

EDITORIALS.

SWIMMING FEATS.

THE great swimming match, for the championship of the world, between J. B. Johnson, the "man-fish" and English champion, and Thomas Coyle of Chester, Pa., which came off on the Delaware River at that city, July 22, was won by Johnson.

When Coyle had swam nine and a half miles, he called for help, and was taken out of the water apparently lifeless.

Johnson, who was a mile in the rear, in ten minutes passed the place where Coyle was taken out, and then swam a mile further, and was declared the winner, after having swam ten and a half miles in three hours and ten minutes. Johnson had a benefit at Fox's Theatre in the evening.

Coyle swam above the water, and Johnson chiefly under the surface. The latter has won the first prize in swimming matches all over the world, and has a large number of medals from various swimming and other societies and associations.

Coyle, who is Irish by birth, is slender and wiry, five feet eight inches high, about 145 pounds in weight, with small, hard muscles. Johnson is five feet nine inches and a half high, not less than 180 pounds weight, fleshy, with very large but pliable muscles.

On July 3 Captain Webb, a native of Shropshire, swam from Blackwall to Gravesend, on the Thames, a distance of twenty miles in four hours and fifty-three minutes, on a tide running about four miles an hour, for a wager of £20 to £10. Mr. Webb is a sturdy, well-proportioned Englishman, 37 years old, five feet eight inches high, and weighs about 196 pounds. A swim across the Channel is talked of.

DEATH OF ANDREW JOHNSON.

ANDREW JOHNSON, ex-President of the United States, our dispatches inform us, has departed this life. He was born at Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 29, 1808. His father died when young Andrew was four years old. At ten he was apprenticed for seven years to a tailor, during which he learned to read. He never went to school a day. He married at Greenville, Tennessee, about 1827, and, instructed by his wife, he learnt writing, cyphering, etc. His first public office was that of alderman in 1828, next mayor in 1830. He was elected to the Legislature in 1835, 1837, and 1839, was presidential elector in 1840 and went on the stump as a Democrat, and in 1841 was elected to the State Senate, in 1843 to Congress, in which he remained until 1853. He was elected governor of Tennessee in 1853 and 1855, in 1857 United States Senator, and in 1864 Vice-President of the United States. In 1865 he sat in the presidential chair, left vacant by the assassination of President Lincoln.

President Johnson's vetoes of certain reconstruction measures were obnoxious to the Republican party. The quarrel between them grew in bitterness, and he was impeached in 1868, but not convicted. His term of office expired March 4, 1869. He was disposed to deal fairly with the people of this Territory.

At the last election he was chosen to represent Tennessee in the United States Senate.

He was acknowledged an honest man, of decided convictions, but he had not the pleasant nor the mildest manner of expressing them.

THE COST OF EVIL JUDGMENT.—The Virginia, Nevada, Territorial *Enterprise* is sure that the people of the United States will be convinced "that Brigham Young and his leading captains and counsellors should be hanged."

So were the Jews convinced that Jesus ought to be crucified, and their rash and evil judgment cost them their liberty, nationality, and country from that remote time down to this very day.

MONTANA MATTERS—CROSS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE.

THE Montanans seem to be not so well pleased with the transfer of the Rocky Mountain Methodist Conference from Bozeman Montana, to Salt Lake City. The *Bozeman Avant Courier* apparently forgets that this City, if not the "Hub of the Universe," is certainly the Hub of the Rocky Mountain Region, and therefore that it was not to be wondered at that a gentleman so intelligent and sensible as Bishop Haven, should recognize that patent fact, and that the ecclesiastical arrangements of his diocese should be correspondingly affected. The *Avant Courier*, July 9, is also evidently rather cross about the change of venue, judging by the following remarks—

"Bozeman was the place, and the 29th of July the day when the conference of the ministers of the Methodist Church in Idaho, Utah and Montana was to be held. A telegraphic order was sent by Bishop Haven on the 24th of June, changing the place of meeting to Salt Lake City. Our people will be sorely disappointed at the change. The *Montanian* has this to say upon the matter: 'We may not be acquainted with the discipline of this religious organization, but do not hesitate to say that the action of the Bishop is a concession to the demands of the brethren in Utah. The best mode of treating this conference under the circumstances would be this: The Montana members should not attend its deliberations. This body will assign ministers to their circuits, and transact such other business as may be necessary to carry on the missionary work.'

It is to be hoped that the Montana members will not allow their choler to obtain such a mastery over them, and destroy their Christian and brotherly feelings, as the *Avant Courier* rather hastily suggests. Their Bishop could not have chosen a more attractive place than this in his whole diocese, extensive as it is, for holding the confederal meetings of the Rocky Mountain Methodists.

They have a few grasshoppers up in Montana yet, as shown by the following extract from the same paper—

"HOPPERS.—A cloud of these restless, winged nuisances passed over Bozeman yesterday. A large number of them camped for dinner, but the majority of these passed on when they heard the gentle invectives of the Grangers pouring blessings upon their heads. They have sought a more genial clime. It is reported that a large swarm is on the Yellowstone, coming slowly in this direction."

