

## DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE  
DESERET NEWS COMPANY.

CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY - JULY 21, 1886

## WARNINGS TO THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

The capture of the control of the school board by the "Liberals" in the Seventh Ward, on Monday evening, ought to prove another lesson to the apathetic members of the People's Party. Two out of the three trustees in that district now belong to the enemy, and their victory appears to have been fairly won. In the Seventeenth District the People prevailed only by a majority of one. If two more "Liberals" had been present or two less of the People's party, another defeat would have been registered against the latter. Are these not sufficient warnings?

According to reports from Park City, the influx of miners has increased the number of "Liberals," so that they expect to control the Summit County election in August. There is a split in the camp of the opposition, the Knights of Labor have come to the front as the controlling element in Park City politics; so we learn from correspondence to the Salt Lake Herald. This may prove the People's opportunity. But unless they rally as a unit and make every vote count, the probabilities are that the affairs of that county will fall into the hands of persons totally unqualified for the responsibility.

We allude to these circumstances for the purpose of arousing interest among the voting people of this Territory, and of pointing out the necessity of vigorous organization and action. It is time that the county committees were putting on their thinking caps, and that the leading men in every locality were bestirring themselves to see what is best to be done for the August election. There is no time to lose. Good men and true should be selected as the People's candidates. Favoritism, nepotism and personalities of all kinds should be excluded from the nominating conventions and committees. The word of the Lord given as a guide to the people in these matters is simply this: "When the wicked rule the people mourn. Therefore, honest men and wise men should besought for diligently, and good men and wise men ye should observe to uphold; otherwise, whatsoever is less than these cometh of evil." (Doc. & Cov. p. 342.)

When the people's chosen delegates, in convention assembled, decide by a majority vote upon a ticket composed of such men as they consider "good and wise" and suitable for the positions for which they are nominated, the people should rally to the support of that ticket in earnestness, determined that nothing shall be lacking on their part towards making it successful beyond doubt. In these times when the builders of the country, the chief counselors of the mass, the venerable leaders of society are prevented by harsh and unjust enactments from taking an active part in the politics of the Territory, those who hold the ballot should consider themselves in duty bound to step forward and cast their votes on the side of their party, whether there is formidable opposition or not. Every enfranchised man should thus mark where he stands. Every woman having the legal right to vote should show that she counts one in the struggle and that she adds one on the list of the People.

A business should be made of this for the fall election. Not a vote should be lost in the counties where there is to be a contest. And even if it is all on one side, the voters ought not to be slothful lest, at some time when they think not, they may be caught napping and be worsted by the enemy. There is little time for preparation. But there is quite sufficient if every appointed man will do his duty.

Let the public welfare be the chief object in view when candidates are selected. Wisdom should guide; sound policy rule, and unity prevail in the ranks of the People's Party. Be vigilant, be energetic, be true to principle and to brotherhood, and "victory" will be the People's cry in every valley and district in Utah!

## THEY KNOW NOTHING ABOUT IT.

The pungent paragraph of the Chicago News is responsible for the annexed remarks about the new Utah Commissioner:

"The venerable John A. McClelland, member of the Utah Commission, has returned to Springfield for a short vacation, and we see that he is being interviewed pretty freely by the callow

local press. Of course he has come back with his own notions about polygamy and his own theory as to the swiftest and surest way of extirpating that monstrous evil. A five weeks' residence among the Mormons gives the average American a clear insight into the horrors of polygamy. McClelland has been in Salt Lake City nearly seven weeks, and therefore he is qualified to an extraordinary degree to deal intelligently with the intricacies of this Mormon problem. While the Hon. Thomas T. Crittenden was governor of Missouri he made a tour to Utah and spent one night in Salt Lake City. On his return home he had a theory about the suppression of Mormonism, of course, and he spun it out to the newspapers by the yard. If a Missourian could have so much to say on a question to the investigation of which he had devoted but one night, how much more will an intelligent Illinoisian like McClelland have to say after devoting six weeks to a study of the same question."

We do not know how much problem-solving wisdom the new Commissioner has displayed for the enlightenment of Illinois in particular and a startled world in general, but we think the gentleman is not any more qualified to speak on the subject than the stupid Missourian, who carried away with him from Utah nothing in his noddle but the stories that were stuffed into him by his venomous relative, and the fumes of other equally enlightening influences which entered by the capacious mouth instead of the lengthy ears.

