Mormon hubbub!

Yes. This great hullabaloo about the Mormons.

What about them?

Oh, about their arming and drilling, and prancing and dancing, and swearing and tearing, and defying the Government, and threatening resistance, and talking about blood, and all that sort of thing.

I have neither heard nor seen anything of the sort here.

No, sir?

No, sir, not a bit of anything of the kind among the Mormons.

Well, that is strange.

Yes, sir, passing strange. Truth is strange, stranger than fiction.

Why, judging from the newspaper reports, one would conclude that the Mormons were going headlong into a rebellion against the Federal Government. Is it not so?

Judging from the sensational reports in the papers, perhaps it is, but, judging from the actual facts as to the attitude of the people of this region, it is absolutely not so.

Why, you surprise me! Do you mean to say that the Mormons have not been assuming a belligerent attitude?

Not in the slightest degree have they done so, all reports to the contrary notwithstanding.

Well, are all these stories of Mormon uprising false?

All false. Absolutely false. There is nothing in them, nothing whatever.

Then how did they arise?

They were gotten up for political effect abroad in the States eastward.

What for?

In order to excite public sentiment to a point of violent indignation, so that a call would be made for stringent, special, persecutive legislation by Congress toward Utah.

Why is such legislation sought?

In order that a gang of adventurers here may have chance to hold all the offices, local as well as federal, and get at the taxes which the people pay, and also get hold of the property of the older settlers, those who have made this part of the country what it is.

Are these the real facts in the case?

These are the real facts in the case.

Why does the *New York Herald* publish all these stories in its columns?

Because it pays. Sensation is the thing that pays, and these stories about the "Mormons" are very fertile in sensations. People like sensations and will pay for them, though humbugs. In fact, people seem to like to be humbugged. Moreover, other sensations appear to be rather few and far between at the present, and the *Herald* is designed to be a paying investment.

I would like to ask, confidentially of course, who struck Stillson?

Just as confidentially of course, Old Rye.

Very likely.

When a man is drunk he is always a fool. You never saw a sensible drunken man in your life.

Well, I cannot say that I have.

What will be the outcome of this?

The principal persons connected with it will be ashamed of it, and will become public laughingstocks. But ought it not to be seriously and judicially investigated?

Certainly. It is a proper subject for the consideration of the Grand Jury. It is an alleged attempt at murder.

Yes it is. Perhaps Mr. Stillson would not relish it being carried before the Grand Jury.

But he has legally no option in the matter. He has made the charge against some person unknown. The unknown should be discovered if possible. The Grand Jury should inquire into the affair, and if it believes that Mr. Stillson was not so attacked, he is a proper subject for investigation by the Grand Jury. If the Grand should find, on investigation, that there is evidence sustaining the idea that he has perjured himself, then it would be the duty of the Grand Jury to indict Mr. Stillson accordingly.

Will the Grand Jury do it?

We shall see.

## SISTERS LARGELY OUTNUMBERING THE BRETHREN IN THE VARIOUS RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

ELSEWHERE in to-day's NEWS may be found an interesting article, or extract, from the *Christian Union*, showing that the proportion of women to men in the Congregational and indeed in the various religious societies throughout the United States is about two of the former to one of the latter. For the last fifteen years the proportion has been nearly two women to one man, with the exception of five of the fifteen years, or one-third of the time, during which the proportion has been rather more than two women to one man.

The author of the article goes on to inquire into the cause of this great numerical disproportion, and evidently thinks it is because the clergy are weak and effeminate; that they have a soft, servile bearing, which provokes contemptuous jeers from strong and thoughtful men; that it is a painful fact that the clerical profession does not command the highest respect from multitudes of the very ones most needed in the church; that as a rule ministers know comparatively too little of the stern side of life, and too much of home matters; that the pastor is not the man to hear, comprehend, and bear the fearful strain of the day; that the church delights in much and fine sounding speech, display, dress and finery; that it is immersed in social affairs, for which busy men have little time or heart; that, by subscriptions, collections, and appeals, it seems to aim at money, which does not commend it; that it is not hearty, honorable, spiritual, sympathetic, and attractive to masculine nature; in short, that more masculine persuasions are requisite to masculate the men.

Now, no matter what may be the causes for this serious disproportion of the sexes in the various religious societies, a word may be said upon the actual fact of the disproportion, for it appears to be an actual fact that in the divers religious societies or churches in the United States there are something like two women members to every man member. This question becomes the more serious when we consider the mission of women in this world—to be helpmeets for men. Here in these modern religious societies, if every male member took to himself one female member as a helpmeet for him, which one is all the law and the custom and the prejudice allow, there still would remain about as many women left as taken, or in the proportion of another helpmeet to every male member. But, as we have said, the law and the custom and the prejudice do not allow this further appropriation. Hence the surplus women members must go unmated. Created were they for helpmeets for man, but under existing rules there are no men for them to become helpmeets to. Hence they cannot fulfil the great purpose for which they were created, and in that respect they become as useless and as much out of place as the fifth wheel to a coach, that has to be carried, but can only be properly utilized and made to subserve the purpose of its creation after a similar wheel has been destroyed. So these unmated women members