

"MORMONS" IN CANADA.

THE New York *Herald* has an article in relation to the "Mormon" settlement on Lee's Creek, in Alberta, Canada, evidently written by a correspondent sent there for that purpose. The article is dated Macleod, Alberta, N. W. T., April 15, 1890, is accompanied by an illustration showing a part of the settlement, and is subjoined:

"Most readers of the *Herald* are probably aware that during the past few years there has been a very pronounced movement of Mormons from Utah toward the Canadian Northwest. The advance guard of these Mormon settlers consisted of Mr. C. O. Card, one of Brigham Young's sons-in-law, now president of the Canadian colony, and one or two others. After examining various parts of the Northwest they finally selected Lee's Creek as most suitable for their purpose. There, in the spring of 1887, a few families pitched their tents, and whatever of a Mormon problem Canada may have to contend with had commenced. With characteristic industry and enterprise they at once went diligently to work, and although it was June when their crops were put in they obtained a very fair return on the subsequent harvest. By that time, too, substantial log buildings had taken the place of tents and covered wagons, and a visitor could not help being struck with the snug and thrifty appearance of the settlement. In that short summer they had done more work than many other settlers who had been in the country for years.

STEADY AND RAPID PROGRESS.

"The progress of the settlement has been steady and rapid ever since. Fresh arrivals each year have swelled the population of the colony, until the original insignificant few have increased to some three hundred souls. The settlement contains a good store and is provided with a church and school house. Last summer a steam threshing machine was taken in, and a saw and grist mill are among the probabilities of the near future.

The Mormons are not the only settlers in that part of the country. There was a very fair Gentile settlement in the vicinity before the advent of the Latter-day Saints. These settlers speak of the Mormons in the highest terms as neighbors, and certainly no visitor in their settlement can ever complain of an inhospitable reception. I can speak from experience as regards this, for I have never met with a warmer or more hospitable welcome than that I received among the Mormons at Lee's Creek.

LOCATION OF THE SETTLEMENT.

Lee's Creek is a small stream which empties into the St. Mary's River, about three miles below the Mormon settlement. The St. Mary's River has its rise with St. Mary's Lakes, in the new State of Montana. It flows northeasterly until, at its confluence with Lee's Creek, it is about fifteen miles north of the international boundary line. The exact location of the Mormon settlement may, therefore, be described as follows: At a point forty miles south of Macleod, forty-five miles southwest of Lethbridge, thirty miles east of the main range of the Rocky Mountains and fifteen miles north of the boundary line between Montana and Alberta.

While the main part of the settlement is on Lee's Creek the Mormons

have locations stretching away southward to the St. Mary's River, a distance of seven miles. South of the St. Mary's River they have a cattle ranch and their herds include some valuable pedigree animals, the whole, I believe, the property of the Mormon Church.

POSSIBLE EXODUS FROM UTAH.

"During the past summer Mr. Card, probably acting as agent for friends in Utah, purchased from the Northwestern Coal and Navigation Company about twenty-five thousand acres of land for colonization purposes, and this fact adds color to the rumor that the next few years will witness a constantly increasing tide of Mormon immigration from Utah to Southern Alberta.

UNWELCOME IMMIGRANTS.

"To say that Mormon immigration is viewed with favor by the great majority of the people in Alberta would be very far from the truth. There is a strong feeling that they are very undesirable settlers and should not be encouraged. The recent trials at Salt Lake City and the rather sensational disclosures connected with them have not tended to lessen alarm concerning the probable results of Mormon immigration. The experience of the United States with these people also leads Canadians to fear that, when the Mormon element gets strong enough, their experience with them will be a very similar one.

"Although it is firmly believed in many parts of the country that polygamy is being practiced to a limited extent at Lee's Creek, the Mormons emphatically deny that such is the case in a single instance. Those who are in a position to know assure me that, in the Lee's Creek Mormon colony, the males considerably outnumber the females, and that fact would support their own assertion that they intend to content themselves with a purely monogamous existence. Whatever they may do in the future, from what I can learn I am of the opinion that the Canadian Mormons are not at present practising polygamy, although their virtue may be prompted solely through fear of the consequences. Whether this enforced monogamy will withstand the pressure of increased numbers and greater consequent power and strength is a question which only the future can decide."

CREDIT FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

THE *Denver News* of the 17th inst. has the following paragraph in relation to this city:

"Salt Lake is very busy with its municipal improvements and seems possessed of an energy not her own, at least one to which her people have long been unaccustomed. Sewer work is in progress, street railways are being extended, paving districts organized, business blocks and new residences contracted for, and many improvements and enterprises all of value to the city in process of completion. It is expected that Congress will appropriate money to turn a portion of the military reservation into an attractive park. The lake shore is in process of improvement for the bathing season, and within a year or two at farthest, beautiful Antelope Island, with its sandy beach, fresh water springs and freedom from dust and mud, will be connected with the mainland by a railway built upon piles. All this progress is due to the late Gentile

victory, which has transformed Salt Lake from a sort of a 'Saint's rest' into an active, growing, bustling Western American city, eagerly reaching forward to the position it is destined to occupy in the Rocky mountain region."

All this progress is due to the late "Gentile victory". Before that "victory" occurred, a sewer system had been far advanced toward completion, and this city had one of the best electric street railway plants in the world, which was being rapidly extended before the "victory" happened. During the last two years of People's Party rule a "building boom" gained tremendous headway, and what is now seen are the results of that movement to a very great extent. Was a "Gentile victory" gained over the War Department, which is to result in transforming the Fort Douglas military reservation into a park? Plans for the improvement of nearly the whole of the east shore of the lake were in process of maturity or execution long before the "victory," while the Antelope island scheme is at least ten years old.

The organization of paving districts was not possible until the legislature passed a law providing for them a few weeks after the "victory" transpired. But the old City Council had begun making arrangements for paving. If the *News* desires to be disabused in regard to the credit due the Gentile City Council for public spirit and improvements, it should read the criticisms, editorial and communicated, which have been appearing in the columns of the "Liberal" papers of this city almost daily for some time past, in which the present city government is censured for inactivity and lack of enterprise and foresight.

A DISMAL FATALITY.

THE quarter-centennial anniversary of the assassination of Lincoln, which occurred on the 14th inst., has suggested to many of our contemporaries a variety of reminiscences connected with the tragedy. Among the newspapers that have recalled events connected with the martyrdom of the Emancipator, is the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which ends a condensed account of the murder with a brief statement of the fate which subsequently pursued the chief actors in the terrible scene.

The occupants of the box in Ford's Theatre, in which the shooting was done, were President and Mrs. Lincoln, Miss Harris, daughter of Sena-