

## EDITORIALS.

THE proceedings of the Convention for the formation and adoption of a Constitution for a State government for this Territory, and the results of the labors of the Convention in the shape of a Constitution for the proposed State of Deseret, a Memorial to Congress upon the subject, and the election of delegates to carry the Constitution and Memorial to Washington and have them presented to the Federal Legislature, are now fully and fairly before our readers. The people of the Territory and the public generally can pass upon those labors and their results so far whatever judgment their merits may deserve.

Especially attention is requested of all concerned to the following sections of article 17 of the Constitution—

Sec. 5. For the purpose of taking the vote of the electors of this Territory, for the ratification or rejection of this Constitution, and for the election of members of the legislature, and a representative in Congress, an election shall be held in the several counties of the Territory, on the third Monday in March, A. D. 1872, and the election shall be conducted and the returns thereof made as nearly as practicable in conformity with the existing laws of the Territory in relation to the holding of the general election, except that in voting for members of the house of representatives, the electors may cast their ballots in accordance with section twenty-five of article four of the constitution.

Sec. 6. Each elector shall express his opinion by depositing in the ballot box a ticket, whereon shall be written, or printed, "Constitution, yes," or "Constitution, no," or such words as will distinctly convey the intention of the voter.

Sec. 7. The county clerks of their respective counties shall issue to the members of the State legislature, certificates of their election, and said clerks shall forthwith make duplicate returns of the votes cast for and against the constitution, and the votes cast for representative in Congress, and transmit the same by the most safe and expeditious conveyance, to R. L. Campbell, the secretary of this convention, inclosed in an envelope, marked "election returns."

Sec. 9. Until otherwise provided by law the apportionment of senators and representatives in the different counties shall be as follows: Salt Lake, Tooele and Summit counties four senators, Salt Lake county six representatives, Tooele county one representative, Summit county one representative; Davis and Morgan counties one senator and two representatives; Box Elder and Weber counties one senator, Box Elder county one representative, Weber county two representatives; Cache and Rich counties one senator and two representatives; Utah and Wasatch counties two senators, Utah county three representatives, Wasatch county one representative; Juab and Millard counties one senator, Juab one representative, Millard county one representative; Beaver and Iron counties one senator, Beaver county one representative, Iron county one representative; Kane and Washington counties one senator and one representative; Sanpete and Sevier counties one senator and two representatives.

Attention also is particularly requested to the following resolution, passed on the last evening of the session of the Convention—

**Resolved,** That the Probate Judge and selectmen of each county are requested to divide their respective counties into districts, appoint census takers therein, and provide for taking a census of the number of inhabitants. The duties of such census taker to commence on the third Monday in March, 1872, and terminate within one week thereafter. The said returns to be certified under oath to the County Clerks of their respective counties and by said clerks transmitted forthwith to R. L. Campbell, the Secretary of this convention. Said Secretary to open and compile the same and forward a copy thereof, duly certified, to the Hon. W. H. Hooper, Delegate in Congress from Utah Territory.

Efficient measures should be adopted in all the counties to secure the taking of the census promptly and thoroughly, so that the real population of the Territory may be made to appear.

It will be seen from the sections of the Article of the Constitution above quoted, that on the third Monday of the present month (March 18) the voters of the Territory will have the privilege of voting upon the Constitution adopted by the Convention for the State of Des-

eret, and also of voting for Senators and Representatives to the Legislature of the State and for a Representative to Congress for the State. Measures preliminary should be at once inaugurated throughout the Territory to nominate candidates for the above offices, and when the day of election shall come, every voter in the Territory, of either sex, should consider it an imperative duty to be at the polls and record his or her vote upon the important question at issue.

In regard to the Constitution adopted by the Convention, it is considered, even by the enemies of a State organization, as exceedingly liberal, more generous toward the minority than any other Constitution in the Union. It is generally considered so advanced in liberality and true republicanism as to be justly entitled to rank second to none. It is true, that much talk has been indulged in concerning the ballot question, especially by the advocates of secrecy, and while many very properly consider it no sign of freedom, liberty, independence, manliness, or womanliness for a person to deposit the vote in the secret, sneaking, obnoxious manner that some people admire, the Convention very wisely, we think, introduced in the State Constitution provisions of a general nature concerning the ballot, leaving the details of the question to be decided by the State Legislature.

