

**ARE WE TO BE CRUSHED?—A
MALIGNANT SCHEME.**

Mr. Cragin's Bill offers us two alternatives, one of which we must accept, either abandon our religion, cease to practice its ordinances and obey its requirements, or be tried by a despotic court—unknown to the Constitution, unheard of among men of our race since Jeffreys held his bloody assizes—and be fined, imprisoned and deprived of every right of citizenship. Nothing can be plainer than that these are the objects to be accomplished. They appear, without disguise, in every section of the Bill. The Governor, Judges, District Attorney and Marshal, all officers appointed at Washington, are to be endowed with extraordinary powers and are to have unrestricted control of the Territory and its officers. Lest our Probate Judges should be "Mormons" and too favorable to us, if the power should be left as at present to the Legislature to elect them, the Governor is to be empowered to appoint them.

The infamous Jeffreys, whose name has become a synonym for every thing vile in a Judge, did have a semblance of trials by jury; but the author of this Bill, fearful that convictions could not be obtained by that process, gives the district courts the right to hear, try and determine without a jury. These courts can be held as often in the year, and at as many places as may suit the judges. They can hold them all the time if they choose. All the funds necessary to pay the fees of the officers of their courts are to be placed within their reach. If the territorial authorities (who are meant by the territorial authorities is not stated) should not furnish a building to suit them, these officers have the right given them to seize any public building—our council-houses, meeting-houses, tabernacles, or temple, if it were finished—furnish it at our expense and retain perpetual possession of it, if such should be their pleasure. If they want to put any or all of our citizens in jail, and one should not be convenient to suit them, it is made lawful for them to seize any jail or prison in the Territory, carry them to it, and keep them incarcerated there until their vengeance shall be satisfied. If the treatment at these places of confinement should not be rigorous enough, and "Mormon" wardens and jailors should sympathize with "Mormon" captives, the Governor is to have power to change all this, and make rules and regulations to suit himself and put in officers who will treat the prisoners with the necessary harshness.

There is to be no loophole left for escape. Dire punishment is to be meted out to us, and we are to be stripped of every means of defending ourselves against it. And why are the people of this Territory to be made the special objects of the terrible vengeance which this Bill contemplates? Do brazen-faced gorgeously-appeared harlots throng our streets as they do Pennsylvania Avenue, nodded to here, and smiled at there by our legislators and other leading men of our Territory? Do gambling halls, brothels and other disreputable places of resort line our streets? Do we spread vice; or do our people groan under the dreadful effects of the social evil? Do we betray virtue, seduce our neighbor's wives, encourage promiscuous intercourse of the sexes, practice concubinage, fill the country with foundlings? No; we are guilty of none of these. Our climate is not favorable for their growth. Neither are we singled out because we indulge in these practices. We are made the objects of this formidable Bill

of forty-two sections because such evils do not flourish among us. We might have mistresses by the score, children by the hundred, if we would not dignify the women as wives, or the children as legitimate and our own.

It is not because we have more women than one, or that we have more children than belong to that one, that Senator Cragin's soul is vexed. It is because that having them we will honor them, that having them we will maintain their legitimacy. Against these features in our religion the whole strength of his Bill is directed. We must not marry. We shall not marry. It shall not be lawful for an officer or a member of our church to perform a ceremony of marriage. We may believe in marriage, when properly solemnized, to be an eternal ordinance, one which affects our future condition throughout eternity. But Senator Cragin says it is a civil contract, and every person, whether male or female, who shall aid and assist in, or even be present at, the ceremony of "Mormonism" known as sealing shall be fined not more than ten thousand nor less than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary not more than five years nor less than three months, or by both such fine and imprisonment, and the person or persons who may solemnize such rite shall also be punished as above, and, in addition, by a fine of at least one thousand dollars each, and imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary, for at least two years.

Inasmuch as we do not and can not recognize any other authority than that which he prohibits, as having the right to celebrate marriage, or that such marriage would have validity before the Almighty, this Bill refuses us the right of marriage and virtually says we must either live in acknowledged whoredom, or all intercourse between the sexes must cease. By it not only is the man who has a plurality of wives, excluded from all participation in the ordinance of sealing for eternity; but the man with one wife is in the same dilemma. If he take a wife, he must be married by a judge of the supreme court, by a justice of the peace, or by a pet priest of Senator Cragin's selection. This leaves him the alternative of neglecting to comply with a direct revelation of the Almighty, upon compliance with which his eternal happiness depends, or enduring the pains and penalties of Senator Cragin's Bill. By this Bill every minister of our faith is muzzled. God has bestowed a revelation giving us plurality of wives as a doctrine of his Church, and which we are commanded to preach and practice. But Senator Cragin says if we do obey the Almighty, and do preach and counsel it, we shall be fined in any sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months. Why not take all we have, and put a roof over the Territory and make of it a penitentiary?