Salt Lake City is not Utah, and conversation with a little knot of anti-Mormons does not impart much accurate information on "Mormonism." The books that are written by tourists who come in by the cars, take a hack ride around town, a sniff at the lake, a glance at the Temple, and a guess at the situation, and who make up their data from other publications and the yarns of persons who take delight in filling up travelers with blood-curdling Mauchausenisms, are not likely to correct the public mind on a subject about which there is more misinformation than almost any other. The people who buy them do not read them to learn facts, but with the expectation of seeing something nasty, or as they would term it, "racy," in regard to the "Mormons." And these books are not any less reliable than the remarks and tales and remedies that fall from the lips of men who spend a few weeks in a given locality in one Utah town, and then go to the world and air their great experience and knowledge about the "Mormons" through "a protracted residence in Utah."

If the people really wanted to know something on the Utah question, they would seek it from the "Mormons" themselves, and in the books and papers published by their authority, and not in the yarns and opinions and second-hand information (?) dealt out by persons who know no more about it than a four-year old "Mormon" knows about the mysteries of Chicago.

## A LITTLE COMMON SENSE WANTED.

The annoyance and expense to which the settlers in this mountain country are subjected through the ignorance or knavery of meddling officials, cry aloud for redress and for the exercise of a little common sense and humanity by the authorities at Washington. The suits that have been planted against enterprising men who have made building and improvements possible in the Territories, show that the officials who have instigated them are either densely ignorant of the circumstances existing here, or so anxious to show their official zeal that they do not care for justice, the needs of the community or anything else but their own ambition.

The cutting of timber and preparing it for building purposes is sufficiently risky, and attended with enough hardship in this rough and lofty region, without the senseless restrictions and needless obstructions placed in the way by a strained construction of the timber laws. If these were executed according to the notions of Sparks and other unwise officials at a distance, improvements in the Territories would be stopped and the principal enterprises be brought to a standstill. The seizure of timber and the prosecution of mill-owners who have expended large sums so as to be able to supply the public with building material, are indicative of dense stupidity or reckless perversity.

The following dispatch sent to Washington by the Governor of Idaho, shows how this movement is regarded by our neighbors in the north:

Boise City, Idaho, July 6, 1886.

Hon. John Hayley, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.:

Dear Sir: Mr. A. S. Caldwell, Land Inspector for Idaho, informs me that he has positive instructions from Washington to immediately levy upon and take possession in the name of the United States, of all the logs, timber, and lumber at the saw mills, and the logs and timber in the river en route to said mills. If this order is carried out, settlement and habitation on all these mountain countries must be abandoned and Idaho given back for the habitation of wild beasts and savages. To im-

port wood, lumber and timber from Oregon or Washington Territory, several hundred miles, is impossible, and our people stand horrified and amazed at the prospect before them.

Please lay these matters before the President and Secretary Lamar, and explain to them the deplorable condition of the people of Montana and Idaho if these orders are not modified at once.

EDWARD A. STEVENSON,  
Governor."

The timber laws were originally enacted for the preservation of trees that might be needed for government use. They were never intended to prevent the hardy settler from using the mountain growth for needful purposes, in making a home and in building up towns and cities in a new country.

If the officials who are actively engaged in the prosecutions against timber cutters in the Territories were compelled to scratch for a living among the pines and peaks of the Rocky Mountains for a season, they might gain a little common sense and common understanding of the situation, and be able to discern the difference that locality makes in the application of the statutes under which they are waging a war, not only upon the men who supply the needed lumber, but upon the people who are turning the deserts into fruitful fields and adding to the wealth and progress of the country.

A combined and vigorous effort ought to be made by all the mill men of the Territories to obtain redress and get this matter properly represented at headquarters. The people of this whole inter-mountain region are interested in the question, and there should be a universal protest against the senseless measures that have been inaugurated by land office numbskulls at Washington.

## OPPRESSION IN INDIA.

ONE of the reasons why Home Rule is wanted in India, a subject on which we treated a few days ago, is accounted for without further argument, by the figures of the Indian budget which was presented in the House of Commons not long before the recent dissolution of Parliament. The estimate for army charges for the current year was \$91,000,000, an excess of \$8,000,000 over that of last year. Of this India has to pay over two-thirds, less than one third being paid by England. There are about 70,000 soldiers maintained in India not counting officers, and 12,000 more are to be added. These troops are not wanted for the benefit of the people who pay most of the taxes, but to strengthen the power and promote the ambitious projects of England. The natives who chiefly support this burden have no voice in the assessment of the taxes, and no representation in the British Parliament.

