

# DESERET NEWS:

## WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - Nov 10, 1875.

### THE PREACHER IN A PRE- DICAMENT.

THE preacher is in a predicament. He has put himself into a very peculiar, perplexing, and precarious predicament. He has attempted to accomplish that extraordinary feat in intellectual gymnastics—to ride astride of a three-horned dilemma. How will he extricate himself? A dilemma is not a very satisfactory Bucephalus, especially when the rider has by no means Alexandrian skill in equitation. To mount such a steed with well grounded confidence presupposes extraordinary equestrian ability and experience.

In that celebrated theological discourse the learned gentleman uttered sentiments which we here place in a perpendicular column by the side of a portion of Monday's dispatches, containing a special from Washington, just to show how both statements look in juxtaposition—

#### THE DISCOURSE.

When men talk to you and tell you that the government and its friends desire to persecute any body here because of their religious opinions, they well know that their statements are not true, and they well know that all that is desired is that crimes shall not continue to go unwhipped of justice, and that, as to men's religion, the government has nothing to do with it.

In doing this the government is not prompted by any spirit of persecution, as some would have you believe, nor will you find any federal official in this Territory who desires or would countenance any such persecution of the people of this Territory.

The government of the United States is the mildest ever yet instituted on earth, and is the legitimate outgrowth of the Christian civilization of our day; and one of its grandest and noblest features is its hostility to any religion being established by the State, and its assurance of the utmost religious freedom to all who live within its domain.

The people of the United States will go as far in supporting the people of Utah in their religious rights and privileges as they would those of any other section of the Union.

The masses of the people of Utah will see that the government and people of the United States are their true friends. They have no bitterness against the Mormon people, and they would gladly see them prosper except as to polygamy, union of Church and State, blood atonement, and such like things. The people of no country in the world enjoy so much religious freedom as the American people. It is the love of this largest and most absolute religious freedom, and the generous Christian charity of the people of the United States which have so long delayed the putting down of polygamy in Utah.

Now we should like to know, and we may respectfully ask, which we are to believe—the expression of the little Associate Justice, or the special from Washington, coupled with the fact of the actual removal of the postmaster at Ogden? If, as this learned gentleman declares, the government has nothing whatever to do with men's religion, and is not prompted by any spirit of persecution, how is it that Mr. Hall is removed from office because

he is a "Mormon," and how is it that Senator Sargent opposes the removal on the constitutional ground that a man has a right to his own religious belief? If the government does discriminate between men because of their religion, and puts them out of office on that account, as in this case of the postmaster at Ogden, what does the little Associate Justice mean by his declaration above quoted, and how came he to have the temerity to make it?

As to persecution, does the learned gentleman consider, when a man is removed from office because of his religion, that he is persecuted, or that he is patronized? Which is it, O excellent young man? What do you term it, O most learned, wise, and upright judge? A second Daniel come to judgment could surely answer this simple question. If the learned gentleman calls it persecution, why did he protest so much that there was no such thing? If he calls it patronization, does he not think that it is of a most curious kind, equivalent to the Irishman's rise when he was "elevated a little lower?" Either way, does not the learned gentleman himself think that he has been a little too eager to vindicate the opponents of "Mormonism," and won't he think twice, upon what he is going to say, before he speaks again in such a strain? If he does not, as sure as he opens his mouth, he will put his foot into it again, for he seems to have a peculiar faculty for performing that neat little feat in mental acrobatics.

The learned gentleman may seek to escape from this dilemma by taking another horn and asserting that "Mormonism" is not a religion, seeing that he has already assumed that a part of "Mormonism"—plural marriage, is no part of religion. But then who constituted him a final arbiter as to what constitutes another man's religion? Who authorized him in the least to decide what may be accepted as religion, and what may not be so accepted? Who made him lord of another man's conscience? Who made him the dictator of another man's religious faith and practice? Who made him a judge between a man and his God? What would he think were we to prove, which is a very easy matter, that "Mormonism," plural marriage included, is pre-eminently a scriptural religion, that it is actually the very identical religion which the Bible teaches? Would he not find himself astride of a three-horned dilemma? Helpless as he would be, how could he expect to escape from the triune trap which he had himself constructed and unwittingly fallen into? As we do not see any way for him out of his triangular predicament, we must leave him there, and that is the best we can do for him.

If he had not been so very anxious to protest so much, if he had not been so supererogatively eager to make out a case against the "Mormons," if, like a wise and sober judge, he had discretely confined himself in his discourse to the proper subjects judicial, he would not have wormed himself into such a snare. Verily the way of the transgressor is hard, very hard, judicially, theologically, logically, and every other way.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding, we are sorry for the learned gentleman, very sorry for him, and we cannot find in our heart, upon second thought, to leave him alone in his misery, without inkling of escape. We therefore hasten to say that there is a gleam of hope for him from Washington, and we are right glad of it, too, for it is painful to see and to leave a fellow-creature in distress, even when he richly deserves it, and has brought it upon himself by his own gross folly.