This man, Cragin, has evidently read history to no profit. When did fines, imprisonment, the faggot or the sword ever accomplish what he has in view. Others more powerful, every way smarter than he, have tried their hands at revising creeds, and have endeavored to enforce those of their framing upon the people; but with what success history can answer. Our own history is a case in point. Where are our past persecutors? Sunk into such utter contempt that they are not remembered, except to be execrated. They had as good a prospect of achieving fame in their opposition to us as this Senator Cragin now has. A faith that has peopled a Territory, and has accomplished what ours has, is not easily uprooted. When the question arose in the past, shall we obey God, or obey man? We answered it; by forsaking all, and taking up our line of march into an unknown and almost un-

known wilderness. When the question is again presented to us, shall we stifle every conviction of our souls, do violence to our reason, flagrantly disobey God's requirements, become apostate to all that He has revealed, to please man, our answer will be as plain and decided as at any time in the past. We are not made to be coerced. It is not our character, to cringe and bow and speak with bated breath, and accept other men's dicta; even to please a United States Senator, and that Senator Mr. Cragin of New Hampshire. We know our rights, and knowing dare maintain them. We have a religion. It is as dear to us as his religion is to a Presbyterian, Methodist, Catholic, or a Quaker. Would Senator Cragin dare present such a Bill as this in question curtailing the religious freedom of the presbyterians? His craven soul would sink within him at the thought; for he would see, in the near future, a political damnation which he would richly merit, and which, though he may not see it in our case, he will most assuredly receive.

[Special to the Deseret Evening News.]

By Telegraph.

GOVERNOR BULLOCK ON NATIONAL MATTERS!

WASHINGTON NEWS!

THE FENIAN HEADQUARTERS IN EUROPE DISCOVERED AND IMPORTANT PAPERS SEIZED!

Another Outbreak prepared for in Ireland!

INCREASING POLITICAL AGITATION IN ITALY!

TUMULTS IN PORTUGAL!

THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ABANDONED!

Cretan Victory!

FAILURE OF CANADIAN BUSINESS HOUSES!

SEYMOUR FOR THE PRESIDENCY!

Brussels, 3.

The *Le Nord* has received news from Paris, that the headquarters of the Fenian brotherhood on the Continent have been discovered in the Faubourg De Temple, Paris, and has been seized by the French police. A large quantity of letters and other documents revealing the plans of the organization, with a list of the head centers of the brotherhood found on the premises, have been forwarded by the French authorities to London. The account also states that among the documents is one containing the details of a plot for destroying a portion of the British Channel fleet by fire. Other papers of a similar character have been discovered and placed in the hands of the British government.

London, 8.

The examination of the prisoners charged with complicity in the Clerkenwell explosion failed to elicit anything satisfactory, and the affair is still a mystery.

The military in Ireland is being distributed to meet a possible outbreak and extra vigilance is used in the counties of Cork and Tipperary.

Florence, 3.

Menabrea has not succeeded in completing the new cabinet, and the ministerial crisis continues, meanwhile the political agitation is increasing.

Lisbon, 3.

Tumults have broken out in this city, and in other parts of Portugal, in consequence of the imposition of taxes.—The unpopularity of the new system was created in the attempt to carry it into effect, and that has caused the resignation of the ministry.

Paris, 3.

It is now generally conceded that all hopes of a general conference on the Roman question is abandoned.

London, 3.

It is thought the recent conference on the Eastern question, at St. Petersburg, by the leading diplomats of Russia, has a warlike significance.

Washington, 3.

Official Cretan accounts say a battle was fought Nov. 25 and 26, in which the Turks were defeated and obliged to retire. The position of the Sultan's Grand Vizier in Candia becomes daily more critical.

Havana, 3.

The new regulations with regard to the importation of goods from Porto Rico, including the list of articles exempted from duty, has been confirmed by the new Captain-General. Eight

month's notice will be given before any change.

Richmond, 3.

The Convention has adopted a resolution urging the continuance of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Senator Pomeroy attended a meeting to-night and advised the Convention to confer the right of suffrage on all males over 21, and to secure it to them forever.

