

EDITORIALS.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

THE Woman Suffragists are having lively times at Washington, and have so far been defeated in their attempt to address the Senate, but have obtained the privilege of speaking before the Committee on Elections and Privileges. Mr. Sargent is the champion of their cause in the Senate chamber and proposed a joint resolution, yesterday, for the removal of the legal disabilities of women, so that lady lawyers may be admitted to practice before the highest court of the land, and for an Amendment to the Constitution providing that:

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Sec. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

The regulation of the elective franchise properly belongs to the legislatures of the States and Territories. This has been established by decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States. But since an Amendment has been made to the Constitution, providing that the right to vote shall not be abridged on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, we see no reason why the right to vote should be abridged on account of sex.

We do not think that the conferring of the elective franchise upon women will effect such a wonderful revolution as the prominent advocates of "woman's rights" imagine will be the consequence. But there is no doubt that many ladies would exercise that privilege much more intelligently than some men, and we know of no really sound argument that has yet been advanced, why a woman should not be permitted to have a voice in the election of public officials as well as a man, in a nation that boasts of universal liberty, and under a system which admits the principle of general equality.

IS HE INSANE?

QUITE a stir has been made in New York social circles over the unexpected marriage of Mr. Thomas Lord, a wealthy octogenarian, with a beautiful and fascinating lady, fifty years younger than himself, Mrs. Annette Wilhelmina Wilkens Hicks, generally known as the Widow Hicks. The bride was a popular "society" lady, brilliant, witty and well off, and she had refused many tempting offers of marriage. She is the widow of Mr. Henry Hicks, a New York merchant, and has made quite a sensation at Saratoga, New York and London.

In the British metropolis she occupied a handsome suite of apartments at Claridge's Hotel. She raised quite a flutter there. When the Queen of Holland visited the city, Her Majesty wished to put up at the same hotel, and desired these same apartments. When asked to vacate them for the use of the Queen, Mrs. Hicks flatly refused to do so, but informed the landlord that she would be pleased to receive the Queen as her guest.

Mr. Lord is eighty-three years of age and worth \$1,500,000. He has been acquainted with the lady for some time, and, it is alleged, has loaned her large sums of money on several occasions. The marriage took place without any announcement and was conducted with the utmost secrecy.

It is not the first time that an old and wealthy gentleman has secured for a wife a young and handsome woman. But Mr. Lord's sons are so disgusted with the whole affair, that they have applied to the Supreme Court of the State for the appointment of a commission in lunacy to inquire into the sanity of the aged bridegroom, and have succeeded in their application. The commission was appointed and an injunction issued restraining Mr.

Lord or his agents from disposing of any of his property.

Obtaining the hand of the charming Widow Hicks, with her rich dower of names, is not considered any very marked sign of insanity by those acquainted with the parties, and some go so far as to say that the lady is more open to the charge than her aged spouse. David, the King of Israel, was not thought insane for taking a young wife in his old age, and young ladies who manage to capture wealth, even if they have to take with it the incumbrance of a husband not likely to live long, are generally considered, in the fashionable world, the very reverse of lunatic or unwise.

The position of the poor old man is one of the penalties of wealth. His money is the objective point aimed at by his new wife and his old offspring. The lady, there is little doubt, married him for his dollars; and his sons, determined if possible to prevent her from inheriting the property, will go to any lengths, indifferent to the sorrow and trouble they bring upon their aged parent, that they may retain the chance of getting his money when he is dead; and would even shut him up in a lunatic asylum rather than see anyone else have the bare prospect of touching any of the wealth he has amassed. It is a strong illustration of the mercenary spirit of the times.

A POOR EXCUSE FOR STRIFE.

ON the last Sunday in the Old Year Brooklyn's famous pulpit orator preached on the dissensions that exist among Christian sects.

Among other reasons for this strife and contention on religious matters he cited "the impossibility of men of different temperaments and dispositions seeing any truth exactly in the same light."

According to this view entertained by a highly popular preacher there can be no real "unity of the faith." If it is impossible for men of different temperaments and dispositions to see alike on any truth, the word of the Lord must be untrue in which he declares that when he builds up Zion his servants shall "see eye to eye;" or else they must be all of the same temperament and disposition.

We have met with a similar statement to Beecher's from many persons, both among the clergy and the laity. But we know that the assertion is incorrect. Are all persons who give exactly the same solution to a problem in Euclid of a similar temperament? Is not five times twenty one hundred in the mind of a man or woman of a bilious, sanguine nervous or any other temperament, or of hasty, lymphatic, irritable, amiable, violent or placid disposition? Are there not persons of every variety of temperament and disposition who see alike on the silver question? Are the bond holding gold supporters all of one temperament and the silver disciples all of another? Are there not a great many truths about which there is no dispute at all but which are universally accepted among enlightened people?

