

guide. Let us have free and sovereign States, as therein provided, and no political dependencies, subjugated provinces or conquered colonies. Let Democrats and Republicans join in a comprehensive and magnanimous measure, to rectify the gigantic error involved in this Territorial anomaly and bring the entire country together, a united whole, *e pluribus unum* in its full sense, a confederation of commonwealths with mutual interests, a Nation undivided, inter-dependent, disenthralled, unfettered and universally free.

WHAT THEY ARE AIMING AT.

THE Philadelphia *News* concludes an editorial on the "sweeping" measure against the "Mormons" now before Congress with this remark: "The fight of the people of the United States is against polygamy, not against 'Mormonism.'"

"The people of the United States" know very little of what they are fighting against. They are aroused into rage by preachers and other fanatics, who inflame their prejudices by the most reckless untruths, and they join in the shout which is heard in the national capital. And the assertion that it is only polygamy that is the object of attack is nonsense. We would ask our contemporary of the city of brotherly love what those sections of the bill now in Congress which plot the confiscation of "Mormon" Church property have to do with fighting anything less than "Mormonism?"

If the thieving scheme become a law it will not have the slightest effect upon polygamy, that is, towards its suppression. The Act of incorporation of the Church, which it supplements for the purpose of putting the hands of fourteen Government appointees into its treasury, makes no provision for polygamy, was not intended to do so, has had no bearing upon polygamy, and the handling of its funds by hostile persons will not touch the doctrine nor the practice.

The Edmunds bill, echoes the voice of the sectarian clergy. It is designed against the "Mormon" Church and thus to suppress "Mormonism." It is a project for robbery and spoliation. It is like the old Protestant raids in England, upon the property of the Catholic Church. As in that case one church was bent on putting down another by confiscation and oppression, so in this case a number of churches or sects have joined in the assault upon the "Mormon" Church. "Mormonism" they cannot meet in fair scriptural argument, therefore they want to put it down by plundering the Church which teaches it.

The *News* should weigh well these remarks of its contemporary the Philadelphia *Times*:

The provision requiring the President of the United States to appoint fourteen additional trustees to administer the affairs of the Mormon Church, while it would be doubtless an effective one, is very questionable when viewed from the standpoint of justice or law. The Mormon Church is a religious organization, no matter how false its religion may be, and the attempt to control it by government officials is entirely foreign to the spirit of American institutions. While it is true that the Church allows, if it does not teach, a practice which is contrary to the laws of the United States, the proper remedy for this lies in the direction of the punishment of the law-breakers themselves. All Mormons are not polygamists, and the control of the Church by influences antagonistic to its spirit, involving, as such control does, even the power to confiscate its property, not only is liable to work great injustice to the innocent while undertaking to punish the guilty, but would be a most dangerous departure from American principles.

We agree with the foregoing except the idea that the thieving proposition will be "an effective one." That will be found to be a mistake. It will not put down "Mormonism," suppress the "Mormon" Church or check the spread of polygamy. "Mormonism" has flourished and can be thrifty and powerful in affliction and in poverty. The Church sent forth its missionaries and made its converts when it had no great properties. The faith of its members will not be affected by confiscation and piracy, except to be made stronger under the unjust and inexcusable wrong. And the fourteen trustees and those who have plotted for their appointment, will be the most disappointed lot of preys upon other people's property that ever anticipated a fat thing and grabbed a solemn nothing.

The rabid anti-"Mormons" who know anything of affairs in this Territory recognize the uselessness of the scheme, and are not slow to express their displeasure at the folly of Mr. Edmunds in devising something that does not meet their purpose at all. What they want is the political supremacy. They howl about "polygamy" because they know that is catching. It helps to cover their designs. But they confess often that they don't care a d— for polygamy, as the public know they don't care for morality.

The clause of the bill abolishing woman suffrage snits them as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. The appointment of trustees to get at the property of the "Mormon" Church, they care nothing for. What they want

is to handle the Territorial funds, put their fists into the Territorial treasury; get power to pass laws, impose taxes, finger the revenue, bond the Territory, make big hauls out of projected improvements, practice the usual tactics of American politicians and "patriotic" plunderers, and all under the pretense that the people whom they fleece are chiefly polygamists and "Mormons."