It sympathy is excited for Ireland which has its representative rights, and takes some part in the affairs of the Empire, how much more ought to be entertained for India, which is completely under the domination of a foreign power. Home Rule is wanted in the eastern possessions of Great Britain as well as nearer home, and the agitation of the subject for down-trodden Erin, cannot fail to affect the question of relief for oppressed and subjugated India.

## INFANT DAMNATION.

DR. DE WITT TALMAGE who delivers "extempore" (?) sermons, which he has previously furnished the press in different parts of the United States in time to publish on the day after they are delivered, has recently caused some comment by announcing his belief that infants when they die "go straight to heaven." Heathen babies, even, he thinks "go to the skies" to swell the chorus of "children singing in glory." This is spoken of as something new in theology, and as a great advance and improvement upon the old doctrine that unbaptized babies "dying in their sins" are "doomed to eternal misery."

Instead of Dr. Talmage being "progressive," he is very much behind the times in receiving a truth revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith, and that has been taught by the Elders of this Church ever since 1830. It has taken over half a century for this simple principle to penetrate to his understanding. In a revelation given in September, 1830, we find the following:

"But, behold, I say unto you, that little children are redeemed from the foundation of the world through mine Only Begotten; wherefore they cannot sin, for power is not given unto Satan to tempt little children, until they begin to become accountable before me."

This, at a time when all orthodoxy taught that original sin descended to all the posterity of Adam, that "In Adam's fall we sinned all," and that infant baptism was an essential, was a great innovation. And like many other principles advanced by the Prophet Joseph that were in advance of the age and of the condition of religious thought, though opposed at first with

vigor, as the years have rolled on have been gradually adopted by those who are still opposed to "Mormonism," and by many who do not know the source from which these rational and scriptural doctrines emanated.

The ideas that have prevailed concerning infant damnation have been among the most horrible put forth by apostate "Christianity." They came from the Romish Church, and have been adopted in the modified forms of heresy which have been set up since the first days of "The Reformation." They are not to be found in the teachings of Christ or of His Apostles, and yet have been for ages supposed to be an integral part of the Christian religion.

The perdition of infants is a dogma that has sprung from the errors that have obtained concerning baptism and original sin. And these errors are still prevalent, and form portions of the creeds of the most orthodox sects of the present day. All mankind are supposed to have "sinned in Adam." This is foolish as well as false. That posterity are affected by the faults of progenitors is a natural law, and that death comes to the progeny of a being who fell into mortality through transgressing a law of immortality is reasonable and according to nature. But that because of one man's sin all creation is to be damned eternally, is both unjust and absurd.

The Bible does not teach such a doctrine. It shows that the atonement was as wide and deep and far reaching as the fall. Death came to all by one man's sin, life comes to all by one man's atonement for that sin. "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." It is appointed unto every man to experience death and it is ordained that every man shall be raised from the dead. Death is no more universal than the resurrection is to be. Each comprehends all races and includes both the just and the unjust.

Joseph the Prophet taught the great truth that mankind are accountable for their own sins and not for Adam's transgression. This is the doctrine of Scripture; and the contrary, which has been believed for centuries, is man's perversion of Gospel truth. As we had no part in Adam's sin, so we have no part in the satisfaction made for that sin. We did not contract the debt and we are not required to do anything towards its payment. But we are responsible for our own sins, and if we gain redemption therefrom it will be by availing ourselves of the plan of redemption. That requires obedience to the commandments of God through Christ Jesus, whose blood was shed to atone for original sin, and also for the sins of all men who yield obedience to Him.

Baptism is one of the conditions to remission of individual sins. It must be preceded by faith and repentance. Without them baptism is but a bath. Therefore infant baptism is a mockery because infants can neither believe nor repent. It was never instituted until so-called "Christians" had gone far into darkness, idolatry and semi-paganism. Christ blessed little children and said "of such is the kingdom of heaven." He did not baptize them. The "households" that were baptized by the Apostles were such as believed and also repented. Infants need no baptism because they have no sin and baptism is "for the remission of sins." All children who die before they reach the years of accountability are saved in Christ, and will have part in the first resurrection which is only for them who are "blessed and holy."

Children "begin to become accountable" as soon as they begin to understand clearly the difference between right and wrong. As soon as they can sin, they can learn to repent, and as soon as they can learn to repent they can be taught the necessity of baptism and the reception of the Holy Ghost. Eight years old is the earliest time for baptism and confirmation mentioned in the revelations of God upon this subject, previous to which children must be taught to understand the doctrines of faith, repentance, baptism and the laying on of hands. And as children's minds are not all similarly developed at the same age, it is evident that they do not all begin to become accountable at the same age. Satan has no power to tempt them until they begin to understand good from evil. No mother, then, need have any anxiety as to the fate of her infant who died before arriving at the years of accountability. All such are "whole from the foundation of the world."