MR. BOWLES, of the Springfield Republican, reasons upon the "Mormon problem" after this fashion—the government has no coherent and persevering policy in regard to Utah; the "crushing" and "let alone" plans are both insufficient; a middle course would be the thing, one "which does not involve indiscriminating or unrelenting persecution of mere fanaticism, such as in large measure fills the Mormon heart, but does require a consistent self-respecting pressure on the Mormon hierarchy, with its aristocratic and impossible pretensions, with a full protection to all opposing residents," including statutes to punish parties to new polygamous marriages, compulsory just judgment on questions between Gentiles and Mormons by Territorial authorities, or, in default, by assumption (usurpation) the maintenance of a Federal force to watch the city from Camp Douglas.

That the government has no coherent and persevering policy in regard to Utah appears to be true enough. The why and wherefore of this appear to be plain enough too. There can be little doubt that the government, administration rather, would be glad to interfere in the domestic arrangements of our citizens if a satisfactory way of doing so could be devised. One reason why the government would be glad to do so is because the government is a partizan of such functions by Federal courts, and rather than a republican affair, and one of the watchwords of that party from the beginning was opposition to marriage, scriptural marriage amongst the "Mormons." Here is the one great mistake that the party, and consequently the government, has made in this business. One error, unless corrected, is the inevitable parent of many others, and this the party and the government manifestly realize, though not so thoroughly as is desirable. Mr. Bowles condemns the "let alone" and the "crushing" policy. The "crushing" policy may well be condemned by every fair-minded man, for it is so unrighteous, so inconsistent, so barbaric, so brutal, so utterly opposed to every liberal and noble sentiment, that no man, no republican, no one having any regard for the rights of American citizens can support it for one moment.

The real ground for condemning the "let alone" policy is simply this, that prejudiced or ambitious partizans are dreadfully anxious to do something. It is this way with them—do something, right if it be so, but, right or wrong, do something. That is why the "let alone" policy is not considered satisfactory. If the government was perfectly disposed to adopt the "let alone" policy, the parsons, the politicians, the office holders and seekers, and diverse other interested or bigoted partizans would give it no rest until they had spurred it up to adopt some unnecessary or offensive measures, or at least to permit them to do so, if not sanction or connive at the doing.

That the government or its representatives have legitimately nothing at all to do with the particular institution against which the party in power were pleased to lay down a plank of their platform, is susceptible of easy proof. The institution so warred against is essentially an institution of religion, which the Federal Constitution ex-

pressly provides shall not be legally interfered with. It is a mere quibble, of no weight whatever, to say that the system of marriage thus opposed is not marriage, and is not a religious matter, for the contrary is notoriously the fact. The institution in question has from time immemorial been held to be, termed and legislated for as marriage. That marriage is considered by vast numbers of people, a religious institution, is patent to all. The Roman Catholic church to this day considers it a sacrament. Within the memory of persons living, none but religious ministers were eligible to officiate in the marriage ceremony in England, and numbers of persons of both sexes in that country now would not consider themselves satisfactorily married unless it was done in church or chapel and by a religious minister. On the continent of Europe the question of "civil marriages" within a few past years has been a very warmly contested one, and only very recently in some countries have such marriages been made or considered legal. So far as the "Mormons" are concerned, it is well enough known that they consider marriage a divine institution that can only be properly and satisfactorily and authoritatively and permanently entered into by a divinely ordained method, and through the administration of a divinely authorized minister. It is therefore amply manifest that the government or its representatives have no shadow of right or authority or justification, constitutionally speaking, to attack the "Mormons" on account of their marriage institutions, or any other part of their religion.

As to "pressure on the Mormon hierarchy," and "full protection to all opposing residents," this sounds rather inconsistent. What has government to do with putting a pressure upon "Mormons" and extending protection to opposing residents? To discriminate so invidiously between citizens as to press upon one class and protect another in opposition to that class, is not the business, is not the right of any government on earth. Much less is it the business or the right of the government of this great Republic to press down upon one portion of the citizens on account of their religion and encourage and protect another class in opposing them on that account. That is very much more like despotism than republicanism. We have not so learned republicanism, freedom, liberty, or the relations which the government of the United States sustains towards the different classes of its forty millions of citizens. Our conception of the duty of the government towards the people is immeasurably more liberal, impartial, and noble than that.

Again, as residents who do not believe in the "Mormon" religion, there is no city in the Union where unbelievers, opponents, or minorities have greater personal freedom and greater immunity from molestation than in Salt Lake City, and this whether they strictly mind their own business, or are given to interfering with the business of other people.

