

# DESERET NEWS:

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TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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## IN SOUND CONDITION.

We are pleased to note the fact of the assured success of Zion's Benefit Building Society. When the present month's income shall be in the hands of the applicants for loans to whom it has been awarded, the amount of money out at interest will be, in round figures, about \$11,000.

Notwithstanding the low rate of interest charged—8 per cent per annum—and that the expenses of the first few months have been necessarily much greater in proportion than subsequently, the obligations have all been completely covered by the gross profits, so that for the balance of the year the society will be accumulating net gains. As a matter of course the proportion of profits increases as time proceeds and the amount of money out at interest correspondingly swells.

Already considerable good has been accomplished in the building of new homes, the improving of others already existing and the lifting of mortgages where stockholders were paying a high rate of interest.

Stockholders who design to borrow money should be careful to see that their applications are in accord with the objects of the society—"the building, improving and retaining of homes"—as money will not be loaned for any other purposes, for the present at least, that scope being sufficient for the present purview of the association.

The meetings of the Board of Directors, held on the second Wednesday of each month, at the Shoe Factory, are open to any shareholder who may desire to attend, take cognizance of the methods of doing business, and get a clear idea of the status and growth of the society. The closest scrutiny is courted by the Directors, who are prepared to answer any questions that may be propounded for the information of the shareholders. It is to be hoped that the cordial character of this invitation will be understood, as there appear to be real estate dealers who do not look upon the Society with any great warmth of friendship. It necessarily to some extent invades the domain of their business field. Any influence used against the growth of the association can, however, be readily quashed by an investigation of facts and figures, which manifest stability and growth that are very gratifying.

As a matter of course, the number of intending borrowers being large in the incipient stages of the society, some of the later applicants will have to wait a considerable time before awards can be made in their cases. It is only a question of time, however, when all legitimate applications of persons who can properly secure the Society, will be satisfied.

## THAT CATTLE DISEASE.

MR. M. RASMUSSEN, of Kirkhaven, Minnesota, writes to the effect that he has seen articles in the NEWS recently about a malignant cattle disease that has appeared in some portions of Utah. He states that it was prevalent in that part of the country in which he lives, a few years ago. It is similar to measles among children. He found the following to be the most effective remedy: Take one part of asafetida, one of saltpetre and one of onion. Mash and mix these constituents. Cut a hole under the dewlap, right over the interior vein. Make a species of pocket, fill with the mixture and stitch over to keep it there.

The correspondent says if this remedy does not prove effective, it will do no harm, as the animals will die if not applied anyway. According to his experience, the more the animals are dosed with nostrums the more sure and speedy will be their demise. He says that a prominent feature of the disease is a stagnation of the circulation, and it is consequently more fatal to cattle in good condition than otherwise, their blood being richer.

## TO BE RESISTED AS MISCHIEVOUS.

THE Philadelphia American, a very able paper, thus treats upon the subject of the legislation introduced by Senator Hoar. We do not see how any one governed by the principles which give life to our national system of government can reach different conclusions to those expressed in the following:

The bill reported by Mr. Hoar to strengthen the severity of previous legislation against Mormonism seems to us to go further than the Supreme Court is likely to regard as within the bounds of Constitutional action. It proposes to transfer the entire property of the Church of the Latter-day Saints to a body of trustees appointed by the President, and devote it to the maintenance of public schools in the Territory. It especially proposes to confiscate to this purpose the fund for the promotion of Mormon immigration from Europe, and to declare the existence of such a fund in itself illegal.

It is easy to see that the accumulation of real estate and other property in the hands of the corporation known as the Church of the Latter-day Saints is extremely undesirable, and that, as was done with the property of the Roman Catholic Church in New York, Missouri, and some other States, its distribution to the custody of local bodies of trustees within a reasonable time, under penalty of confiscation, would be both just and politic. It is against public policy to permit the accumulation of great estates in mortmain, and any reasonable measure to break up such estates has the sanction of precedent and of experience. But the unconditional confiscation of church property, because it has been invested in an undesirable manner in the control of a centralized body, is a proceeding such as the Constitution does not warrant, even in Congress dealing with a Territory. Nor is it easy to see on what grounds it can be maintained that a fund for the promotion of immigration is illegal. The other States and Territories in our far West, have such funds, and supply them from their ordinary revenue. It is true that these promote immigration without reference to religious belief; but the Utah authorities will not be found to admit that they do otherwise, nor will it be easy to furnish legal proof of the notorious fact that none but converts to the established church of the Territory profit by the arrangement.