But perhaps it may be said this assertion only applies to "religious truth." Are we to understand, then, that religious truth differs in its nature from any other kind of truth? Are no religious truths capable of demonstration? If any such truth can be clearly proven will not all to whom it is made plain believe it alike, no matter what may be the color of their hair or eyes, their peculiarities of mind or body, their language or nationality?

Jesus made a distinct promise to his immediate disciples that, when he was gone, he would send upon them a spirit which should take of the things of the Father and the Son and show them unto believers, and that it should "guide them into all truth." One of the chief effects of this endowment was to make Christ's followers one, even as He and the Father are one. And that this effect was produced upon people of different temperaments and dispositions is clearly evident from the history of the Church, and cannot be better illustrated than by the statement of Paul, "For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have been all

made to drink into one spirit." And the truth of this is manifest in the latter-day outpouring of the same spirit. People of various conflicting faiths from different countries, with all the varieties of temperament and disposition that exist among the human race, have, by obeying the same gospel and receiving the same spirit, been brought into perfect accord of faith and understanding, in relation to a great number of religious truths. One of the chief objects of placing in the Church apostles and prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers, was to bring all the Saints to the unity of the faith—an impossibility, according to the notion of the Brooklyn preacher and many other divines.

But, it may be asked, do not the Latter-day Saints and did not the former-day saints differ in regard to some points of doctrine and some rules of Church polity? Certainly. But this question relates to the possibility of different kinds of persons seeing alike at all. It is not to be expected that people of the same temperament will see alike until their minds are equally illuminated. People cannot be brought to the unity of the faith except by enlightenment. The mind must be made to perceive the truth, the judgment must be convinced, and those truths that pertain to the higher spheres can only be impressed upon the spiritual faculties of man by the aid of divine light. No dictum of man or Deity can alone bring union of belief. Men may fulminate decrees, and seek by the imposition of pains and penalties to force assent to certain propositions; but, like Galileo, though their victims may yield apparently, their minds will remain uninfluenced unless convinced, and conviction can only come by light.

Reflection, thought, explanation and freedom of sincere discussion tend to unite men's minds on the truth. Authoritative promulgation of divine commands, when properly conducted, is always accompanied by the influence of the spirit of truth, and those who hear without prejudice become convinced by the reasoning of the preacher and the light of the spirit.

Beecher's plea is a poor excuse for the dissensions of modern Christendom. They spring from private notions enunciated by uninspired pulpit orators, blind leaders of the blind, who will not receive the spirit of truth in God's way, nor permit their hearers to receive it, but make merchandise of the souls of men, and profit by the business of sect-making.

The work of human enlightenment has to be carried forward until all people of every tribe, tongue, and temperament hear the gospel as it is in Christ Jesus. Those who receive it will have the same mind as is in Him in relation to it. Those who wilfully close their eyes and ears and spiritual nature against it, and they who become convinced of its truth and refuse to act upon their convictions will lose the great reward which the reception of truth as a guide to action always brings, and the unspeakable glory that is its result in the endless future. But there will be a period when all the offspring of Adam except a few who are so vile in nature that they must remain "filthy still," will come to see the truth in the same light so far as to bow the knee and "confess that Jesus is the Christ to the glory of God the Father."

NOT POSTED.

THE Washington Post of a recent date contains an article with sensational headings, the first of which, in display type, is "Mormonism Unmasked." One would naturally expect some startling information under this heading, but when the source of the information is learned anticipation dies. A Post reporter had been interviewing a certain ex-military ex-United States Marshal of this Territory, who gravely informed him that "The Mormon people now control four legal subdivisions of the United States—Utah absolutely, and Idaho, Montana and Arizona by holding the balance of power in those Territories." He repeated the exploded nonsense about Governor Axtell being a "Mormon" Bishop, and gave the same kind of a misstatement concerning priestly compulsion in voting matters, as formed

the subject of stump speeches in the times before his removal for cause, when, with other Federal officials he stormed the mining camps to vilify the great majority of the citizens of this Territory.

The reporter imbibed it all, and the Post printed it, while everybody in Washington who knows anything of the facts, and especially those who have suffered the infliction of the ex-official's presence, and witnessed his repeated impotent attempts at ousting the People's Delegate that he might occupy his seat, smile broadly at the Post's simplicity. The paper is of recent establishment, is very ably conducted and supports sound Democratic principles. But it will add nothing to its reputation or influence by giving prominence to the utterances of such persons as the Ex-Marshal who stuffed its innocent reporter with anti-Mormon romance. The Post does not seem to be posted.

HEALTH AND LONGEVITY.

DR. BENJAMIN RICHARDSON, in a recent lecture before the Jews in London, showed that a large proportion of the Jewish people reach a ripe old age. As a reason for this longevity he cited the rules of the Mosaic code, proving that they tended to promote vitality and preserve health. The cleanliness, avoidance of certain indigestible articles of diet and the flesh of animals which feed on garbage, with the rest required by the law of the Sabbath, he argued, were all conducive to long life. The control of the passions and the care of the aged, also required by the laws of Moses, were cited as other reasons for the longevity of the Jews.