The compelling of just judgments between "Mormons" and Gentiles, by Territorial authorities, says Mr. Bowles. The Federal judiciary, some of them at least, have been the great instruments of late in preventing such just judgments. So far as the local judicial officers of the Territory are concerned, it is a matter of very serious doubt, generally speaking, whether more equitable and less costly judgments have been delivered in any State or Territory in the Union, than in Utah, and this irrespective of politics or party, creed or color.

The maintenance of a Federal force to watch the city from Camp Douglas, Mr. Bowles recommends. Mr. Bowles' recommendation has been carried out, at Camp Douglas or elsewhere, for the past fifteen years, sometimes in a friendly manner, sometimes in a manner not so friendly. The means consequently disbursed among the residents of this city and the Territory generally has proved very convenient to our merchants and other business men and the public at large. With a few exceptional instances, wherein unruly men or prejudiced officers have not conducted themselves altogether as men and gentlemen should, and a few other instances wherein the soldiery have been sent here or there to second the ill-considered actions of fanatical judges, &c., the representatives of the army and our citizens have managed to live upon neighborly terms, while the soldiery have done all the watching, solitary or concerted, that they have felt disposed to do, and no doubt the benefits arising therefrom have been of very

great importance to the nation at large, though Mr. Bowles does not appear to be very well satisfied with the results. However, it takes a great deal to satisfy some people.

### ENDORSED BY THE LADIES.

In a large and highly intelligent assembly of ladies convened in the 14th Ward Assembly Room, Salt Lake City, March 2, 1872, the following Resolutions were passed by unanimous vote—

**Resolved**—That we, ladies of Salt Lake City, for ourselves, and in behalf of the ladies of Utah generally, unitedly express our appreciation of the Bill presented and read in the House of Representatives in Washington, D. C., on the 17th of Feb., 1872, by Hon. James G. Blair, of Mo., entitled "A Bill to legalize polygamous marriages in the Territory of Utah, and to dismiss prosecutions in said Territory on account of such marriages."

**Resolved**—That we consider the Bill a truthful and able instrument, and the speech in support of it a most noble effort in behalf of the rights of conscience and religious liberty, involving the peace, purity and happiness of domestic life—a conclusive argument in support of the sacred Constitution of our country, and a living honor to the name of its author.

**Resolved**—That we admire the bold and manly position which Mr. Blair bravely assumed and fearlessly maintained; we respectfully say, may his magnanimous example be followed by every loyal and true-hearted statesman; and may he with all others in Congress who nobly advocate the principles of fairness and justice, long live to honor the sentiments which he has expressed, and realize the reward of their labors by witnessing the defeat of bigotry and proscriptive intolerance, in the establishment of our liberal and protective national policy and administration, and the triumph of Liberty and Equal Rights.

**Resolved**—That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Hon. James G. Blair in Washington, D. C., and also copies to the DESERET EVENING NEWS, and Salt Lake Daily Herald.

### VACCINATED TO DEATH.

A WHOLE COMMUNITY INOCULATED WITH POISONED VIRUS.

We get the particulars, from an authentic source, of a distressing state of affairs existing in the town of Hartland, Shawano county, manifestly resulting from vaccination, although the precise and direct agencies which contributed to it are not as yet known. Smallpox having slightly prevailed in the county, the town Board of Hartland resolved to have vaccination thoroughly performed within their borders, and accordingly made a stipulation with a well known physician of Shawano to do the work. He visited the town last Wednesday, and between the hours of 10 o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock in the afternoon vaccinated 117 persons, old and young. Of this entire number, within six hours after each patient was vaccinated he was taken sick, exhibiting symptoms of having been poisoned. By the next morning three had died, two children of one family being among the victims. Very naturally great consternation seized upon the community, and fear added still greater danger to the situation of the unfortunate people. Messengers were dispatched to this city for medical aid, and on Friday Drs. C. E. Crane and Rhode went to the scene.

By the time they arrived there the sick people had all begun to improve, and apparently needed little else than stimulants to entirely recover. As near as can be described the arms of the patients presented an appearance similar to the results of a snake bite, and the symptoms were those of persons recovering from an overdose of morphine. Great care was taken to ascertain the origin of the vaccine matter used, and it appeared it was taken from the arms of perfectly healthy children, dissolved, as the physicians insist, in glycerine, and inserted in the arm by means of a patent spring instrument. As the matter stands at present, no especial blame appears to attach to any person, but the whole affair presents strange and most unaccountable phases.

We understand the town board has taken possession of the vaccine matter used, and that it will undergo analysis at the hands of some practical chemist, when perhaps some clue to the mystery may be afforded.—Green Bay News.