GOING CRAZY.

THE Virginia (Nevada) *Enterprise* man is going crazy, and so do some other newspaper men ever and anon upon the subject of "Mormonism" and the "Mormons." "If you get mad you will lose the day," is a doctrine of the athletic world, which is similar in spirit to the old proverb, "Whom the Gods would destroy they first make mad." Some of the newspaper people of the day are certainly going mad, judging by the irrational and vicious manner in which they talk. The *Enterprise* certainly gives evidence of this lapse of insanity, while some other papers manifest that their writers have scarcely ever any lapses of sanity. If they have, then surely they are unmitigatedly wicked.

Some of the latest utterances of the *Enterprise* are journalistic curiosities of literature and could hardly emanate from any other than badly inflamed and diseased minds. Here are a few extracts which sound strangely as public expressions in a constitutionally democratic-republic, in the last year of the third quarter of the nineteenth century—

"It seems to us that it ought to be evident enough to all who have

read the papers for the past few days, that the Mormon religion is an institution that should be wiped out of existence. An institution founded on the base lust of men, and made possible only through the pitiable ignorance and servitude of women, and which, in its fierce fanaticism, makes light of perjury, robbery, and murder, is evidently not necessary at this age of the world. Rather, it is necessary that such a thing should be abated. Every man who is a Mormon at the time of the meeting of the next Congress should be by law declared a felon, not competent to exercise any right of an American citizen. This would place the Territory of Utah in Gentile hands, and an army large enough to enforce order should be forthwith sent to Utah. There is probably no cure for an old Mormon except death; but if all political rights were to be taken from the organization, the younger ones would soon either change their religion or their residence.

"Surely the rank and file of such people are not fit to have a voice in the conduct of this nation.

"Of all the dark spots upon our country's history, there is not one, present or past, so black and loathsome as Mormonism."

With the exception of denying the soundness of the premises taken, we quote these passages not particularly for the purpose of answering them, for they answer themselves, they are their own best refutation, but rather to place upon record some of the furious, the insensate, the maniacal expressions of the press towards the people of this Territory. For Congress to adopt the mad advice of the *Enterprise*, would be like tolling its own deathknell. Unconstitutional proscription and ferocious coercion, especially in religious matters, inevitably defeat themselves; and recoil crushingly upon their perpetrators. The Jews cried implacably, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" And what did they gain by it? Thousands of them suffered untold horrors, thousands of them then living suffered worse than crucifixion, and thousands of their posterity have since, the murderers of the Savior thus reaping their own expressed reward, "His blood be on us and on our children."

The adoption by Congress of the persecutive line of policy designated by the *Enterprise* would prove most costly, absolutely ruinous. It would lay the axe at the root of the constitutional tree, and might end in the destruction of the national unity and organization, as it would certainly be a demonstration of lack of integrity to its own fundamental principles. Congress is not constitutionally competent to declare a man a felon nor to disfranchise him because of his religion, nor to wipe any religion out of existence. If Congress tries such a thing it will destroy its own foundation, cut loose from its own moorings, and set itself adrift.

We may here emphatically and particularly deny the assertions or premises of the *Enterprise*, though to intelligent people it is entirely unnecessary, and say distinctly that "Mormonism" is not founded on the lust of men, that ignorance and ignoble servitude are not its necessary or congenial conditions, and that it does not make light of perjury, robbery and murder.

The *Enterprise* makes some preliminary observations which it would do well to reduce from theory to practice in its own individual case—

"Our government guarantees to every citizen perfect religious liberty. But this liberty is like the liberty of the press. Liberty is not meant to be a synonymous term with license. A man cannot, because he owns a newspaper, falsely attack the character of his fellow man without subjecting himself to heavy penalties."

If any "Mormon" transgresses constitutional law, he is amenable to the law, and it is for the officers of the law to take the proper steps to vindicate the law. But it is nobody's business, it is gross impudence, arrogance, insolence, for any man to vindictively threaten heavy penalties on a whole people for the offences of a few individuals.

THE SUPERB WOMAN OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.—"Olivia," in the Philadelphia *Times*, asks a favor—

"Will every journalist who has wife, sweetheart or mother, publish the awful fact—the palatial exhibition doors which are opened to celebrate our national Centennial birth are closed in the face of the superb woman of the nineteenth century?"

As we have or have had all the three treasures premised as qualifications, we have granted "Olivia's" modest request, and published her "awful fact." We may also take the liberty of protesting against any such ungenerous and unmanly treatment of the superb creature so eloquently appealed for by "Olivia."

GENERAL EXTERMINATION.

THE San Francisco *Post* is getting decidedly exterminative, as witness the following sage conclusion by that paper—

"No Mormon should be left in the United States.

Pharaoh and Herod, in days of old, came to a similar conclusion, and tried to carry out that kind of policy, but they both failed.

