

THE EVENING NEWS.

GEORGE Q. CANNON,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Thursday, January 25, 1873.

The Springfield Republican says of the past policy in regard to Federal appointments in Utah—

The sending of broken-down politicians from abroad for Federal offices in Utah has always been a failure. They have either weakly succumbed to Mormon influence, or they have fought it with a zeal not according to discretion.

This is partly true, and would be nearer the truth if it was to the effect that these broken-down politicians as Federal officers almost invariably have acted as if they have been sent here expressly to put down "Mormonism" instead of to faithfully discharge the duties of their respective offices, irrespective of party or creed, fear or favor, and especially irrespective of the religious faith and practice of any portion of the people. While those few appointees who have endeavored to discharge their official duty with something like impartiality and in the spirit of the Constitution, have been most atrociously ill-treated, and not infrequently have been early removed in consequence of the baseless slanders and insinuations of the most unprincipled and reckless of the "broken-down." It is not a creditable thing, but it is a fact. Facts are ugly things sometimes.

Further says the *Republican*—

"If the President's really purposes a policy in Utah, and means to bring a more persistent and healthy pressure to bear upon the polygamists."

How long has the President of these United States been constitutionally constituted a religious crusader? And if he never has been, why do respectable papers like the *Republican* persistently represent him as such?

The attention of the *Republican* is respectfully invited to the following authoritative sentence, which in our humble opinion, are far more edifying and wholesome reading than the extracts we have quoted from our Massachusetts contemporary—

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

"The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

"Before he [the President] enters on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:—Do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

It might do the *Republican* good to digest the above extracts before it again indicates that the head and front, the sum and substance of the friend relations with Utah is to handle a handful of polygamists, for to absent executive attention so completely, as it ought to be, entirely beyond their ambitions. We bet to assure the *Republican* that they can not constitutionally, and they do not really, aspire to become the objects of such monopolizing interest and distinguished consideration. The President of the United States has not a shadow of constitutional right to interfere with the religion of the Latter-day Saints, nor with the religion of any other body of citizens, and consequently he has not the least shadow of constitutional right to make any appointment with the special view of suppressing the religion, or any part or portion thereof, of the Latter-day Saints, or any other class of citizens. When any President of the United States does any such thing he invariably exceeds his duty, and so far he is treading on impeachable ground.

Correspondence.

PARIS, Dec. 12, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

We arrived in the city of Antwerp, Belgium, 7th of December. It is one of the finest cities in the kingdom, embracing a population of 170,000. It is the principal seat of the country, carrying on an extensive trade with Great Britain and Germany. Among other objects of interest, we examined the celebrated cathedral, Notre Dame, 380 feet in length and 216 in width, the most magnificent Gothic structure in Belgium. It was commenced in the middle of the thirteenth century, and completed one hundred years after. It is the only church in Europe that has a spire. Its skillfully executed and elaborate interior, numerous paintings by celebrated artists, stone work of the finest description, marble statues of exquisite workmanship, gorgous gildings, and decorations of the most costly character, altogether form a scene of great beauty and magnificence. The tower is 402 feet in height and is ascended by 622 steps. It affords a splendid view of the city and surrounding country. It is the largest cathedral in Belgium, consisting of 99 bays, the smallest of which is but fifteen inches in diameter, the largest weighing eight tons.

We also visited the museum, containing a collection of 500 pictures, possessing great merit, the productions of celebrated masters. One of these by Rembrandt, which I consider the most perfect, particularly attracted my attention. It represents Christ crucified between two thieves. Longinus, the Roman officer who struck a grey horse, is piercing the Savior's side with a lance. The penitent thief, a grey-haired man, is weeping over the Savior for the last time. In the background stands the Virgin mother, whose Mary, the wife of Cleophas, in vain endeavours to console. Farther back, St. John leans against the cross of the impotent thief, weeping; Mary Magdalene stands behind, at the foot of the cross, imploring Jesus to spare the sacred body of her master.

The whole is drawn with almost startling accuracy—indeed, I never saw a picture on canvas so strikingly illustrated. The writhing agony of the impotent thief, whose legs have just been broken by a Roman soldier, while on the contrary the composed expression of the other, all decked out in velvet—altogether presented me for the moment with a feeling that I was witnessing the reality of this shocking scene.

Antwerp justly boasts of many public buildings, some of them erected over 100 years ago in fantastic, portentous style, drew our attention, though perhaps failed to excite our admiration. This city has a splendid theatre, its interior

handsomely decorated with paintings and busts in marble and bronze, of eminent composers and dramatists, among whom are Shakespeare, Molier, Euripides, and Mozart. The Zoological Garden contains a fine collection of animals, which, with its gardens and beautiful park, is considered one of the best in Europe.

We left Antwerp the following afternoon and arrived at Brussels in the evening.

