

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

UTAH'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

The "News" does not want to tread on the political corns of anybody, but it can no longer refrain from expressing admiration for Utah's congressional delegation. Not any of the younger states of the Union has one that averages so high, in respect to either ability, patriotism or eloquence. Senators Frank J. Cannon and Joseph L. Rawlins and Representative W. H. King comprise a remarkably strong team. Each is a born statesman and orator. All of them are native sons of Utah, and they are reflecting a glory on the American Nazareth which must go far towards convincing the world that these rugged mountains are producing some grand men.

On repeated occasions Senator Cannon has distinguished himself for the courage and originality of his propositions in the Senate, and for the able, skillful and eloquent manner in which he has advocated and defended them. Almost from the day he took his seat in the upper house of the national legislature, he has been a striking, and to his constituents a pleasing, figure in national affairs.

While Senator Rawlins was in the House he acquired the reputation of being one of the most eloquent and profound exponents of national finance in Congress, and he is known at home and abroad as a man of deep and broad mind, a sound lawyer and a devoted lover of his native State.

Representative King is the youngest of the three, at least in political life, but though he has sat in Congress only a few months he has made a brilliant and national record. He seems to be afraid of nothing nor nobody, nor does he hesitate to prod with a keen lance any antagonist, from the President down.

All three of the gentlemen named are young men, and all three of them give every promise of achieving a high degree of success in life. Of course it will be understood that these remarks apply to the gentlemen themselves, and not necessarily to their political views. The "News" is not here endorsing those views, nor is it prepared to criticize them. It merely wishes to express its high appreciation of the qualities and abilities of the gentlemen, and to congratulate the State on having such a delegation in Congress.

MORMON MISSIONARIES IN BALTIMORE.

The following excerpt is from a late issue of the Baltimore American:

"The women of a number of the churches in Baltimore have received with something of alarm the news of the presence of six Mormon missionaries in this city, as reported in The American several weeks ago, and their efforts to establish a church of the Latter-day Saints in this community.

"The Women's Home Missionary Society of the Presbytery of Baltimore, have taken the matter in hand, and are arranging for an anti-Mormon meeting to be held in the Boundary avenue Presbyterian church, next Monday evening, when Rev. Mr. Campbell, of Utah, will deliver an address on 'Mormonism and Its Growth in the East.'

"The following memorial was sent to the Ministerial Union, at the quarterly meeting yesterday in the St. John's Independent Methodist church, on North Liberty street, and was read by Rev.

Frank E. Williams, the pastor of the Boundary avenue Presbyterian church:

"Doubtless you all know that six Mormon missionaries are now at work in Baltimore, endeavoring to make converts and to establish a church of the Latter-day Saints. In view of this fact, the Women's Home Missionary Society of the Baltimore Presbytery has resolved to hold a public meeting on Feb. 7 at 8 o'clock in the evening, in Boundary avenue church, and has secured as preacher, Rev. Mr. Campbell of Utah, who is now speaking on Mormonism in the churches of the New York Presbytery. We appeal to you, as watchmen on the walls of Zion, for whose warning cry our people listen in every time of danger, to aid us in arousing public sentiment against the evil in our land, lest the daughters of the people be carried away captive and their blood be required at our hand.

"SALLIE H. ROBBINS, President.

"MARY M. CARNES, Treasurer.

"MRS. S. MELVILLE PRENTISS, Secretary.

"MRS. ANDREW B. CROSS, Corresponding Secretary.

"(Signed.) COMMITTEE."

"No action was taken by the union on the subject, from the fact that a precipitated adjournment was voted for to avoid a further discussion of the plans of the committee in charge of the lectures of Rev. F. B. Meyer of London, who will visit Baltimore February 11 to 13."

It seems odd that half a dozen men, total strangers, traveling without purse or scrip, should spread consternation among the old churches of a large city like Baltimore, but such seems to be the case. The Ministerial Union is a body composed of ministers of various denominations, and the Presbyterian ladies presented a rather strong appeal to it. It seems, however, that the petition was not reached on account of "a precipitated adjournment," and that action upon it was necessarily deferred. Very likely it will be taken up later, and what, if anything, the ministers will do to prevent conversions by the Mormon missionaries, remains to be seen.

The inference is that "Rev. Mr. Campbell of Utah," whose home, we believe, is in Mendon, Cache county, has taken an active part in stirring up opposition to the Elders. He has been "speaking on Mormonism in the churches of the New York Presbytery," and is the speaker secured for the anti-Mormon meeting announced for the 7th inst. Wonder if he would be willing to repeat in Utah the sermons he has been preaching in the East about Mormonism?

If the religious workers of Baltimore become pronounced and active in their opposition to the Elders, at least one result may be counted upon with certainty: A great many people will have their attention directed to the labors and doctrines of the Mormon missionaries, and the honest in heart will thus be reached. Agitation is preferable to apathy, for the spread of the principles the missionaries are teaching.

DE LOME'S LETTER.

The Madrid papers naturally give vent to their ill-feeling against the United States, because of the resignation of Spain's representative in Washington, Senor Dupuy de Lome, and the prompt acceptance of this resignation by the Spanish government, on the suggestion of President McKinley that

he be recalled. And yet, no other course was open to Spain. The Spanish minister wrote a private letter to a friend, giving his personal opinion about the chief executive of the United States. In the letter he says that the President's message to Congress shows that he is "weak and catering to the rabble, and besides, a low politician, who desires to leave the door open to me and to stand well with the jingoes of his party." By some means or other this letter fell into wrong hands and was published. That, of course, ended the author's usefulness at Washington; after that he himself could have no further desire to meet the President or his representatives. The question is not important whether a foreign ambassador has the right to form private opinions and express them to friends; that right he appears to have, and undoubtedly it is exercised very frequently at Washington and at other capitals. But to be caught in the act makes a difference.

The predecessor of Senor de Lome had to leave Washington, as will be remembered, because of an interview with a representative of the press, during which he took occasion to criticize our government. The similarity of circumstances attending the removal of De Lome suggests that perhaps the unfortunate discovery of the letter in transit was not entirely accidental. The position of a Spanish minister at Washington during the present Cuban imbroglio is anything but enviable, and a shrewd diplomat must have some way out of a disagreeable position, if he finds himself confronted with a situation over which he has no command, and yet is unable to secure an exit with the consent of the home government.

OPPOSING FREE SPEECH.

An esteemed middle county cotemporary that warmly supports President McKinley and his policy is also among the opposers of free speech in Utah. It condemns the action of a teacher in an educational institution who called the attention of his class to the President's New York speech, and commented upon it in a manner to show the students that the President had changed his ground. With all respect to the party fealty which our esteemed cotemporary displays and with admiration for the zeal and courage it has shown in maintaining its political convictions, the "News" objects to this curtailment of the discussion of public questions.

In all the large colleges and universities of the older states of the Union, political questions and theories, and the policies of presidential and state administrations, are fully and freely discussed before the classes by the professors. It not infrequently happens that members of the faculty in the same institution take opposite views of political questions, as witness President Andrews of Brown university, and his subordinates, between whom there is an ocean of difference on the silver question, which difference, by the way, was recently a matter of national discussion. So far from being hurtful to the students to have different and conflicting political views laid before them, it is held to be beneficial to them, in that it stimulates original thought and investigation on their part.

Would our cotemporary like to see graduated from the higher educational institutions of this State a generation of young men and women, who, though clothed with the franchise, have never heard discussed in the class room the science of civil government? Does it wish to see a generation of voters leave the schools of this State with the belief deeply rooted in their minds that it is a moral offense for