If one party may assume that "no Mormon should be left in the United States," with equal reason another party may assume that "no Methodist should be left in the United States," another party that "no Catholic should be left in the United States," another party that "no Baptist should be left in the United States," and so on to the end of the chapter religious. Then the same policy might be extended to politics, and one party would say that "no Republican should be left in the United States," and so on to the end of the chapter political. The exterminative policy might continue its ramifications into every department of society, until all over this great country extermination would be the universal rule, and a grand Kilkenny cat contest would be inaugurated among the citizens.

When this policy had done its work, the continent would relapse into its ante-Columbian condition, and lie waiting for another adventurous Genoese discoverer, and other invasions of Spaniards in Mexico and Peru, French in Canada, Portuguese in Brazil, Puritans in Massachusetts, and Cavaliers or Loyalists in Virginia.

This is the natural outcome of such wild policy as that suggested by the *Post*.

WANTS EXTRA-JUDICIAL MEASURES.

THE San Francisco *Chronicle*, commenting upon the proceedings of the Second District Court in Utah, says that if the jury do not bring in a verdict of guilty in a pending case, "a resort to extra-judicial remedies will be natural, if not justifiable."

Does not it seem strange to hear this officious but unofficial prejudgment of a case, this incessant clamor for a verdict according to such prejudgment, and these virtual threats of extra-judicial measures, such as martial law, and even lynch or mob law, in journals which pretend to intelligence and discretion?

What is the reason for all this hasty prejudgment and rash clamor, when only a portion of the evidence for the prosecution has been heard? Is it not suspicious? An impartial journal would say calmly, "Let justice be done," not, "Let vengeance rule, law or no law," as some journals do in effect.

What are the circumstances of the case? A case is upon trial, covering serious charges, under a law made by Congress, before a U. S. Judge. There is a U. S. prosecutor and a U. S. marshal. The Judge is well enough known to be not prejudiced in favor of the defence, the prosecution is well enough known to be not prejudiced in favor of the defence, and the marshal and his deputies are well enough known to be not prejudiced in favor of the defence. The court holds its sessions under the shadow of a military post or camp, filled with U. S. soldiers.

Of what, then, are these noisy journals afraid? Why all these senseless clamors for a verdict in a certain direction, these passionate semi-threats of lawless procedure in case of any other verdict? Is that the way to secure an impartial trial? The court sits to try the accused according to law, and the jury to render a verdict according to the testimony and the facts as elicited. This is their sworn duty, and it is not the duty of the newspapers. Is there in these blabbers of the press no sentiment of self-respect, no sense of decency, no respect for the dignity and the prerogatives and the duty of the court, no regard to the rights of the accused to an impartial trial and at just verdict according to law?

A PATHETIC PETITION.—The Leon (N. Y.) *Republican* says that on the night of June 2 a girl baby, apparently about two weeks old, was left upon the porch of the house of Mr. Richard Kellogg, in that town. The babe was well dressed, and had a good supply of infant's clothing. It was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg, who are reported to have been well pleased with their unexpected present. They could not resist the importunity of the following note, which was found with the foundling—

"Is there room for me? I have come to the door of this house that the Lord hath blessed in hopes of finding it open. My little wings are weary, seeking the crevices in the mountains, and forsaken by my father and mother. I am a little wanderer, a tiny baby girl, and like the dear Jesus, 'no place to lay my head.' So, 'as not a sparrow falls to the ground without the Father's notice,' I have been directed here. Take me, love me, protect me, and hear the Gentle Shepherd: 'Hungry and ye fed me, thirsty and ye gave me drink, naked and ye clothed me, a stranger and ye took me in.' 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me.' Then, O turn me not away, but let me nestle close to your bosom, and when covered by your love I shall cease to be nobody's child. You can keep me; my parents cannot. Parentage respectable, healthy, and not low in moral character."

PROPHECYING.—The end of "Mormonism," is once more foretold. The San Francisco *Chronicle* is the prophet and it prophesies that the "death-blow to Mormonism" is now being administered. "The church which stood so many shocks," etc., with its leader, "both are about to fall together. And the civilized world will raise aloft its hands and cry, Amen."

We are aware that the civilized world, from its every day confessions, is not a bit better than it should be, but the rest of the lucubration of our California contemporary we do not altogether believe in.

Our Country Contemporaries.

Beaver *Enterprise*, July 31—

The following is a synopsis of Mr. Wells Spicer's opening address for the defence in the Lee trial, delivered July 30—

He traced the course of the emigrants through Utah; claimed that they did not expect or intend to try to prove that the massacre was perpetrated by Indians themselves, but that they had white allies who acted under instructions of superior officers; that the Mormon Church was not responsible for what some of its members may have done, since bad men can be found in every church; that the Mormons were not to blame for refusing to permit supplies to be sold the emigrants, since they (the settlers) were themselves threatened with invasion, and might soon have to flee to the mountains to save themselves, and would need all that they had; that the Mormons proposed to leave Johnston's army no more than the Muscovites left Napoleon—no more than desolation. He then proceeded to state that the defence would prove that the emigrants were hard people, some of them criminal in their transgressions; to such an extent were