

## WHAT IS THE POPULATION?

Three weeks ago today the City Council appropriated \$1407.75 for counting the people of Salt Lake City. This action was taken before the enumerators had made their reports, consequently it was somewhat premature, to say the least. We believe it is the rule—because of the absurdity of any other method of transacting public business—to ascertain whether the work of the class referred to has been done before it is paid for. It is presumable, however, that the reports have been all in for some time, and if the enumerators have been thorough the officials are in possession of information of much value and which belongs to the public, who paid for it. Why then is it not imparted? Is it because the figures do not reach the estimate of hyperbolic "boomers"? If this is not the reason is not there a lurking suspicion that the work has been imperfectly done, and the result in consequence unreliable? If the public cannot get the information some reason should be given for its being withheld. Is there a patient waiting for the publication of the result of the government enumeration in order to bridge any chasm that might exist between the results of the two processes? The delay in giving the people the information for which they have paid necessarily incites a great many conjectures, in consequence of the brilliant silence maintained on the subject by the city officials.

The taking of the census of this city under the auspices of the municipal corporation was, in view of the work instituted by the General Government, supererogatory, each batch of enumerators having to do precisely the same labor, except that what was required of the national counters was much more elaborate, notwithstanding that those employed by the city received about one-half more remuneration.

For instance, the government enumerators receive two cents a name, coupled with elaborate questions not propounded by the city officers. If the population be 50,000, the government pays \$1000 for the work. For less labor the city pays, \$1407.75. However, it must be admitted that Uncle Sam's pay is rather scrimp, and no question would have been raised as to the amount appropriated to the city enumerators had the work not been, in view of the government census,

entirely unnecessary. The instituting of such a labor merely to improve employment for political partisans is an inexcusable piece of jobbery, if that was the sole reason for it. It is difficult to discover or even imagine any other. The withholding from the public the census information obtained at the expense of the taxpayers only makes the matter more aggravated. The people should know the numerical status of the population of Salt Lake City as figured out by the municipal enumerators, whether the conclusion agrees with that reached by the officers of the General Government or otherwise.

## THE "GALL" OF IT.

THE San Francisco *Chronicle* says: "It will gall the Mormons to have the fruit of their tithes spent in the cause of Gentile education, yet this is what Senator Edmunds' new bill provides."

Very likely. Would it not "gall" the *Chronicle* to see the fruit of its investments spent in the promotion of the *Alta* or the *Bulletin*, or devoted without its consent to the education of its opponents' children?

Education is an excellent thing, if properly conducted. But is it right to rob a Church that secular education may be extended? How much of an object lesson in honesty and morality will the fact furnish to the children, that their free education was provided with funds filched from a Church?

Speaking of "gall," will the *Chronicle* expatiate a little on the "gall" which prompted this diversion of "Mormon" tithes to "Gentile education," and that which approves of the theft, as the *Chronicle* seems to do?

The sacred Book of Christendom tells about "gall" being given to the Being it professes to worship, while in his dying agony. This administration of "gall" to believers in Christ by other devotees of the Christian faith, looks more like the act and spirit of anti-Christ than anything which the Redeemer would approve.

Giving "gall" to the "Mormons" may delight the *Chronicle* and others of its ilk, but the "gall" of such doings will disgust all friends of justice and consistency among both heathens and Christians.

ST. LOUIS, June 27.—The temperature here to-day was about 100. Four deaths and many prostrations were reported.

## A "PLEASANT REVENGE."

THE Chicago *Tribune* says that "to devote the property of the Mormon infamy" to the common schools "under Gentile control," will be "a pleasant and profitable revenge for the mischief which that Church has done."

This is a "pleasant" way of putting before the public the robbery which is contemplated by way of "revenge" upon the "Mormon" Church. It is a truly "Christian" (?) spirit which rejoices over the pillage of a people everywhere noted for their sincerity, honesty and thrift. And the pleasure of "revenge" is a truly moral and civilized sentiment for a "Christian" journal to inculcate.

As to its being profitable, that remains to be seen. In a pecuniary sense perhaps it may be for a short time. Of course the educating of "Gentile" children with money taken by force out of "Mormon" pockets, may be "profitable" to those who gain the benefits of the steal. But if "honesty is the best policy," and time and justice have their revenges, or rather retributions, it may not prove in the long run so "profitable" after all. And we doubt whether it will be morally profitable to "Gentile" children to know they were educated by means of plunder, or likely to command respect for the government that seized on property to which it had no right, and gave it to people who had no claim upon it, and all for a "pleasant and profitable revenge" without reason and without excuse.

But what is the "mischief" which the Church has done, for which it is to be plundered by way of "pleasant revenge?" Is it the opening of this great western region to white occupation? Is it the example, set for the encouragement of colonies that have followed, of peaceable possession of the soil surrounded by savages? Is it the unfurling of the flag of our country on the soil of its Mexican foe, while five hundred of the flower of "Mormon" manhood were mustered in our country's military service? Is it the founding and building up of a great commonwealth, yet to be a mighty State, in the midst of these mountains? Is it the bringing of thousands of old world workers to this place and making of them independent, wealth-producing and peaceable American citizens? Is it the influence which has made "Mormon" towns examples of quietness, sobriety, unity and comfort? Is it the establishing