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ARSON AS AN ANTI-"MORMON"  
ARGUMENT.

SEVERAL newspapers have published brief accounts of the treatment of John W. Metz, in West Virginia, who it appears, as has already been shown in the News, has been shamefully persecuted on account of his religious convictions. But none of them, so far as we are aware, have denounced the infamous proceedings against him, or called for the prosecution and punishment of his cowardly and criminal assailants.

It will perhaps be remembered that the story was to the effect that some "Mormon" missionaries had been holding meetings in West Virginia and had succeeded in making an impression upon the minds of their hearers. Among them was Mr. Metz, residing on Yellow Creek in Calhoun County. Some excitement having been created because of conversions in that neighborhood, the Elders moved away to avoid disturbances. But this was not enough for the bigots and lawless professors of piety there. The converts also were required to leave.

Mr. Metz, believing in the liberty of the citizen in this free republic, simply and quietly remained on his farm. The good (?) people who were so incensed against "Mormonism" had him ejected. He rented another farm, but before he could occupy the house it was burned to the ground. Nothing daunted, after much trouble, he procured another, which was also burned, and a third house suffered a similar fate.

Dispatches to the press state that there appears to be no disposition to trace up and prosecute the offenders. Thus the law is violated and the principle of religious liberty, supposed to be dear to every American citizen, is outraged, and the officers of the law wink at the wrong and make no effort to capture the guilty. Why? Simply because the faith that Mr. Metz is said to have embraced is unpopular. And this is the nineteenth century, and these things are permitted and encouraged in a country consecrated to civil and religious liberty!

It is idle for those who desire to apologize for these crimes to cry "polygamy!" No such excuse, if it had any force in itself, can be offered in this instance. Our missionaries do not preach polygamy, these people were not converts to it. They only became convinced that the Gospel offered to them by the Elders is the Gospel of Jesus Christ and acted on that belief. They broke no law. They injured no one by their faith or their adoption thereof. No matter how absurd their belief might appear to objectors, it should have been held sacred from violence. The protection of the law belongs to the heterodox equally with the orthodox. And we do not envy the feelings of any person, editor, preacher, or officer who will condone mobocracy and smile at arson because the victims are called "Mormons," nor would we like to stand in the place of any being who is too cowardly to condemn such infamies.

The weapons with which "Mormonism" is assailed are potent evidences of its strength and the weakness of the cause of its adversaries. If it is attacked by pretended fact or argument, falsehood is invariably resorted to. Its doctrines are never fairly presented by its enemies. The straight and unadulterated truth is never told when they attempt to explain it. Very few of them ever investigate. They merely adopt the views of others of their own class, repeat the stale scandals and warm over the highly seasoned hash dished up by unscrupulous theological cooks, and fling mud at a system they do not understand and have never examined beyond its surface. Polemics failing, the brand and the rifle, the club and the tar-bucket, the might of mob force and appeals to the passions of the untutored multitude are the resort of the fabled and chagrined emissaries of the Prince of Darkness.

A fair field has never been allowed to the advocates of the latter-day Gospel. The champions of orthodoxy are not only unwilling to hear it, but they will not suffer others to listen if they can help it. Their treatment of our Elders and of the principles we hold is a standing reproach. It is a virtual admission of alarm. If they did not fear the power of their own professions and creeds as to treat with falsehood on the one hand and force on the other.

And we think the press of the country has not been consistent in its treatment of the "Mormon" question. With but few exceptions, violence has been

either approved or condoned when the sufferers have been "Mormons," and that religious freedom which the founders of this nation lived and died to establish is trampled upon and defiled by its professed worshippers and supporters. These are strong complaints but they are only a mild presentation of the facts; and to make this clear, the course taken in relation to the case related in the commencement of this article is amply sufficient as an illustration.

## THE CROW INDIANS.

GENERAL WILLIAMSON, formerly agent of the Crow Indians at Fort Custer, Montana, recently delivered an address in Miles City, that Territory, before a stock growers' convention, in which he described the industrial progress which those Indians were making. He informed the convention that 897 families of Crows had been located upon 400 farms that had been allotted, that on those farms they have been doing very well, caring for their tracts of two or three acres each under cultivation much better than many would suppose. The system of irrigation there promises to work well, and the Crows are becoming subservient to the ways of the white men. They have 4,000 head of good cattle distributed over these 400 farms, the government has supplied them with excellent implements for farming, which they are beginning to use to advantage, and they have between ten and twelve thousand horses, which, while many of them are small ponies, represent a share of the extensive wealth for which the Crow nation is noted. It was expected, also, that from the tolls on cattle passing through the reservation a large portion of the expense of carrying on their operations would be met.