The *News* will find out, if it looks for information, that these anti-"Mormon" crusades are partly religious and partly political. The priests and preachers and their deluded followers want to put down "Mormonism;" the adventurers and tricksters want to grasp the political power of this Territory. "Polygamy" is a convenient pretext, because the public think it is wrong without inquiring into its nature, proportions or bearings in Utah, and so the hue and cry is raised, and robbery in justice and unprecedented violations of constitutional law and human rights are made possible by legislative enactments, and papers which ordinarily advocate honesty and liberty look on smilingly and clap their hands in approval.

But as sure as the sun shines, "Mormonism" will roll on all the same, or rather with more rapidity, and all these plottings will fall of the end desired. God lives, truth will triumph, and thieves and hypocrites will have their reward!

FOR SUNDAY READING.

In the midst of the difficulties and trials which in the wisdom of Providence are coming upon Zion, it is encouraging to witness the spirit of union and devotion which is increasing among the Latter-day Saints. These afflictions are designed as a test. They are a few of the flames of that fire which is to consume the dross and make bright the gold. The purging time of which we have heard so much is upon us. It will grow more trying as the Saints are better prepared for it. But our enemies will not be permitted to advance further at a time than we are able to meet the advance. There will be sufficient restraint on the one hand, and strength supplied on the other, to prevent our being overwhelmed. Our business is to be true and faithful in all things; the result will be in the hands of Omnipotence.

It will be asked by the thoughtless, "If God is with you why does he not prevent instead of merely restraining the enemy?" The answer is, the Almighty does not interfere with man's agency. Men and nations must be left free to act out their part in the drama of life. The wicked must fill up their cup. The righteous must be proven to see if they are worthy. All people will be judged according to their works. They must therefore exercise their liberty to do good or evil without such prevention as would deprive them of their agency. Destroy that, and you destroy their accountability. Rewards and punishments are conditional upon actions. Those actions must be free, or the person would not be responsible for them. This life is a probation, and all people are being proved in some degree. He that wishes to inherit all things must overcome all things, and God will prove His people before He will give them the great inheritance.

Who has a testimony of the divinity of this work? Him will God prove, to test his fidelity. Who is the man of integrity? Him will God test to manifest that integrity. Women must be tried as well as men, or they will not be worthy of that exaltation which neither sex can receive alone. The hypocrite, the traitor, the weak-kneed and the spineless must be made manifest, and none but the fit and the worthy will obtain the full reward. Every man will go to his own place. That place will be determined by his own doings. The wicked will do wickedly; it is fitting that they should be left to their workings as they will be to their fate. And none of the wicked will understand, but the wise will understand the purposes and plans of the Almighty.

The interest taken in the principles of the Gospel, the full attendance of general and ward meetings, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the determination exhibited by the Saints, the faith that is increasing in their hearts and the malignity of the opposition against them, are all signs of the progress of the latter-day work, the fulfillment of prophecy and the final triumph of the truths revealed from heaven. Therefore, Latter-day Saints, hold up your heads and rejoice, for He that is Mighty is at hand for your help, and all things in time shall work together for your good, while glory everlasting shall crown the brows of them who endure unto the end.

A CASE OF DEMENTIA.

A few days ago we replied to an article which appeared in the San Francisco *Call* in reference to financial methods in Utah. The *Call* had been misled by the falsehoods of the Salt Lake *Tribune*, and we knocked the bottom out of its basket of deceptions. This morning a full *Tribune* column of the froth of inebriety was poured out upon the *News*. It is the most insane of all the idiotic effusions that have appeared occasionally dur-

ing the past few weeks from the pencil of the subordinate scribe whose brain-infirmities with the cause are reflected in his countenance.

The chief point in our dispute with the *Call* was the alleged wrong of counties in Utah paying a smaller amount of taxes than some others, receiving a proportionately larger amount of aid from the school appropriation. We showed that the principle on which the school fund was distributed was in proportion to the school population in each district, and that in some cases the number of children of school age was greater in a county that had a small amount of taxable property than in another with a large amount. Therefore there was nothing wrong, or "crooked," or "rough"—which were the expressions of the *Call*—in the transaction, but, granting the figures it quoted, the principle being correct the distribution was proper. And we showed further, that if a complete "free school" system by taxation were established in Utah, the apparent discrepancy between the amount of taxes paid, and the amount of school funds received in some counties, would of necessity be still greater.

The *Tribune* objects to our answering the *Call* and not replying to the *Tribune*, from which the *Call* received its information (?). The reason is because we prefer controversy with a respectable journal to parleying with a blackguard. Also the fallacy of the *Tribune* ravings was patent to people here, but may not have been perceived by papers at a distance.

