

five millions of Jews in Russia, and that at least a million will be more or less affected by these harsh measures, for which there seems to be neither right nor reason.

This anti-Semitic spirit, which breaks forth at intervals in certain places, is similar in some respects to the anti-"Mormon" virus that, without real cause, animates not only the ignorant masses but people who ought to know better and should be free from those bitter prejudices and intense animosities which figure in all religious persecutions.

As in the case of the "Mormons," some slight incident, in itself harmless either to individuals or society, is magnified and distorted by designing persons until it appears to be a gigantic evil. The false side of the story is widely published and generally accepted. The truth, when told, is seldom repeated by the press. And thus the public receive only the malicious and deceptive report and remain in the dark as to the facts.

The expulsion of the Jews from Spain toward the close of the fifteenth century was consequent upon popular fury aroused by falsehood. It is now regarded as not only a big blunder which has worked evil to that country, but as one of the black spots in history and an evidence of the intolerance and brutality of the times.

In relation to the effort in progress to induce the wealthy Hebrews of Europe to join in a boycott against Russia, by way of retaliation and as a means of inducing a relaxation of the raid upon the Russian Jews, this has been tried before but failed. If one money-lending house closed its coffers against the Czar, another would open its pockets, and thus the refusing firm lost in business and the oppressed Jews gained nothing.

It would seem that the better way would be to help forward an exodus of the oppressed to some more favorable land. If America is too far, Turkey is more liberal than Russia and is near at hand. A nation that will treat the Jews as Russia does is unworthy of their presence, their talents and their thrift. It should be made to suffer the loss which would be consequent upon their entire removal from its cities and its soil.

Nations will have to reap the harvest of their own plantings as do individuals. The seeds of injustice and wrong bring forth fruit in their kind and come back to vex the sowers. The oppressors of the Jew and the oppressors of the "Mormon" will

each have to take the results of their acts. And the nations and people of these times of theoretic liberty and ideal tolerance are more guilty when they do violence to the principles of freedom and equal rights than their prototypes of the dark ages, and will therefore reap a bitterer recompense.

Both Russia in its treatment of the Jews and America in its treatment of the "Mormons" would do well to note these truths enunciated by the *Courier-Journal*:

"There is no more important lesson for nations to learn than that religious intolerance is an expensive luxury. The spirit that prompts it is irreconcilably opposed to the spirit of progress. Its vigorous exercise is therefore an ominous symptom in any country, and, even if it does not mark the decadence of the nation, it is always prophetic of future trouble and arrested development. The policy most consonant with reason and justice is always the best in the long run, with nations as with individuals."

UTAH'S INCREASE UNDER "MORMON" REGIME.

THE rapid increase of population in this Territory is beginning to attract attention and to elicit newspaper comment. Of course this increase is attributed to "Gentile" influences. The "Liberal" element, with its usual unblushing impudence, claims the credit, and the echoes carry the sound throughout the country. By the echoes we mean most of those papers which treat on Utah affairs; it is seldom that they do anything but repeat errors.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* says of this increase in population:

"That is a pretty good proof of the stimulus given by Gentile institutions and the class of people that they attract. Under the old Mormon regime the city would not have its present position before the end of the century."

It is said that figures will not lie. But it does not follow that persons and papers cannot lie with figures. Let us see what the census tells of the increase in Utah "under the old Mormon regime."

In 1850 the census gave Utah a population of 11,380. In 1860 it reached 40,273, the percentage of increase being 253. In 1870 it ran up to 86,786, or an increase of 115 per cent. In 1880 the population was 143,963, an increase of 65 per cent. And the latest report places the present population at 223,589, an increase of 55 per cent.

So that "under the old Mormon regime," the percentage of the increase was greater than since the influx of "Gentiles." And when

the "regime" was exclusively "Mormon," the increase was nearly five times as great as during the last decade. And with the increase of the "Gentile" element the ratio of increase has rapidly declined. Will the *Chronicle* make a note of this and correct its palpable error, or will it proceed in its usual course, publish a gross untruth and entirely ignore the facts when placed before its attention?

"MORMONS" AND IDAHO POLITICS.

The anti-"Mormon" schemers in Idaho still try to work up a hostile feeling against the Latter-day Saints and make out of it political capital in the interest of the Dubois faction. We have expressed our opinion that our co-religionists in the north would refrain from taking any part in the political contest now in progress. The *Bear Lake Independent* speaks with no uncertain voice on this question.

It has been charged that the "Mormon" element would unite to help the Democrats into power. The *Independent* dissipates this notion with the following blast:

"We were asked the other day how much we would take from the Democratic party for the editorial columns of the *Independent* during the next two or three months. The proposition nearly paralyzed us by its audacity. After being betrayed, deserted and sold to its political opponents for less than thirty pieces of silver by the cringing, servile and pusillanimous Democrats of Idaho, we should be deserving universal contempt should we raise our hand or voice to help such ignoble cowards in any extremity. Our answer to the proposition is no, eternally no. We would rather laugh at their calamity and mock when their defeat cometh. And as to their monetary considerations for the use of our paper, we say, let their money perish with their party unless they repent of the great wrong done the people we feel proud to call our friends."

Notwithstanding this, the Idaho *Statesman* and other anti-"Mormon" organs continue to raise their howl, and see in every Democratic movement an attempt to gain the "Mormon" vote. We venture the prediction that the returns will fail to show any effort on the part of the Idaho "Mormons" to "affiliate" with either party.

But what a joke it would be on the Democrats who were too weak-kneed to support the friends who risked their liberties in support of Democratic candidates, if these same feeble fellows were knocked out at the polls as "aiders and abettors" of the "Mormons," on the hypothesis of the alleged attorney of Bingham County.