The same learned authority has written a work in which he dilates upon the evils attending the use of tobacco, which he considers one of the fruitful causes of disease and of the shortening of human life.

All general divine commandments are in accordance with what are called the laws of nature. They spring from the same source. All the principles and ordinances of the gospel, as well as "the law," are founded in the deepest philosophy, and given with a view to the happiness and progress of the race. The "Word of Wisdom," revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith, contains rules and regulations which if adopted in general practice will tend to robust health and increased longevity, two great and inestimable blessings. The spiritual and intellectual in man are so closely allied with the physical that they are materially affected by its condition and development. A perfect human being must have all his qualities and powers in perfect exercise. The health of the body depends so much on diet and the rules of hygiene that those who wish to have their minds clear and their spiritual faculties keen and susceptible to divine influences, must observe the laws of God, which are also the laws of nature. And if the Jews by attention to rules given by divine revelation thousands of years ago, have their days made long in the land, so may the people of other nationalities, by adopting similar regulations and profiting by the words of wisdom which are spoken by inspiration, and which are adapted to the condition of all people who will hearken and obey.

RELIGIOUS INNOVATION.

SYSTEMS which have appeared in the form of innovations upon old established and accepted customs, whether in religion, politics or science, have always been treated with bitter antagonism in the world. Historical instances illustrative of the fact are so numerous and well known as to render citation unnecessary. Innovations necessarily make inroads upon moneyed interests; among others, crafts are endangered and persecution and antagonism are raised to boiling heat.

The gospel of Jesus Christ is an innovative and revolutionary system, and therefore has always been met with opposition of the greatest intensity. "Mormonism," the principles of which are the same as

those taught by Christ and his ancient Apostles, meets with similar treatment.

Had the first innovator of this great last dispensation been a brainless enthusiast and taught a set of impracticable precepts and the most extravagant doctrines, harmless to existing institutions, he would have been merely laughed at. No matter how numerous his adherents they would have been let alone. Even gross moral obliquities in himself and followers would have been tolerated. Had Joseph Smith, the Prophet, confined himself to what are considered merely spiritual affairs, and given nothing relating to temporalities his wonderful revelations would probably have been extolled.

But the Prophet had a great mission; something had to be evolved through him that would be in harmony with the age. Coal, steam and electricity have revolutionized the world and something equivalent had to be produced of a religious character; an advanced system that would meet the complete wants of mankind in that regard. It was really no novelty for angels to be the bearers of intelligence from heaven, but it had been forgotten in the deep sleep of ages. This method of communication between man and his Maker was the secret of success and the cause of hostility. Private interests, rights and feelings would suffer; "my church, my opinions, my party are in danger," and thus strife was stirred up against the converts of the latter-day innovation. "If thou let this man go thou art not Cæsar's friend," was the remark of the orthodox Jews in accusing Jesus before Pilate. It was the same spirit, the operations of which culminated in the assassination of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

And as to the great fundamental truths enunciated by Joseph Smith it cannot be successfully controverted that they are the same as propounded by the Savior. But it is said, "You Latter-day Saints disturb the world, because of a power you possess which is the result of your oneness of opinion and concert of action." Why, this is one of the greatest and best results of the principles taught by Jesus and by Joseph Smith. Their practice causes discord to flee away and harmony to reign in its place. The gospel brings peace, and peace is what the world is most in need of. The Latter-day Saints enjoy that blessing, and a universal extension of the principles which have caused its existence among them would produce the same desirable result over all the earth and the Millennium would be comparatively an established fact.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The area under British administration in India is no less than 909,834 miles and its population 191,065,445.

Japan is now importing files from New York. The Japs are pretty sharp old files themselves, but they have to depend on the Caucasian race for a great many necessities.

Cork is being used in Germany for bed coverlets instead of feathers. It is lighter and cheaper and is said to be decidedly warmer. A person ought to be warm if well corked up in bed.

Breslau has a paper chimney. It is 50 feet high. It is rendered impervious to the action of fire or water by a chemical preparation. They will be making paper stoves next.

A new nickel mine has been discovered. It is near Milan, N. H. This makes four now in the United States. They don't produce five cent pieces though, only nickel ore is brought out of their interior.

Type made out of "indestructible glass" is now being used in France. The material is run into moulds, like metal. It is cheaper, healthier, and more durable than the material in present use.

Telephones are not new. Robert Hook published a work 210 years ago in which he describes just such an instrument as Bell is now making a fortune out of. Was not Solomon right? Surely "There is nothing new under the sun."

The tunnel under the British Channel is not abandoned, by any means. The works are in progress at Sangate. A deep shaft has been sunk and it is to be pushed without delay. Fancy riding in a train under the bed of the sea!