

**CHICAGO AND "MORMONISM."**

The Chicago correspondent of the New York Times says: "Mistress-keeping is as much in vogue with our rich men as it is in Paris. It is the ton, and it is done openly and boldly, and the man of wealth is thought none the worse for it. We might as well have Mormonism and done with it, as the state of society that exists among us. We saw it estimated in one of the daily papers a short time ago, that there were eight hundred houses of prostitution in the city, and three thousand five hundred courtezans. The estimate may seem large, but when we know that they are to be found in all parts of the city—right in the centre, near the Tremont and Sherman House, where they have secured a lodgement in business blocks—we are quite confident that the number has not been over-rated."

The above gives a very fair idea of the ignorance which commonly prevails respecting the nature of what is called "Mormonism." This correspondent of the New York Times says: "We might as well have Mormonism and done with it, as the state of society that exists among us." He does not say what he thinks "Mormonism" is; but we can form some idea of his thoughts by the state of society which he describes as existing in Chicago—eight hundred houses of prostitution, and three thousand five hundred courtezans!

There are thousands of persons throughout the country whose perceptions of morality are so perverted that they can not distinguish any difference between whoredom and honorable marriage. Their minds can not rise to the conception of any motive other than lust to prompt the intercourse of the sexes. Hence, they fail to perceive the distinction between our institutions and the profligacy and vice which flourish around them. The effects of those debasing associations are what we have to contend against.

The most active opponents and denouncers of our system are familiar with whoredom and prostitution. These vices are practiced all around them. They look upon them as necessary evils. They would prefer to see houses of prostitution and courtezans numbered by hundreds and thousands here than to have such a state of society as we have. Is not this strange? A man unperturbed and uncorrupted by the vices of the age would think it so, were he to reflect upon the subject.

These men who would take our morals in charge, and, if they had the power, would mould us into strict conformity with their views, do not appear to perceive their own inconsistency. They see no impropriety in loudly condemning our system of marriage, which protects woman and makes her the dignified associate of man and the honored mother of his children, while at the same time they maintain a studied silence respecting prostitution and its frightful train of evils.

If "Mormonism" prevailed in Chicago, what would be the condition of the city? Would houses of prostitution and their wretched inmates exist there? Would drunkenness, gambling, whoredom, murder and the luxuriant crop of vices that now flourish there, thrivily ripen in its atmosphere? Let the records of the towns and cities where it does prevail give the answer. Houses of prostitution do not exist. Courtezans do not follow their accursed occupation. Life and property are sacredly secure. Virtue and chastity and their kindred graces are encouraged, protected and honored. Men are kind and true, women confident and happy, children pure, healthy and obedient. These are the fruits which "Mormonism" produces, and

which it will always produce wherever it has sway. For Chicago's sake we wish it people had "Mormonism."

**A NEW VOLCANO IN NICARAGUA.**

About the middle of November last a grand and interesting spectacle was witnessed on the Plains of Leon in Nicaragua, one of the South American Republics, caused by the formation of a new volcano.

At or near 1 o'clock in the morning of the 14th a succession of loud explosions were heard and felt at the city of Leon, eight leagues west of the scene of the occurrence. A fissure in the earth's crust, about half a mile long, was caused by these explosions, from which, before day-light, fire was seen issuing in various places. The explosions continued for sixteen days, sometimes in rapid succession, and occasionally at intervals of half an hour.

In the course of a few days two craters about a fifth of a mile apart formed on the fissure, one on the southwestern extremity discharging its fiery contents perpendicularly, and the other discharging itself in a north-easterly direction at an angle of about forty-five degrees. On the morning of the 22nd the main crater was actively engaged sending forth, at intervals of a second, flame and half melted cinders from an orifice about 180 feet in circumference, around which a regular cone about 200 feet high had been formed by the falling cinders. This continued column of flame and cinders was emitted with such force as to rise five hundred feet above the orifice, while occasional explosions varying from ten to thirty minutes would greatly increase the force and volume of the discharges sending them far up into the clouds. The discharges from the two craters were simultaneous, those on the left hand crater being much smaller, it being only about twenty feet in diameter.

The cinders ascended in half fused blazing masses from one to three feet in diameter, and, hardening in their transit through the air, fell upon the cone with a clinking metallic sound. On the afternoon of the 27th a series of terrific explosions took place which were followed by vast discharges of black sand and heavier rock; the column of flame also greatly increased, and at night burning spherical stones, four or five feet in diameter, were hurled a height of a thousand yards. On the following morning the streets and housetops in Leon were covered with fine black sand, while a luminous shower of the same material continued for two days over the whole of the surrounding country, from the volcano to the Pacific, a distance of fifty miles. For a mile around the crater this scoria lay about a foot deep, and in particles nearly half an inch in diameter. The cone, as has been already mentioned, was two hundred feet high, the crater on its summit two hundred yards round, and 200 feet deep. The forest for many miles around was disfigured by the action of the falling of sand and rock, and the trees nearest the volcanoes were cut into fragments and half buried in the debris.