New Orleans, 3.

The Convention has adopted an article, that all persons shall enjoy equal rights in traveling in any public conveyance, and all places where business calls them, under licence or charter, shall be deemed a place of public character, open to accommodation of all persons, without regard to race or color.

LOCAL ITEMS.

ANGUS M. CANNON is the General Business Agent of this Office, and is authorized to make all collections and settlements connected therewith.

THEATRICAL.—Our notice on Thursday of "Lost in London" was brief. It partakes to some extent of the sensational character, and has a number of highly dramatic situations and tableaux. Two of the scenes are very attractive—the coal mine and the streets of London. In the former, the colliers are at work, and with the dark mine, lit only by the little glimmering "safety lamps," fastened to the hats of the men and the bright star-like shining of the calcium light in the back ground, as if a fierce sun-ray had struggled through and shot its steady luminosity into the darkness of the pit, makes a picturesque effect. The playing in the piece was very good throughout.

As the play will be repeated this evening, those wishing to see it to advantage should not fail to attend. "Milky White," which follows it, takes its name from the principle character, a sour, crusty, growling, litigious, loving and dear old dairy-man, who seems to delight in making everybody miserable, and by a misunderstanding of his own, consequent upon regaining his hearing, is made exceedingly miserable himself. But there is much that is ludicrous mixed up with his misery, and while "melting pity" moves to sympathy, the risibles are often strongly excited. The piece is a capital one, and Mr. Couldock is inimitable in it. To-night is the last one of the engagement, and the last appearance here of Mr. and Miss Couldock. All who wish to see them should secure their tickets early, this being the last opportunity.

THE SOUTH.—The "sunny south," or "our Dixie" is daily growing in importance, and everything relating to it is of increasing interest to our people throughout the other parts of the Territory. At intervals from its first settlement numbers of the brethren have been called to go and assist the pioneers in that region, strengthen the settlements made, and aid in making others. They all have friends or acquaintances in more northern places, who are continually anxious to hear of their welfare, and all the people are gratified at learning of the success of their co-religionists in their efforts to subdue the wilderness and bring the elements of prosperity and growth subject to their use. It is with no ordinary degree of pleasure that we learn, from time to time, that the difficulties with which the pioneer settlers of the south have had to battle are being overcome, and that the march of progress and improvement there is following in the wake of older settled portions of the Territory. Bro. Musser informs us that on his last trip south, he noticed a large number of fine brick buildings in course of erection in the southern settlements; fine orchards are increasing, and a general spirit of improvement is manifest. This tells us that the people there have not now that hard struggle for existence, in wresting a sustenance from the arid soil, which characterized their labors there, until within a recent period. Following comfortable habitations will come greater ability and more opportunities to cultivate accomplishments, acquire knowledge and obtain possession of many means of making life more comfortable and pleasant than sturdy battles with stern necessity and untamed nature are usually favored with. We look forward with much hope to the future of our southern settlements. Their cotton and grape crops were not so good the past season as it was expected they would be, yet considerable wine has been made, and the people are much pleased with their location and prosperity. Many declare they would not come back north, unless it was imperative that they should come, and look with laudable pride upon the thriving cities and settlements which have grown up as a result of their labors, under the blessing of the Almighty. It is gratifying also to learn that the Word of Wisdom is taking a deep hold among the people and its observance is general among them.

A very hearty response is being made to the call for assisting the Saints in Europe to emigrate.

THE POOR.—Thursday was fast day, and it was well observed,—at least where we were, we had not time to visit all the wards. The amount placed in the hands of the Bishops for the assistance of the poor, showed that the counsel given on this important subject was properly estimated by the people; and the Bishops will be able to make glad the hearts of all the necessitous during this cold wintry weather.

WOULD HAVE IT.—On Tuesday night, when Miss Alexander and Miss Louise danced the Drum Polka, in "Lost in London," the demand for a repetition was so strong and continued, that the business of the scene had to be suspended until the audience were gratified. Both young ladies danced very well, but Miss Louise astonished everybody, with her grace, abandon, and excellent time, on her first appearance in a *pas de deux*. Miss Nunn's singing, was also applauded, and Miss Olive's dancing was likewise encored.

INFORMATION is wanted of JOHN FRITH, hair-dresser, EMMA FRITH, his daughter, and MARIA HUGHES, his sister-in-law, all formerly of Market Drayton, Shropshire, who emigrated from England to this Territory in