

THE EVENING NEWS

Wednesday, October 26, 1870.
THE LONDON STANDARD ON AP-
PROPRIETIES IN UTAH.

The following article on affairs in Utah, is from the London Standard of the 5th instant:

A serious aspect has lately been given to the long-shouldering quarrel between the Mormons and the authorities of the United States. A new governor has been sent out to Utah, especially qualified, it is supposed, to enforce the laws, and the persons said to have appointed a new commander-in-chief for the militia of the Territory. Such appointments have been made, can be little more than an empty menace addressed to the Mormons, because there is no militia in the Territory of which a United States officer can take the command. The community has not been organized in imitation of the system adopted in the States and Territories, which have successively grown on to the United States during the westward progress of the population. The early settlers in Utah, when they camped down in the Salt Lake Valley, imagined themselves to be to all intents and purposes out of the world. Today that the desert is where they made their home was at that time a part of the territory of the United States would be to fall back on a mere geographical fiction. There were no citizens of the United States within seven or eight hundred miles of them. They forfeited all the advantages, such as they might have been, of living under the protection of the American Government, and they naturally looked upon themselves as free to enjoy unmolested the fruits of their own industry. Up till a recent period they remained practically un molested because, although the United States thought fit to send a detachment of troops into their neighborhood a few years ago, that force, under the command of the very General now adjoined to, remained inactive in its own camp, and knew better than to attempt the impossible task of coercing the strong, united, and devoted population of the city. The strongest possible feelings of antagonism grew up between the Mormons and the troops, and their General is said to have earned, by the language he was known to hold and by various acts of unfeigned hostility to the people, his high standing in their estimation. If the United States Government were really desirous of inducing the Mormons by fair means to accept the authority of Congress, and conform to the general laws of the Republic, the first thing they would do would be to withdraw this said General altogether. Any attempt to force him down the throats of the Mormons can only be regarded by them as equivalent to a declaration of war, and for this they are much better prepared than is generally supposed. They are no longer a handful of exiles. They command the resources of a population of one hundred thousand people, of which every man is devoted to the common cause and perfectly familiar with the use of arms. They would be stimulated to frantic exertions if open hostilities should break out in the burning memory of the wrongs they and their fathers before them have endured at the hands of the United States; and, though, of course, the Government of Washington can overwhelm and crush them if it pleases, that can only be done by the employment of a large army and the perpetration of massacres from which the imagination revolts. For attacking them in this spirit the American Government has no adequate justification, and if a war of extermination is waged against the Mormons simply to gratify popular passions, the spectacle will be one of the most disgraceful which modern civilization could afford. The quarrel as it stands at present is misunderstood in this country, because it is supposed that the Americans are animated by pure ideas of social morality in their efforts to overcome the people of Utah, and in this way English people, to whom the social morality of their neighbors is a matter of more importance than their extreme development of religious toleration, to Americans it is only too often a lurking tendency to applaud the motives by which they may the American Government is now actuated. In truth, this quarrel between the United States and the Mormons has nothing to do with polygamy. That is merely *Made up of now* pretext, and if a war should break out in Utah it will be less responsible for the bloodshed than the Spanish capitulation of Prince Leopold is responsible for the siege of Paris.

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