Brussels is the capital of Belgium,

the residence of the royal family, and contains a population of 170,000, only 6,000 of whom are Protestants. The city has many points of resemblance to Paris, the capital of France, so much so that it frequently is called "Paris of the North." The majority of the citizens speak the French language; the Flemish is chiefly spoken by the lower classes.

As usual on entering Catholic cities we paid our respects to the celebrated cathedrals, of which St. Nicholas is the most prominent. It is of Gothic structure, and presents an imposing appearance. The interior is filled with characteristics similar to other Catholic churches—images, elaborate carvings, fine marble statuary, sumptuous gildings, magnificent decorations, together with paintings in almost endless variety. Some have rather singular representations, such, for instance, as the "Expulsion from Paradise," done in dark wood, with figures in heavy robes, and a large serpent. Among the beautiful foliage are seen all kinds of animals—a bear, dog, cat, eagle, vulture, peacock, owl, dove, squirrel and lastly an ape eating an apple. These are surmounted by the Virgin with the Child, who crushes the head of the serpent, with the cross.

In one of these churches, an old lady was holding a stock of wax candles, some of which she insisted on our purchasing, as a mark of our respect to the friends of our dead friends. In another we saw a gentleman of respectable appearance, doing penance in a prostrate position upon the floor of the church, before the cross, and image of the Savior, kissing the stone pavement with great fervor, and wetting it with tears. I imagined he might have committed some great crime, I have failed doing him justice.

Upon this being interpreted, Prest. Thiers replied that he was gratified

with such assurances from Americans,

and pleased to meet this delegation from Utah, as he was familiar with the history of our people.

President Smith remarked that we had been

twelve years laboring harder every

possible day than to collect the

portion of our American dead, in

order to make the destinies great and prosperous; that in connection with other objects relating to our four

wishes to gather information and statistics of the progress of older nations, that through their experience we might more successfully benefit and improve the people we represented.

Prest. Thiers replied that while we were in France, he should take pleasure in rendering any assistance we might require in the promotion of this object.

We acknowledged our appreciation of this courtesy. Prest. Smith thanked him for favors extended to American citizens since the establishment of the French Republic.

Prest. Thiers replied that he hoped

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tween the two governments would

now be uninterrupted.

The President closed in the following words by President Smith—"President Thiers, God bless you."

These words inspired M. Thiers with renewed interest—he requested the Major to give a literal translation of that expression.

The honesty, simplicity and earnestness in which this sentence was delivered by President Smith, not only excited pleasurable emotion in M. Thiers, but also were visible in the features of his ministers who were now crowding around.

Prest. Thiers cordially shook hands with President Smith, and each one of our party. We then retired, and repaired to our carriages and returned to Paris the same evening.

Shortly after this interview, the circumlocution of our reception was published in several of the French papers.

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Please accept my regards for yourself and family.

LORENZO SNOW.

(SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.)

of the Democratic State Convention, New York, 22.—The English troops, led by General H. H. Glaser, did not return home from the French army—soars and braves. We have heard nothing of the English troops, and had on board about three hundred Englishmen belonging to this gentleman, and while visiting at Versailles he proposed to present our cause to Prest. Thiers and procure us an audience. We accepted the proposition and drove up to the palace of M. Thiers. In a few minutes the Major returned, accompanied by the President's private secretary, who politely stated that M. Thiers would be happy to receive Prest. Smith and party at 11 o'clock.

We repaired to the palace at the hour designated. Mr. Barthélémy St. Hilaire conducted us to the reception hall and introduced us to President Thiers. He was attended by a number of distinguished French gentlemen, principally his cabinet ministers, senators and curios. At the close of the interview between the President of the French Republic and the delegation from the Latter-day Saints in, en route to Palestine, M. Thiers, more than once, expressed his admiration of our people favorably—his dignified bearing, plain and unassuming manners, with a countenance glowing with benevolence and patriotism. He possessed the reputation of being a good English scholar, but I presume the vast crowd of business of late years has allowed him no time to practice the English language, and that his conversation was carried on in French, Major Lorin acting as interpreter.

After the introduction, Prest. Smith announced his apprehension of the honor accorded to himself and party, in granting this interview—that we were from Utah, en route to Palestine, to study the Bible in the land where its recorded events had chiefly transpired, that we sympathized with the President of the French Republic in his desire to create a republic in the French dominions, and had sought this occasion of expressing our sentiments personally.

Upon this being interpreted, Prest. Thiers replied that he was gratified with such assurances from Americans, and pleased to meet this delegation from Utah, as he was familiar with the history of our people. President Smith remarked that we had been twelve years laboring harder every possible day than to collect the portion of our American dead, in order to make the destinies great and prosperous; that in connection with other objects relating to our four

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By Telegraph.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

Last Night's Dispatches

WESTERN.

SAN FRANCISCO, 22.—For some time past fare has been played in several places in this city, after a partial interruption of about one year. Last night Detective Clark, with a posse, made a raid upon the house 765 Market St., and arrested eleven men. W. L. Johnson and Mathews, the proprietors, will be examined in the probate court tomorrow.

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