Gen. Williamson said that in his opinion the era of raiding upon others by the Crows was past. His remarks were applauded and evidently appreciated by the stockmen, who passed a resolution thanking him for "the able and kindly manner in which he has conducted the affairs at his agency, and for the material assistance he has rendered the citizens of Montana in the protection of their interests from the depredations of Indians."

It is to be hoped that the Indian Department will continue a policy looking to the formation of industrial habits, and the adoption of methods for self-support, by the Indians. At the Utah agency, in the eastern part of Utah, the excellent results of such a policy may be seen.

## SOMETHING SOLID.

WITH a view to giving its readers full and reliable information as to whether or not there exists in Utah a solid foundation for a "boom," the *Inter-Ocean* has sent a staff correspondent to this Territory with instructions to write up its resources and opportunities for safe and lucrative investments, particularly in respect to manufactures. The gentleman's name is D. Luehrle. We have had the pleasure of a visit from him, when he described the kind of information he was collecting. It was of a character to give capitalists a good idea of the field Utah affords for legitimate investment, and of the branches of manufacture which may be conducted here with profit. Incorporeal resources, such as climate, air, beautiful views, sunshine, etc., in connection with which there is likely to be considerable moonshine, will not be urged upon practical capitalists as inducements to invest in Utah except as secondary considerations; but our wealth in raw material and natural facilities for producing merchantable commodities from them will be faithfully described.

This is the right way to "boom" a locality. No community can be prosperous for any length of time unless employment is provided for the working classes, and an effective method of doing this is the publication of such facts as will lead to the establishment of manufactures.

## THE SKIRMISHING BEGUN.

THE holding of state conventions by both parties is now well under way, and from their proceedings can be drawn tolerably reliable estimates of the drift of public opinion in respect to presidential candidates. Massachusetts, a state which leads in the formation of the opinions and policy of the Republicans of the country, has chosen a delegation to the National Republican Convention who, though not instructed, are understood to be solid for Blaine. Texas has chosen a delegation about equally divided between Blaine and Sherman. Strong intimations come from New York that its Republican delegation will be solid for Depew. The Republicans of the third congressional district of Illinois have pronounced in favor of Judge Gresham, of Indiana, though the party in the latter state is solid in supporting General Harrison. This looks a little singular.

The doubt regarding Blaine's sincerity is an element of uncertainty in forecasting results in the Republican party; but aside from him the two

most prominent men in the party, Sherman and Depew, have developed about equal strength. Their fiscal views are similar, and a rivalry between them would be mainly sectional. Depew's support coming from the rich and populous East, while Sherman's backing would come from the Mississippi Valley, mainly. Developments in the Republican party are still far too immature to afford any certainty as to who will secure its nomination for the presidency.

Seldom, if ever, has the Democratic party been so thoroughly unanimous respecting its candidate for President as it now is. Grover Cleveland is the only man seriously named by its party leaders, if a faction in New York State be excepted. From this source comes an intimation that a few delegates to the National Democratic Convention will support Governor Hill; but such a move can hardly amount to anything worthy of notice, judging by all present indications.

In regard to the second man on the Democratic ticket, however, the party is undecided. Indeed very few names have been mentioned for the place. Indiana has nominated Governor Gray for Vice President, but the suggestion has been made, and received with much favor, that a man representative of both the South and West, should be put on the ticket with Cleveland, who is so distinctively representative of the East.

As the state conventions succeed each other, as they will do now rapidly until all are held, the lines of battle will be more clearly formed, and the leaders will more prominently appear.

## IMPRISONMENT OF THE INNOCENT.

ONE of the defects in the present system of criminal jurisprudence is the imprisonment of witnesses who are unable to obtain sureties for their appearance in court when wanted by the prosecution. That it is really imprisonment while only called detention, cannot be truthfully denied.