On the 30th the eruption ceased, having been in active operation for sixteen days.

The showers of sand were followed by rain. Despite the accumulation of sand and rock, the corn, cotton and grass grew more rapidly than ever before known.

The formation of these new volcanoes and the storms, eruptions and earthquakes on and around the Island of St. Thomas were contemporaneous, and as the earthquakes on St. Thomas were felt at Leon, it is supposed were due to the same general cause.

**By Telegraph.**

London, 29.—George Francis Train is delivering lectures at Cork on American Irish subjects, he has crowded houses. The editor of the Dublin Nation has been arrested for publishing seditious articles, and is held for trial.

Senate.—A resolution from the Colorado Legislature, praying for admission as a State, was referred to the Committee on Territories. The bill providing for the sale of the iron clads was taken up; an amendment was adopted providing for the retention of all vessels of the Dictator, Kalamazoo and Passaic classes, nineteen in all, leaving thirty-five to be sold. The bill passed. The report from the Committee of Confer-

ence on the Efficiency Appropriation bill was adopted. When the morning session expired the Senate resumed the consideration of the Reconstruction bill. Pomeroy spoke in support of the bill. Burkhead replied; other speeches were made and the Senate adjourned.

House.—Banks reported a bill concerning the rights of American citizens. Spaulding gave notice of an amendment, striking out the clause "authorizing the President to retaliate" and substituting the words, "shall be deemed just cause for war." Notice was given of other amendments. Banks spoke in defence of the bill until the morning hour expired, when the bill went over. The report of the Conference Committee on the deficiency bill was agreed to. It limits the allowance of stationery to \$125 to each member. The House resumed the consideration of the bill declaring forfeited the Southern Railroad land grants. Before proceeding to this, Johnson asked leave to offer a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether it was in the power of Congress to prevent the immigration of Chinese and other inferior races; also whether the Civil Rights act, and the proposed suffrage amendment to the Constitution included the Chinese. Pile objected, saying the resolution was a burlesque on common sense. The Southern Railroad land bill was discussed at length, without action. Johnson introduced a joint resolution declaratory of the powers and rights of the Federal State Governments, and of the rights of citizenship; referred to the Judiciary Committee. Adjourned.

New York.—An informal meeting of authors and publishers will be held tomorrow for the purpose of agreeing on some plan to secure international copyright.

Augusta, Maine.—The House voted three to one to repeal the State Constabulary law.

Atlanta, Ga.—The Convention adopted that section of the bill which declares that the rights and social status of citizens shall never be subject to legislation.

Helena.—1 p. m.; Thermometer 10 above, clear and pleasant. Yesterday, at 3 p. m., a fire broke out at Roxo's, Main St., next door to F. Bohm's assay office. The roof and front of the building were totally destroyed. Loss \$6,000; not insured.

Virginia, M. T.—1 p. m.; Thermometer 21 above; clear and very pleasant.

San Francisco.—The official statement of the branch mint at San Francisco for '87 shows that the total deposits of bullion amounted to \$19,000,000; coinage \$19,380,000.

Paris.—The bill, reorganizing the army, passed the Senate after a sharp debate.

London.—The policy recently adopted by Prussia on the Roman question and her agreement with France in the treatment of that subject caused surprise. It was probably adopted for the purpose of conciliating her Catholic subjects and of strengthening her influence over South Germany. Milner Gibson, a leading member of Parliament, in a recent speech, declared that peace must be preserved between England and America, and that the future cabinets of both countries must not be pledged to the policy of either Stanley or Seward. Additional particulars have been received of the Martello Tower affair in Dunannon. Quite a vigorous attack was made; several men were shot, and carried off by their companions. The affair caused great excitement in Wexford county.

The internal condition of Italy is becoming critical, and fears are entertained that a coup d'etat is contemplated.

Florence.—It is believed in Paris that the relations between France and Italy will not be so cordial as they have been.

Paris.—It is now considered certain that the General Council of the Roman Catholic church will assemble at Rome in November.

Florence.—The *Unito Catholico* newspaper says, a special agent from the United States arrived at Rome on a secret mission to the Pope, and will be supported by Farragut's fleet, which is expected hourly. The Naples Journal gives no information in regard to the nature of the mission. The intrigues of the Bourbonists in Naples are causing much disquiet there.

Berlin.—Carl Schurz has arrived on a special mission from Washington, and has been received by Bismarck.

Copenhagen.—The upper House of the Rigsdag has unanimously ratified the treaty for the transfer of St. Thomas.

Chicago, 30.—The total losses by the great fire on Tuesday night amount to two & three quarter millions, about half insured. The Pacific Insurance Company at San Francisco loses ten thousand. It is thought all losses will be

promptly paid, though some companies will be nearly ruined.