We are happy, then, particularly on the little Associate Justice's account, to see that in a portion of the dispatches published in the NEWS to-day, Postmaster General Jewell says the postmaster at Ogden was not removed for his religious belief, but because of political pressure from Iowa and Nebraska in favor of the new incumbent, and that if the removal indicates the adoption of a presidential policy of ousting "Mormons" holding federal offices the Postmaster General is not aware of it.

This may afford the little Associate Justice a gleam of consolation, yet it must be observed that this last dispatch cannot be considered final and conclusive, for the reason that it is not altogether testimony in the first person, and for the fur-

ther reason that Senator Sargent is represented in the other dispatch as opposing the official decapitation as done for religious reasons. Now here are the two dispatches, the Associate Justice's enunciation, and the actual removal from office, and the learned gentleman is at liberty to make the best of them, and glean from either or all of them all the consolation he can.

### THE PROBLEM GROWS MORE PROBLEMATIC.

THE "Mormon" problem, so much talked about, is growing more and more problematical. "Mormonism" is proving itself endowed with inexhaustible resources. The "Mormon" drama is demonstrating that it is capable of affording endless interest and infinite entertainment. Recent extraordinary proceedings in the Third District Court, involving the decision of a present Associate Justice upon the decision of a late Chief Justice, are held to be of sufficient moment for discussion in the Federal Cabinet, the members of which apparently cannot understand why a woman whom the civil law does not recognize as a wife should be awarded alimony in open court from a man whom the civil law does not recognize as her husband. Now if judicial officers will raise such knotty questions when there is no necessity whatever for it, they must expect, as a natural consequence, that the "Mormon" problem will continue to grow more and more problematical. Meantime sensible people will go quietly about their proper business, and calmly wait to learn in what way the wisdom of the wise indicates a solution of the problem.

### HERE AND THERE.

THE New York Sun has the following—

"Deputy Postmaster McGee of Carbondale, Ill., who was recently arrested for stealing \$180 from letters, confessed that he had intended to take \$500 and then leave the country. He treated his crime as a joke. His relatives, who are well-to-do, have refunded the stolen money."

Was Mr. McGee put in office under political pressure? Whether he was or not, it is pretty certain that he was removed for neither his honesty nor his religion. But his treating his crime as a joke is indicative of the corrupt spirit which pervades a large portion of the vast army of hungry American officeholders, and which threatens to destroy the vitality of the Union. This corruption is a thing which should be hunted down unsparingly and subjected to rigorous excision from the body politic, or sad will be the future of the country.

Now here is an exhibit of a very different kind, but, unhappily for America, it comes from another country. Mr. Moncure D. Conway, the able and well known author, preacher, lecturer and correspondent, delivered a lecture upon "London," in the Star Course, at the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, Oct. 28, and the Times of that city reports him, in parts of the lecture, in this way—

"Americans have been merely birds of passage in London; they have spent a few days there, and then, shaking the mud from their feet, have hastened on their way to Paris. Consequently they have had but a slight knowledge and poor opinion of the great city. He himself had formerly had the same opinion, but had altered it on better acquaintance."

"The lecturer then gave a description of the city government, the guilds, or companies of merchants, and referred to the business morality, which is such that if a man has ever had a note protested he is ineligible to a city office."

This last paragraph must surely have sounded strangely in Philadelphia, and would have sounded as strangely in New York, Washington, Chicago, or almost any other large city in the United States, because of the prevalent official corruption in this country. However, the contrast presented above is highly instructive.

### Local and Other Matters.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 5.

**Adjusted.**—A couple of the first story columns of the iron front of the Z. C. M. I. new building were erected to-day. The work is being done under the superintendence of Bro. H. Grow.

**Gunpowder Plot.**—Yesterday was the anniversary of the discovery of the celebrated plot rumor by that name, to destroy the three estates of the realm of England—King, Lords and Commons. It was discovered November 4th, 1605, and is celebrated in Britain to this day.

**Flourishing His Pistol.**—To-day H. Walker, a former brakeman on the C. P. railroad, was intoxicated and made a disturbance and flourished his pistol on South Temple street; whereupon he was arrested, taken to the City Hall and placed in jail.

**Phoenix.**—Mr. George Romney has commenced the erection of a two-story adobe building, which will have an elegant front, on the ground owned by him, in the burnt district south of the White House. The structure will have a frontage of twenty-four feet, and run back sixty feet.

**Big Apples.**—This morning a gentleman from Lehi called at this office, and showed us a few apples grown at that place, such as perhaps no place but Utah could produce. Among them was a Spitzenberg weighing twenty-five ounces, a Baldwin weighing twenty-one ounces, and a Rhode Island Greening of about the same weight. The last named was grown in the orchard of Mr. James Smuing, the former in the orchard of Mr. W. Guernsey.

**A New Home Industry.**—Brother Thomas Slight, of the 19th Ward, has entered upon a useful branch of industry—all kinds of light, fancy boxes, made of straw-board, or thin lumber, such as ladies' work-boxes, boxes for artificial flowers, or anything else in that particular line, in which he has had experience for about twenty years in London. This morning he exhibited to us a specimen work-box, which was substantially made and neatly finished.