The bill seems to set precedents which every religious body and every Western State will do well to resist as mischievous.

## WHY NOT SAY THE "MORMONS" DID IT?

THE investigation into charges preferred against Chief Justice Axtell, of New Mexico, do not seem to proceed with any greater liveliness than the inquiry into the alleged crookedness of Eli H. Murray's doings as Marshal of Kentucky. There is one merit in the Axtell case which distinguishes it from the Murray case. No friend of the Judge has set up the plea that the investigation was started by the "Mormons," and no one has attempted to whitewash him with any pretended claim that he has done some wonderful thing which should work as an apology or explanation for his alleged misdeeds.

But this has been the chief excuse offered for the Governor of Utah. He has advocated the extreme measures against the large majority of the people whose interests he has sworn to subvert, and therefore a critical inquiry into his acts while occupying a previous official position should not be permitted. And the absurd and untruthful claim that the "Mormons" instituted the pending inquiry has no proper bearing upon its merits. The question to be decided is not who started the investigation, but are the charges true? This applies to the Axtell as well as to the Murray case, and there is just as much foundation for the story that the "Mormons" sprung the action of a regularly appointed Committee of the House of Representatives in one instance, as in the other. It shows the inherent weakness of the Governor's defence.

## WHO PAYS FOR THE SUPPER?

WHILE in Ogden on Wednesday we found Mr. Beardsley of the Union Depot Hotel very busily engaged in preparing a banquet for the Wyoming excursionists, and learned from him that he had been engaged to provide supper for them on their arrival. Ogden was foraged over for chickens and other delicacies wherewith to regale the coming guests, and all hands and the oaks were kept busy in the work. Supper was to be ready at half past five o'clock. But at four o'clock Mr. Beardsley received a telegram that the company would not arrive in time to sup in Ogden and would go on to the capital. This was a great disappointment to mine host and also a pecuniary loss. We suggest that if the meal was really ordered by the committee it would be a graceful thing to reimburse Mr. Beardsley for his unnecessary outlay and trouble. How is it Messrs. Committeemen?

## CANNOT SWALLOW IT WHOLE.

THE Christian Union, anti-"Mormon" though it be, is unable to swallow the confiscation and robbery clauses of Senator Hoar's Utah bill. It confesses itself puzzled over the reports of the measure, and concludes with the following:

"It may even be legitimate to annul the laws under which the Mormon church is incorporated, though we do not believe such annulment would accomplish any practical end. But to escheat to the United States government the property of the Mormon Church and invest it in schools, and to require the President to appoint trustees of the Mormon Church for winding up its property and business affairs—in other words to put it in the hands of a National receiver—and this, not because it is insolvent, or fails to pay its debts, or has been convicted by legal proceedings of disloyalty or illegality in overt act, but because we do not like its general beliefs and its moral teachings; is to set aside not only all the traditions of the past, but the very principle upon which our government has hitherto been conducted. It is to make a State church for the purpose of destroying that church; it is for the State to take property which has been contributed by its citizens, under the laws, legally and legitimately, for one purpose, and divert it to another and a very different purpose. We have a great respect for Senator Hoar and a great disrespect for Mormonism; but if this bill has been correctly reported we must, certainly find some other American method to deal with the Mormon problem than that afforded by so arbitrary a measure, or must abandon the problem altogether, as one which is too great for our capabilities."

## THE THIN END OF THE WEDGE.

IN watching the progress of the warfare waged against the "Mormon" people we have expressed the opinion, privately and publicly, that the crusade would not stop short of an attempt to deprive every member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints of all political rights and privileges, simply on account of their religious belief. The answer to this by conservative people has been, "This is impossible; no one in the United States can be proscribed on account of religious faith; it is only the violation of law that can be lawfully punished."

It appears that our opinion is to be verified. The bill introduced—not originated—by Mr. Poland, the step-father of the law now in force in Utah which bears his name, aims at this very thing. The disqualification intended to bar out "Mormon" voters in the Territories is membership in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Any person who cannot swear that he is not a member of that Church is not to be allowed to vote at any election. That is the proposition. It is a monstrous one, of course, and a few years ago would have been hoisted down at once and have received no consideration whatever. Now it is gravely introduced, with the statement that it is to be pressed, and the assurance that it will be passed. We do not doubt the pressure, but we have no belief in its passage.