All the so-called baptisms of infants, then of the Catholic, Episcopalian, Methodist, Congregationalist and other churches of modern times are vain, senseless, sacrilegious and anti-Christian. Sprinkling is not baptism at all, and no baptism is needed for infants. The blasphemous doctrine of infant damnation would never have been conceived but for this fundamental error. It is a libel on the Almighty and a proof that its teachers and defenders are not sent of God.

What can be more innocent, beautiful and pure than a guileless little child? It was chosen by the sinless Savior as a type of heavenly goodness. And except we all become like one of those little ones we have poor prospects of entering the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are the spotless babes before the stain of sin disfigures their sweet souls! They need no baptismal rite nor sponsor's promise. They are Christ's if they die in their untainted childhood, and "their angels do always behold the face of our Father who is in heaven."

## EXCELSIOR.

A LETTER from a young Elder (William Cowan) laboring in the South, furnishes food for reflection. It relates an incident which is frequently paralleled in these times, and shows how heroic feats of the present outshine the boasted deeds of valor handed down from the musty past. The achievement of the "six hundred," in their rush for the "jaws of death," at Balaklava, has been immortalized in poetry. Then why, in the name of all that is huge, cannot some bard be found to sing in praise of the noble one hundred, who at such imminent risk surrounded a house and captured a couple of "Mormon" striplings? The daring of these rash men is thrown into greater prominence when it is considered that this deed was done under the impression that the two formidable "Mormon" boys wore some species of secret armor. They satisfied themselves that such was not the case, however, and then valiantly reduced the escort of the two "Mormon" invincibles to twenty armed men, mounted on their counterparts in point of sense. This small party of mules and men conveyed the Elders over the line of the county, which was thus saved by the irrepressible forty—to speak mixedly of the mules and men. It is difficult to treat them otherwise than as a homogenous whole, as the question of superiority of the one class over the other is exceedingly nice. The theme is one which is sure to enlist the sympathies of the Tribune's rusher. Then let him pen a poetic paenegyric upon the heroic deed of the noble one hundred, with the culminating feat of the daring forty as a fundamental base for a splendid peroration.

## THE PRIMARIES.

MEMBERS of the People's Party of both sexes should attend the primary meetings in the various precincts on Monday July 19th at 8 o'clock p. m. The weather been so warm, many will be tempted to stay away and let the active people of the party attend to the necessary business. But this is wrong policy. If everybody feels like that there will be no meetings. It is necessary that an active interest be taken in local politics. We want good men for the offices. To select these, good men must be chosen to the county conventions which make the nominations. These are selected at the primaries, and the party should be well represented at those meetings, so that each Ward may have somebody to represent it in the convention.

No one but members of the People's Party should be allowed to take part in the proceedings. These primaries are party assemblies. Neither members of other parties nor bolters from the People's Party should endeavor to intrude their notions and opinions nor be permitted to make division. Each party is entitled to hold its own meetings, make its own arrangements, and ventilate its own views to itself.

The proceedings on Monday need not be protracted. When properly organized the meetings can proceed to business, choose the delegates and adjourn just as quickly as is consonant with party interests. Or they can hold them just as long as the people present may choose, and have as many speeches as they can stand or sit out in this high rate of temperature.

The Chairmen and Secretaries of the primaries should see that the Delegates are provided with the necessary certificates to entitle them to seats in the convention. We hope there will be a general interest taken in this matter, and that everybody who belongs to the party will endeavor to be present on Monday evening. It does not matter whether ladies and gentlemen are legal voters or not, so long as they belong to the People's Party. But registered voters should by all means be there, and it would be wise for the officers of the primaries and the Delegates to the Convention to be chosen from among the legal voters of the respective precincts.

Duty should be considered before pleasure. But the Primaries, by judicious management, can be made very interesting, and our friends who have speaking talent should rally with the rest, and make these political gatherings such pleasurable occasions that everybody will want to be there and have a finger in the pie of politics. All hands to the primaries!

## "OBTRUSIVE PARTISANSHIP."

THE President of the United States has issued an executive order, warning all office-holders under the General Government to avoid "obtrusive partisanship." They are not to use their official positions in attempts to control the political movements in their localities. They are reminded that they are the agents of the people. They are not forbidden the exercise of political privileges, but are directed not to assume "the active conduct of political campaigns."

The propriety of this, it appears to us, may be seen at a glance. Officers of the Government are not appointed