**A Swindle.**—To-day a young fellow named Leon Cohn, a frequent involuntary visitor to the police Court, was arrested and taken before Justice Pyper for swindling a Chinaman, by selling him a piece of brass for a gold nugget, receiving for it, from his unsophisticated victim, a five dollar bill. The piece of metal was run into a peculiar form to represent a lump of crude gold, and Cohn told the Chinaman it was from a Montana mine. The charge was fully proven and Cohn fined \$30, which he will probably work out, at a dollar a day.

**Not Creditable.**—The action of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, in refusing to carry provisions, &c., for the Virginia City sufferers, free of charge, has been the subject of general uncomplimentary remark, and the refusal, coming from so powerful a corporation, does make it seem as if they were actuated by a narrow, ungenerous and, we might say, unusual policy. Had it been otherwise the subscription hereabout would probably have been much larger than it is.

**More Potatoes.**—Seeing that so much has been said about potatoes this season, W. C. Murphy, of American Fork, thought he would exhibit some specimens of his raising in that line. He raised 1,100 bushels of splendid tubers this year, without watering. They are of two kinds, the "Brooks Seedling" and the Neshannock, and about 400 bushels of the amount raised weigh, each root, from three quarters of a pound to four pounds, and are solid clean through. They are oblong in shape, measuring from five to ten inches in length. On some of his land he raised 300 bushels to the acre.

In experimenting on the farm on which he labors he discovered that cut worms and grubs are effectually got rid of by sprinkling on the land about half a bushel of salt to the acre.

**Snuffed Out.**—The Corinne Mail has not long survived the "Indian Scare," as will be seen by the following, from its issue of November 3rd—

"With this number the publication of the Mail ceases in Corinne. We deem it unnecessary to state the various reasons for its suspension. One proposition, however, is applicable—that a newspaper (as any other business), to sustain itself, must have an income greater than the expense of conducting it. No one can slander us with the assertion that we have not published a strictly Gentile paper, and, busted or not, we still retain that gratification. To the business men of Corinne who have given us their patronage, and to our subscribers, we tender our earnest thanks; and we certainly wish that each and every one of our patrons may have better success in the several occupations in which they may be engaged than the proprietors of the Mail have had in theirs."

"COOKE & JOHNSON."

**The Illustrated Christian Weekly** is a twelve page undenominational journal, the only illustrated religious weekly published in the land. Among the talented writers whose articles appear in this periodical are Drs. Hall, Crosby, Cuyler, Taylor, Tyng, Williams, Duryea, and Arnot, Prof. Christlieb, Mrs. Beers, J. P. Claffin, Mary B. Dodge, J. A. Mathews, Mrs. Sangster, Mrs. Wyett, Anette Noble, etc. Among the many beautiful illustrations are designs by Darley, Herrick, Beard, Cary, and Havendon. There is also an illustrated monthly supplement with the Weekly. It is beautifully printed on good paper. Published by the American Tract Society, 150 Nassau Street, New York. D. W. McLeod, depository, 757 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal. Mr. C. L. Bascom is the agent in this Territory, who is an intelligent and pleasant gentleman, fair and honorable in his business dealings.

FROM SATURDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 6.

**Progressing.**—We are pleased to be able to state that Chief Justice White is rapidly regaining his health, and will probably be able to be about again in a few days.

**Australian Missionaries.**—A gentleman in this City received a telegram from Mr. Mark Croxall, dated San Francisco, to-day, in which he says that he and the brethren along with him are all well and in fine spirits, and that they will sail for Australasia on Monday.

**Arrested.**—Last night deputy marshal Corker arrived from Dry Cañon, bringing in his custody William Tracey, indicted for the murder of William George; and Frank Bitke, also indicted for murder. Both the prisoners were lodged in the penitentiary.

**No Visible Means.**—This morning three men devoid of any "visible means of support," were before Justice Pyper on a charge of vagrancy. They were found last night making a sleeping place of a haystack in the rear of the Salt Lake House. Board and lodging were secured for them for the next ten days, each of them being fined \$10, which they will work out with pick and shovel.

**A Good Improvement.**—The water set along the north side of the Historian's Office Block, South Temple Street, is being treated similarly to that on the east side of the Temple Block. It is being made semi-circular in form with a bed of cobble rock, neatly adjusted, and stone flags along the edges. The work is being done under the immediate direction of Brother Edward Brain.

**The Cornice.**—The fine zinc cornice, manufactured by Mitchell & James, is being placed on the new bank building. It is an imposing and admirable structure, and its fine appearance, as it nears completion, has the effect of making many of the surrounding buildings, heretofore considered excellent, look comparatively squat and insignificant. The exchange building on the corner south is quite a nice structure, but needs plastering and touching up to bring it out more in keeping with its more imposing opposite neighbor.

**No Favor for Incendiaries.**—There are numerous outlaws at Virginia City and Gold Hill, who have several times attempted robbery and arson. The Gold Hill News says:

"No arrests will be made for either murder or arson, for our people are not in a pleasant frame of mind at present. All sorts of scoundrels had better leave while