However it seems to show the drift of the tide of sentiment towards a complete repudiation of the fundamental principles of our Government, and indifference to the restrictions of our national Constitution, when the subject of "Mormonism" is in view. The danger to the country in this heresy is in the fact that if one religious body can be proscribed for unorthodox belief, another can be treated in the same way when the precedent is established. All lovers of their country, no matter how much many of them may be prejudiced against "Mormon" ideas and doings, should take this into consideration. There is more in it than some people think. Such a proceeding as the denial of common rights to a religious body, no matter what its beliefs may be, is but the thin end of a deadly wedge that may be driven home with such increasing effect as eventually to split up the nation into fragments and destroy the last vestige of religious liberty in the land.

In taking the stand they occupy, the "Mormons" are battling not only for their own rights but the rights and liberties of all believers in religious or political creeds that do not harmonize with dominant powers. This will yet be seen and acknowledged. Now we labor without appreciation. But we shall never give up the struggle, and we are bound to gain the victory at last.

## THE PISTOL MUST GO.

It is suggested by a Southern newspaper that while the subject of taxation is worrying our Congressional Legislators, the deadly pistol be taxed so heavily as to crush it out of existence. If anything could be done to abolish the needless weapon it would be a boon to the country. The custom of carrying it as a means of defence is a vicious one and ought to be discontinued in any community having pretensions to civilization. It is not a handy thing to have in the house, for there are very few persons in whose hands it would be effective in case of attacks from burglars, and it is more likely to do harm through incautious manifestation than to be of benefit in an emergency. A club or a knife would be of more service in a conflict with a robber, and the wielder would be less likely to miss his mark.

The pistol has not the same excuse as the gun, it is not used for hunting purposes. Though the instrument is a product of civilization the use of it is a relic of barbarism, and any lawful means that can be employed to suppress it should be encouraged. The pistol should go.

## THE KEY TO THE SITUATION.

IN our comments upon that portion of President Arthur's message to Congress which related to the "Mormon" question we made use of the following words:

In the blind demand for the extirpation of this system, constitutional restrictions will not be regarded by the unthinking. Any scheme to stamp out "Mormonism" will be hailed with pleasure by the hiring clergy and receive a certain amount of popular support. The Republican party, hard up for striking issues, will take advantage of this sentiment and propose such measures as no consistent Democrat could sustain for a moment. The refusal of a Democratic House of Representatives to pass a bill embodying the recommendation of the President, could be used against that party in the coming campaign. They could be accused of sympathy with the "Mormons," which would be an awful charge, and "amiation with polygamy" which would be still more startling. Hence the adoption by President Arthur of a scheme which, if the people of this great country were not deceived and bamboozled by politicians and hiring preachers, would be sufficient to condemn any candidate for popular suffrages, in the eyes of Republicans and Democrats alike.

We repeat them now because they gave the key to the extraordinary anti-"Mormon" measures which have since been introduced in the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate Committee on the Judiciary is composed of gentlemen of experience, many of whom have the highest reputation as constitutional lawyers. Yet they have given their names and influence to a bill containing provisions that are undoubtedly subversive of vested rights, and in direct opposition to the supreme law of the land. Whatever opinions may be entertained concerning the first portion of the bill, presented originally by Senator Edmunds, the latter part is almost universally condemned as unconstitutional and unjust. Some of it is really absurd, while at least two sections provide for the repeal of Utah statutes that have no existence.

The bill presented by Mr. Poland in the House of Representatives is not only in direct contravention of constitutional principles, but its provisions have been ruled against by the Supreme Court of the United States. If the new Poland bill—named like the old one after its presenter, who had nothing to do with its production—were to become a law, which is highly improbable, it would not stand the test of judicial examination for an hour. It would only make difficulties which could not result in the end desired.

The great marvel is, that men of national reputation can be found to endorse such remarkably outrageous measures. But the wonder disappears in the light of the reasons which have induced them to lend their aid in that direction. The intention is to force an issue on the "Mormon" question upon the Democrats. In view of the popular feeling which has been created by falsehood and trickery, Democrats are likely to join with Republicans in any scheme devised to stamp out "Mormonism." If it could be disguised so as to appear in some degree in harmony with the principles for which every Democrat contends. But this is not desired. The object is to force the Democracy to an apparent support of the "Mormons," so that the cry may be raised, "Republican rule means the crushing out of 'Mormonism,' Democratic supremacy means its continuance and protection."