That there is nothing improper in the principle on which the school fund is distributed, although some counties may receive more than they pay in taxes, can be clearly understood by those who want to see and who do not wish to misrepresent. Take two counties as an example: One an old county, with large business interests the property of which is valuable; the other a more recently settled locality with no large manufacturing, mining or commercial establishments, and whose property is therefore of small comparative value, and yet the number of its children of school age is comparatively greater than that of the richer county. It will naturally follow that its receipts from the school fund will be comparatively greater than those of the other, and may be in excess of the whole amount of its taxes, because the appropriation is not made according to the value of property but according to the school population.

This illustrates the facts in the case and disposes of the charge of "robbing," "crookedness" and others that are maintained in a medley of confused and befuddled sentences in the *Tribune*, which betray the condition of the writer, who makes no attempt at reply to our argument. And seeing that the "business manager" has been brought into this matter, we suggest to the "manager" of the *Tribune* that he read the article of this morning to which we have alluded, and in future, if that writer has to perform the duty of abusing the *News*, that wet bandages be provided unless it has been previously ascertained that the scribe has sobered off. Softening of the brain has evidently set in, and a new hand will soon have to fling foul names and sling sophistry at local contemporaries.

A U. S. SENATOR ACCUSED OF BRIBERY.

OUR dispatches bring the information that at last Senator Payne, of Ohio, intends to notice the charges of bribery preferred by Col. Donavin, which affect his election to the Senate of the United States. His silence was interpreted by his enemies, and perhaps by the public generally, as inability to meet the issue. But he now invites "the most thorough and rigid scrutiny," and offers his personal papers and accounts to aid in the investigation. The public should therefore suspend judgment and give the Senator the benefit of the doubts that only a fair and full examination can dissipate.

It is charged that in order to defeat Mr. Pendleton and secure the election of Mr. Payne, a large amount of money, as well as sundry promises, was expended in purchasing the votes of members of the Ohio Assembly. That men whose constituents wanted Pendleton, and who were understood to be committed to vote for that gentleman, were "seen" by persons connected with the wealthy corporation known as the Standard Oil Company, and that they suddenly changed their minds and voted for Mr. Payne.

But there is something more definite than this in the charges. Col. S. K. Donavin, in an open letter to Hon. Henry B. Payne, which was published in the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette*, and has been copied into other papers, gives the names of nearly a score of Members of the two Houses of the Ohio Assembly who were bribed and the amounts they received. The sums ranged from \$1,200 to \$5,000 each and sundry promises of patronage. Donavin does not say that Mr. Payne personally aided in this corruption, but he says he cannot understand how it could take place without his knowledge. He does not believe that Mr. Payne's friends would use the means employed without his consent. He points to the fact that during the canvass for the election of members to the Legislature, Mr. Payne's name was not pressed as to be supported for United States Senator,

and that several Democratic members who subsequently voted for him were elected as Pendleton men. And he shows that the friends of Mr. Payne, including the Standard Oil Company men, gathered at Columbus just before the sitting of the Legislature and interviewed the members who were induced to support him.

Col. Donavin is a well known politician and journalist. He is about 55 years of age, has been manager of the New York *World*, and of the Baltimore *Gazette*, and has been connected with the Columbus *Times*, in which he did some editorial work during the campaign when Pendleton, Payne and Ward were fighting for the Senatorship. He once acted as manager of the Tennessee Jubilee Singers and travelled with them through Ohio and Pennsylvania. He is recognized as a man of ability, but his opponents say he has bibulous habits and has lost caste among men of high standing.

The charges are so specific and detailed and made with such open plainness that they ought to be thoroughly investigated. We do not think Senator Payne was under any obligation to notice the accusations of a person like Donavin, nor even of newspapers that attacked him, but now that some official notice has been taken of the matter, he has properly put himself on the record and announces his position. Charges of bribery are often made very freely by defeated political opponents, but it is usually very difficult to substantiate them. And if the members who are said to have received money as an inducement to vote for Mr. Payne keep a close mouth as they are likely to do, Col. Donavin and his supporters will have a hard time in making their accusations stick.

If Mr. Payne has really been elected by the potent force of money, whether it be his own funds or those of the Standard Oil Company, he ought to be deposed from his exalted place, and the men who took the money and those who bribed them ought to be prosecuted under the criminal law. But there are two sides to every question, and the public ought to wait, till they are both developed.

A RELIABLE ORGAN.

