

cribed. In addition to the testimony of Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery who received it under the hands of the heavenly messengers, there is the witness of thousands of persons who have obtained divine manifestations in corroboration thereof. All the powers and gifts of that divine calling have been and are exercised by others who have been ordained to this authority. And the gift of the Holy Ghost which has been imparted to hosts of people in various nations through their administration, is the sign and seal and power of their authority.

We recommend to all visitors and others who hear of this restoration to earth of the Apostleship of the Christian Church, and who are excited by the news to excessive hilarity, that they "hold it in" long enough to use a little logic, and enquire into the grounds for what belief they have, and pursue their investigations into the evidences existing of the momentous event which provoked the merriment and incredulity of the gentlemen from Springfield, Illinois. For it is of more importance to the inhabitants of the earth than all the material inventions and discoveries of modern times, and will have an effect upon the earth that will reach from time into eternity.

#### UTAH COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

THE Associated Press dispatch on the intended report of the Utah Commission is to be received *cum grano salis*. Until the report is published it is scarcely safe to comment upon it. The remarks elicited from members of the Commission are very meagre. There is nothing in them on which to base objections. The summary given by the reporter, of their intended recommendations, is of a different character. If they recommend all that he relates, their report will be the worst that has emanated from that body. We are inclined to doubt the accuracy of the dispatch. The ideas it contains are well known to be the views and desires of the "Liberals" of Utah. They are what they have worked for unsuccessfully for some time. They are not really aimed at polygamy, the suppression of which is supposed to be the object for which the Utah Commission was created, but at the political supremacy of the majority of Utah's citizens, who are not polygamists and who have taken an oath to obey the laws of the United States.

And this has been the aim and end of the opponents of the "Mormon" people from the beginning of the Utah crusade. Those who have made the greatest outcry against polygamy have raised it, not in the interest of morality, not even of that morality which they pretend to uphold, but solely for political purposes. They want control of this Territory with its rich possibilities to adventurous and unscrupulous politicians.

They succeeded in obtaining the disfranchisement of polygamists, and then of the women voters of Utah, for the purpose only of reducing the voting strength used against their schemes. This has not worked according to expectations. So now they want the Idaho test oath infamy extended to Utah. By this, the majority of the voting citizens of the Territory—all non-polygamists—would be deprived of the elective franchise. This is part of the "Liberal" policy and the "Liberal" programme. And all other connecting schemes are subordinate to this weeping project.

Whether the Utah Commissioners have been won over to this plot, for purposes that may be very easily explained, remains to be seen. We do not yet believe that they have, in spite of the Associated Press report of their intentions. They may state these as the desires of the "Liberal" party of Utah, but we cannot yet believe they will recommend them to Congress. And if they do, we have no fear that such legislation will pass the House of Representatives. We will wait for further developments before making further comments.

#### NOT IGNORANCE BUT MALICE.

THE Salt Lake Tribune, commenting on the conspiracy cases in this county, understands that the Bishop of Malad has been convicted. The Tribune doesn't appear to be very well posted on matters in this section of country.

The above is from the Malad Enterprise. The trouble is not so much the ignorance of the mendacious sheet therein mentioned, but its disposition to misrepresent and create prejudice against the "Mormons." It is quite common to see in its columns assertions that persons accused of offenses are "Mormon Bishops" when they are not and never were in such authority, and sometimes when they are not in any way connected with the "Mormon" Church. The object is to mislead, the intention is to bear

false witness, the practice is part of the policy of the paper.

Occasionally a correction of the falsehood appears. More often it is allowed to pass unchallenged. When an opposing statement is given place it is either put in such a way that it is nearly as bad, sometimes worse, than the original falsehood, or it is accompanied by further misstatements and scurrilous remarks without which it would not be accepted by the scribes in control.

There was not the slightest reason or excuse for stating that the person convicted by that packed jury at Malad was the Bishop of the place. It was done for what is vulgarly called in this region "pure cussedness," which is the dominant characteristic of the concern that published the lie.

#### OVER THE HILLS TO UTAH.

The evolution of the means of transportation from the east to the west is wonderful to contemplate, and unless we pay close attention to the progress of railroad building we shall have difficulty in naming just how many ways of communication there are across what was once known as the Great American Desert.

Ten weeks by ox train from the Missouri to Salt Lake was a quick trip, six weeks by mule train a good one; and as the pulse of the first settlers began to quicken, the pony express was a grand innovation. Many will remember the anxiety to get the latest news as the pony, driven at a break-neck speed, was urged up to the post-office, the leather pouch hurriedly examined, and, presto, another pony and rider were soon out of sight headed for the setting sun.

This became too slow and the telegraph was the next necessity. By the united effort of those who did not arrive with carpet bags, the poles were set up and the news from ocean to ocean was flashed across.

Then came the welcome news that the Union Pacific was heading west, and the same energies that had helped to develop the other means of communication were bent toward the completion of the first grand link across the continent. In May, 1869 the city of Salt Lake was ablaze with joy. Each home was illuminated for the occasion. The iron bands were welded at the Promontory, and the event soon became history.

In rapid succession came the Northern Pacific, the Atlantic & Pacific, the Southern Pacific the D. & R. G. to Salt Lake and the Canadian Pacific. Other roads are now projected, but the most interesting one nearing completion is now being built from Glenwood Springs via the Grand River to Grand Junction.

Take any railroad map showing lines located from Denver west and