It is very questionable whether this plot will prevail. There are statesmen in either House who have the manhood and backbone to protest against wrong and stand up for the right, independent of any personal considerations. They will not join in an attack upon the fundamental law under any pretext, nor aid in the violation of vital principles to pandor to unreasoning clamor. They are not afraid of losing prestige or position. They would rather displease the populace than forfeit their self-respect. They would defend constitutional principles even if the unpopular "Mormons" would be thereby protected in the common rights of citizens. But such true Americans are not very numerous. The Democrats as a body understand the aim of their political enemies. They will not give themselves away in the manner expected. They are engaged in a struggle for the reins of power and mean to secure them if possible. They are not likely to run any great risks purely for principle's sake.

The "Mormons," then, seem likely to be placed between the upper millstone of plotting Republicanism and the neither millstone of ambitious Democracy. What will be the consequence? They will not be ground to powder. They will not be squeezed to their hurt. There is a Power which guides their destiny that is superior to all earthly parties, powers and potentates.

and they are safe in the hands of Omnipotence. Mark it, they will come out all right. Every measure designed to crush them will only solidify and strengthen them, and every weapon forged for their injury will be turned upon the hands that wielded it. This is as certain as the eternal truth, as irrevocable as the word of Jehovah.

Another motive that prompts, some of the extreme measures that have been introduced during the present Congress is lust for fame, an inordinate desire for distinction. Cullom, Poland and others of their ilk, imagine that they are going to ride into popularity on their anti-"Mormon" hobby horses. They will find out their mistake to their sorrow. The favor of the unthinking crowd is an uncertain quantity, and as unstable as the wind. The denouement of to-day is often the applauded of to-morrow. And those who minister to the demands of the great people in a passion, are as likely to be cried down and trampled upon for their truculence when the popular sentiment turns, as to gain a little brief applause while the anger lasts. We do not know of a Member of Congress who has failed of re-election simply because he opposed unrighteous and unconstitutional treatment of the "Mormons," but we do know that many public officials who have made it a point to fight "Mormonism" have gone down to official graves in disgrace.

The motives that move many politicians to the present onslaught, are of the meanest and most sordid character. And the fear that will cause others to refrain from standing up in defense of constitutional guarantees and human rights, lest they be accused of advocating the "Mormon" cause, is equally craven and ignoble. "Do what is right, let the consequence follow," is a "Mormon" motto which both Democrats and Republicans would do well to insert as an abiding plank in their political platforms. It would be a good thing for the country if there was any likelihood of its adoption.

## MORE MOBOCRACY.

ANOTHER of those disgraceful scenes of mob violence of which the Elders of the Church are so frequently the victims, has occurred in Indiana. Brothers G. M. Barnes and James A. Anderson, while peacefully wending their way, accompanied by some young men, from a meeting they had attended to the place where they purposed stopping at over night, were beset by a band of ruffians, who pelted them with rocks and sticks, wounding up the attack by emptying their revolvers at them. Happily the victims of the brutal and murderous assault providentially escaped injury, one of them only evading being struck by a bullet by stepping behind a tree, which a moment later was hit by the deadly missile.

It does not appear whether this infamous proceeding was an outgrowth of the secret anti-"Mormon" combination formed some time since in the State adjoining Indiana (Ohio), or whether it was merely a spontaneous outburst of religious hate against two inoffensive men performing a conscientious duty. But whatever be the source of the cowardly onslaught, it is the duty of the community where it occurred to take vigorous steps to suppress the mobocratic spirit. If they do not they are guilty of culpable indifference to a murderous invasion of the rights of citizens.

A few weeks since President John Taylor stated publicly in effect, that when the Elders were maltreated and abused and the bulk of the people did not have the moral courage and sense of right sufficient to rise up in their strength and suppress mob violence, the brethren were under no special obligation, in their capacity of messengers of salvation, to labor amongst them, and they would be justified before the Lord in leaving them and seeking other fields. So long as they were willing to deliver their message and were prevented by the violence of some and the indifference of others of the people, the responsibility with regard to the consequences of the suspension of the preaching of the Gospel was not upon the shoulders of the Elders. The justice and consistency of the position of President Taylor on this subject must be apparent, and doubtless will influence the course of the brethren when they are assailed by ruffians and no effort is made by the people of the vicinity to bring the law breakers to punishment.

## Maryland to the Front.

THE Hon. Oden Bowie, Ex-Governor of Maryland, President of the Baltimore City Passenger Railway Co., also President of the Maryland Jockey Club says: "Both in my family, and in my private stables, as well as those of the City Passenger Railway Co. I have for several years used St. Jacobs Oil most satisfactorily." Such a statement ought to convince every reader of this paper, of the value of the oil.