

mations or excuse acts of licentiousness or justify polygamous or other pernicious practices inconsistent with morality or the peace or safety of the State, nor to permit any person, organization or association to directly or indirectly aid, abet, counsel or advise any person to commit the crime of bigamy, or polygamy, or any other crime."

The suffrage committee have, it is said, telegraphed to Senators Edmunds, Tellers and others as to what effect the embodiment of the test oath prohibiting Mormons from the ballot would have on the acceptance of a constitution by Congress. The Senators are asked to answer at length by mail.

The D. C. C. & P. R'y.

I have just had an interesting interview with Mr. F. M. Brown, President of the Denver, Colorado Canyon & Pacific Railway Company.

Mr. Brown came to Kanab to buy supplies for his surveying outfit. The survey down the Grand and Colorado rivers has been completed from Grand Junction, Colorado, to Lee's Ferry, in Arizona, a distance of 350 miles. It has not been found necessary, so far, to cross over the Colorado River with the road, but the line can be materially improved and shortened by running several short tunnels through a soft sandstone formation between the mouth of the San Juan and Lee's Ferry. But little bluff labor has been encountered and fully twenty-five per cent will be plow and scraper work. In no instance has a maximum grade of over sixteen feet to the mile been adopted, and the average grade will not exceed five feet to the mile.

Mr. Brown is very much encouraged by the survey so far made, and assures your correspondent that the road must go through in quick order, and as soon as the survey through the Grand Canyon is completed, work will at once be begun all along the line.

This Grand Canyon is like a shaft cut through the country, from 500 to 6,000 feet in depth, exposing many distinct mineral ledges or veins, and when a road makes it possible to approach these ledges, this bids fair to becoming the greatest gold and silver mining district in the world. Almost the entire wash, or sand and gravel banks in this river, in the Grand Canyon, is impregnated with gold dust, which, however, is very fine, and has to be gathered with quicksilver; but even inexperienced hands make fair wages at this.

Mr. Brown means business, and has no doubt struck on a fine enterprise, as 650 or 700 miles from Grand Junction, Colorado, takes the road to steamboat connection on the Colorado River.

LAWRENCE C. MARIGER.
KANAB, Kane County, Utah,
July 8, 1889.

The New Appointees.

It is now U. S. Marshal E. H. Parsons. On July 17 Mr. Parsons received his commission, and

as he was required to give \$30,000 bonds for the faithful performance of his official duty, he rustled up the following bondsmen: M. H. Cullen, Geo. A. Lowe, F. Auerbach, W. S. McCornick, M. H. Walker, J. E. Bamberger, James Hogle, Jacob Moritz, R. C. Chambers and Bolivar Roberts.

Next morning Mr. Parsons appeared before Judge Zane, having filed his bond with Clerk McMillan, and took the oath of office. Mr. Dyer was notified, and gave instructions to his deputies that he was no longer their chief officer. The deputies have had little or nothing to do that day, and the new machinery is not yet in running order. Who of the old force will be retained is unknown as yet, but rumor says the changes will be sweeping as soon as the new marshal gets the business in hand.

Mr. Varian's commission also arrived July 17, and next day he assumed the duties of District Attorney, taking the oath of office before Judge Zane.

Now that Mr. Peters has been relieved, he will endeavor to arrange his affairs so that he can start for his Ohio home immediately.

The interest in the President's appointments is now almost past, most of the democratic officials having been superseded by republicans. There is likely to be one more change in the Supreme Court in the near future, in the resignation of Judge Judd. When his place is filled, there will be two democratic and two republican members on the bench.

GENUINENESS OF THE BIBLE.

"We believe the Bible to be the Word of God, as far as it is translated correctly."—*Articles of Faith.*

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in common with all Christians, unhesitatingly acknowledges the divine authority of the books of the Bible, accepting them as containing the Word of God to mankind. But this applies, of necessity, only to the books as they were written by the authors, who were under the direct guidance of the spirit while writing. As these men wrote their books they contain the Word of God, and if there be a copy that in every part corresponds with the original, this copy, too, unquestionably contains the word of God in every part. The same can be said of the various translations that exist. If they in every particular give the precise meaning of the original, nothing more and nothing less but the full meaning, then they also in every part contain the Word of God. It need, however, scarcely be pointed out that no such perfect copies, nor any such infallible translations, exist anywhere. When the apostolical church was compelled to flee into the wilderness, the original writings of the Apostles were lost too; the perfect was gone.

With the restoration of learning in later ages, much faithful labor has been expended upon the work of restoring the books of the Bible to their original reading in every particular. Fragments of copies

have been gathered and compared to each other and to various paraphrases and quotations innumerable, the result of all this labor being that the Scriptures we now possess can be proved to be genuine with nearly as much certainty as if the original copies were still extant.

On entering upon an inquiry into this subject, we may at once go back to the time when Bibles were first printed. There are still extant, for example, printed copies of the Old Testament in Hebrew, dated Soncino 1488, and Brixia 1494. The latter, from which Luther made his German translation, is kept in the Royal Library at Berlin, and the other is found in the library of Exeter College, Oxford. Copies of the New Testament in Greek were printed, Basel 1516, and in Greek and Latin 1514. On comparing these editions with each other and with modern editions it is found that they very nearly agree. No material changes (and of such only can be the question) have been introduced these 400 years. The writings were committed to the "immortal custody of the press," making falsifications impossible.

At the time of the printing of these volumes written copies of the Bible were found in most of the public libraries of Europe. Indeed, they formed a considerable part of such libraries, as has been ascertained from catalogues belonging to that time. One thousand three hundred and sixty-four manuscripts, containing the Old Testament, have been collated by Dr. Kennicott and De Rossi, and six hundred manuscripts have been collated for later editions of the New Testament.

Here it must be remembered that in determining the text of Greek and Latin classics twenty or even ten manuscripts are deemed sufficient. Of Herodotus fifteen manuscripts are known to critics, and these belong mostly to the tenth century. Yet no one would question the genuineness of that text. In the case of the books of the Bible, the manuscripts are, as already seen, much more numerous, giving to the biblical student vast advantages in determining the text.

The books of the Bible are also much more ancient than the classical manuscripts. A Virgil in the Vatican, Rome, claims to date from the 4th century; but generally the manuscripts of the classics belong to the period between the 10th and the 15th centuries.

The manuscripts of the Hebrew Scriptures now extant were mostly written between the years 1000 and 1457. But there are some that belong to the 8th and 9th centuries. Manuscripts of the New Testaments and of a Greek translation of the Old (the Septuagint) are older still. The so-called Codex Alexandrinus, now in the British Museum, comprises, in four volumes, small folio, both the Old and the New Testament, and must have been written before the close of the fifth century. The Vatican manuscript, preserved in the library of the Vatican, Rome, belongs to the fourth, as also do probably the Codex Cottonianus in the British