WHEN Senator Teller related his personal experience in Utah, his acquaintance with "Mormon" honesty, and his knowledge of improprieties in the treatment to which they had been subjected, and expressed his objections against the unprecedented and unjust provisions of the Edmunds bill, the morning *Standard* of this city could not find vile names enough in its extensive foul vocabulary with which to pet a gentleman who dared to disagree with its assumptions.

A few days afterwards Mr. Teller spoke on the silver question and happened to advocate similar views to those expressed in that paper. Thereupon he was transformed into a statesman and a reliable exponent of sound doctrine. The laudation was almost equal to the former abuse. One day Senator Teller was everything that is low and degraded and execrable. Such epithets as only a vulgar blackguard would use were put to paper to befoul the gentleman. Another day, he was "too lovely for anything" and eulogy was exhausted in his endorsement.

This double summersault, flip-flap and turn-coat kind of journalism is common with that erratic and unreliable piece of daily inconsistency. Its course and standing are thus tersely described in the Philadelphia *News*:

"The estimable Salt Lake *Tribune* continues its course of 'knock-down argument' against the Mormons by the following abuse of Senator Teller for objecting to the new Edmunds bill:

"He is a 'Jack Mormon.' He 'shows the cloven hoof.' He is 'either a knave or a credulous fool.' 'He daily lies.' His speech 'was simply infamous,' it was 'the speech of a thoroughly dishonest man.'"

"Such rabid vituperation smacks too strongly of malice to be effective. The trouble with the anti-Mormons of Utah is largely the absurdity of their chief organ."

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT,

ADOPTED AT A MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE DESERET NATIONAL BANK JANUARY 26TH, 1886.

Whereas, By the dispensation of an inscrutable Providence, our beloved and respected Vice-President, the Hon. William Jennings, has been removed from our midst by the hand of death; and

Whereas, By our long association with him he was endeared to us by the ties of brotherhood, the bonds of the deepest friendship; and

Whereas, The loss of so true a friend, so patriotic a citizen, is not our loss alone, but that of the whole community; therefore

Resolved, That we hereby express our deep sorrow at the loss of our beloved brother and friend:

Resolved, We consider this bank has lost a wise and efficient officer, whose integrity, ability and energy has contributed largely to its success; and,

Resolved, That we consider his long career in the community as a business man, and as an energetic and tireless worker in the cause of material prog-

ress, furnishes an example worthy of emulation; and that his many embellishments of our city, his liberal patronage of the arts, his energetic promotion of home industries, made him the friend and benefactor of all.

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of our late Vice-President, and condole with them in the loss of so good and true a husband, father and friend.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

FOLLOWING are the resolutions of respect adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislative Assembly yesterday:

Your committee to whom was entrusted the duty of preparing resolutions of respect to the late Hon. Wm. Jennings, respectfully present the following:

Whereas, in the dispensation of Divine Providence, the Hon. William Jennings has been called to a higher sphere, having departed this life on Friday, the 15th day of January, 1886, and

Whereas, our departed friend and associate was worthy of our highest regard and the general esteem and affection in which he was held by the public at large, as well as by his co-laborers and intimate friends; and

Whereas, it is our duty to express in some public manner our appreciation of his worth and official public services; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah regard the life and labors of the Hon. William Jennings with admiration and his character with deep respect. Gifted with remarkable ability, his whole life and energies have been spent in developing the resources of his adopted country. As a financier he stood pre-eminent. As a promoter of home industries, he was foremost. His attention to the minutest details was remarkable. Nothing seemed to escape his notice, and as consequence he was eminently successful, as evidenced by his mercantile, manufacturing and stock-growing industries, which are second to none in the Territory—showing his untiring energy, industry and perseverance. As a gentleman he was courteous, affable and considerate. He was hospitable to a fault. He was kind and generous to the poor, no appeal for aid ever being refused. He was once a member of the Legislative Assembly and mayor of Salt Lake City, which positions he filled with honor and ability. We recognize his worth; we deplore his absence. And while deeply condoling with his bereaved family and the large circle of his friends in this Territory in the great loss sustained through his departure, we rejoice in the noble record he has left, which is worthy of all emulation and will ever live in the history of the Territory of Utah. And be it further

Resolved, That five copies of these resolutions be engrossed and presented to the family of the esteemed deceased, and that a copy be spread on the minutes of this House.

JOHN RIDER, Chairman,
JOS. A. WEST,
WM. H. KING, Committee.

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