Naples, 30.—The eruption of Vesuvius culminated in an unusual and very fatal catastrophe, yesterday. On the side of the mountain opposite the gate of the Castello works, one of the fortifications of the city fell outwards and detached a portion of several houses, which were burned, overwhelming numbers of carriages passing along the highway. The scene was melancholy and full of ruin; there was considerable loss of life, the number was not ascertained.

The *Herald's* special believes that the President will veto the anti-contraction bill. Governor Jenkins is about to apply to the Supreme Court for an injunction to prevent General Meade from illegally appropriating the funds and Railroads of the State of Georgia. This will test the constitutionality of the present Governments of the Southern States.

The *World's* special says the Committee of Ways and Means have decided not to reduce the whisky tax.

The *Tribune's* special says the Committee on Appropriations will bring the appropriations within a hundred and fifty millions.

**LOCAL ITEMS.**

THEATRICAL.—Mr. Mergetts' Benefit comes off to-night, and from the excellence of the bill provided, the energy manifested to give it publicity, and the known popularity of the gentleman, we expect a good house. A very attractive melo-drama, with startling melo-dramatic effects and plenty of fun, not the least of which is that Model Farm; with singing by Mr. Dunbar and Miss Nunn; dancing by Miss Clive; and the farce which follows full of fun, frolic and laughable imitations; there is attraction enough, or ought to be, to please anybody.

WASHINGTON CO.—We are favored with a letter from Br. John Pulpispher, of Shoal Creek, Washington county, from which we learn that the people of that new settlement are full of energy and faith to fulfill their mission. Their health is good. The heavy rains in December swelled the small streams to the size of rivers, and did great damage in washing away fences, land and roads. Still, the people are not discouraged, knowing they can make more improvements, manifesting the spirit that has settled and built up this Territory. They have erected a new school house, which is kept warm with schools, meetings, parties, &c. The Indians are peaceable, and the stock of the settlement are wintering well, although there has been eight inches of snow on the ground.

ONLY THINK.—We must be growing callous. Ossification of the heart may have set in, and if so the results are fearful to contemplate. But, be that as it may, the most astounding news does not induce an extra pulsation. Only think, the following paragraph, clipped from the *Chicago Tribune* of the 18th, did not disturb our equanimity a particle:

"An important contested election case is to come up in the House committee in a few days, involving the whole question of Brigham Young's operations in Utah. McGortry, elected by the Gentiles, contests the seat of Hooper, elected by the Saints, as delegate from that Territory. It is claimed by McGortry that the elections, as conducted by the Bishops under the regulations prescribed by Brigham, are wholly in contravention of United States law, and that in fact the entire administration of the government there is outside of the laws, and that no legal election can be held under them. The case is being prepared for the committee, and the evidence has been ordered printed."

And, then, on the top of it, to meet the following taken from another eastern paper! Yet our equilibrium was maintained:

"Judge C. B. Wait, of Chicago, formerly Associate Justice of Utah Territory, is here conducting the contested election case of McGortry vs. Hooper, for Delegate from Utah Territory."

See that, now! Judge Wait and McGortry have joined hands, and Utah must have another delegate—and such a delegate!

Now for the facts in this election (?) case. This man, a letter from whose father—James McGortry, of Ireland—we published lately, became the cat's paw of a small but corrupt and contemptible party who were here some time ago, and who left no means untaken which their wicked imaginations could invent to make us trouble. A so named "Mass" meeting was called by a handbill posted up. A few went to the appointed place, our reporter amongst the number, and the whole proceedings were a farce so extreme as to be beneath notice at the time. A chairman was appointed by a unanimous vote of three! The nomination of McGortry was viva voce, a whole chorus of four persons sustaining it. The meeting broke up, and there were drinks for all who would partake. At election day he polled 109 votes, out of 15,179. Now he is in Washington. To get a seat? Ridiculous! No; his royalty is so excessive that he wants Uncle Sam to pay his traveling expenses in leaving a place where he had remained too long, but where his debts still remain unpaid. He thinks by a show of having had a chance to be elected that he can get mileage and expenses in Washington from the public purse. A contested election lately cost the nation \$400,000; and this poor tool of a defunct clique seems to act as if he would like a little something from the public crib. Fat contracts in Utah do not pay just crib, and so something else may. But the evidence is to be printed! Where did it come from? Who has heard it before? Why, he is furnished with a nice batch of affidavits, sworn to, signed and subscribed such as could have been got by the cord any day before the time he left, furnished by those devoted "loyalists" who wanted a public trial in one law, leaving the other free for a pull at a whiskey barrel. He may leave Washington as his shrewder but no less dishonest partner left his hotel in this city, with a honest partner flying from a part of the human flag of decency which the pants usually cover, but if he does not get "mileage," some swindled hotel keeper will suffer, sure.