It seems very unjust that persons who happen to be witnesses to a crime and who are innocent of participating therein should receive worse treatment, as they do in many instances, than the culprit may go loose on bail, the witness to his crime who may be unable to secure sureties is kept in confinement pending the trial, which may not take place for many weary months. Thus the innocent are made to suffer while the guilty, for the time being at least, rejoice in freedom.

The House of Detention in New York, quite recently, was found to contain many unfortunates deprived of their liberty solely because they were poor and happened to be on the spot when a crime was committed. A number have spent a year within its walls, being under bonds which they were unable to furnish, while the criminals against whom they were required to testify were at large. Others of course are detained for shorter periods. But they are imprisoned for no offense and are not paid for their loss of time or compensated for their sufferings.

They are kept in places the windows of which are protected by iron bars; their bedrooms have barred windows and double-locked doors, and they are guarded and under strict prison discipline. They are permitted to receive letters, but can open them only in presence of an officer who inspects them, and if doubtful about their propriety forwards them to the District Attorney. They are locked in their bedrooms at 9 p. m. and must come out at 6 a. m., and are not permitted to return till locking-in time at night; no visitors are allowed on Sundays nor at any time without a permit.

Attention has been called in New York to this unjust system by the case of George Anderson, of Sherman, Texas, who was shut up in the House of Detention for nine months because he witnessed an assault on Ward's Island where he was paying a visit to an old friend. The accused persons were eventually acquitted.

Mr. Anderson was for thirteen years a scout and interpreter in the employ of the United States and was associated with General Custer. No one has accused him of crime. He was in New York with some ponies for the Polo Club which he had brought from Texas, when he was unfortunate enough to witness the assault, and had his ticket, which cost him \$50, to return home. This became useless by lapse of time. He promised to return when wanted, but was placed under bonds and kept nine months under lock and key because he could not furnish them. He thus described his treatment:

"We were five men locked in a room from 9 in the evening until 6 in the morning, with no provision for necessities. The men suffered greatly, and it is impossible to describe the foulness of the atmosphere and the annoyance endured by all. There was no water in the room, and while there I never saw any disinfectant of any kind. Negroes were shut up in the same room with me and other white men. I protested against this, but it was no use. We got one clean sheet every Monday morning. The five men in the room used one towel, which was changed

once a week. I used to avoid the towel and use a piece of undergarment. Between the dirty towel and unclean sheets disease was undoubtedly communicated from one inmate to another. A man named Connell, I think, was removed from the House of Detention to Bellevue Hospital, suffering from erysipelas. A cleanly Russian, whose name I forget, but apparently in good health, was brought in and put right in the same bed, just vacated by Connell. A day or two later he was attacked by erysipelas and was also removed to the hospital. The doctor said it was a shame."

"I left the place with the same clothing I had when I went in. I used to wash my upper shirt while I wore my undershirt, and vice versa. There is a bath-room, but no warm water however cold the weather."

I wrote twice or three times to the District Attorney last winter, telling him I was without clothing and unacquainted in the city, and asking that something be done for me. No attention was paid to my letters. I did not wish my relatives in Texas to know my situation until I could explain it in person, as they knew nothing about a House of Detention down there, and would think I was imprisoned for some crime.

"Several cases of peculiar hardship occurred while I was there. August Myers, who had been employed at the German Hospital, was robbed of \$48 by a woman. He was kept in the House of Detention three months, while the woman was out on bail. Christian Johnson was robbed of a watch and was imprisoned as a witness for several months, while the alleged robber went free. No indictment was found and Johnson was released. He had \$6 in money which was stolen from him by some one in the House of Detention, so that, as a punishment for being robbed of his watch, he was imprisoned and robbed of \$6 more. One can have a newspaper by paying some one to get it, and can have writing materials by paying for them."

Mr. Anderson was very anxiously discharged and thereupon appealed for compensation, which was refused. The following from a letter by an Assistant District Attorney to his principal sets the case forth very clearly:

"Nine months of imprisonment must amount to a severe punishment to any man in good health, guiltless of crime and fond of freedom. \* \* \* Anderson's antecedents, I have ascertained, are irreproachable; his record is without a stain; and it is no fault of his that he was arrested and incarcerated as a criminal for no transgression whatever. It is a matter that cannot be neglected with impunity. Anderson's treatment in the premises must not only involve the reputation of the metropolis, but its interests, and if he is turned away without compensation it can excite no wonder if such niggardly behavior upon the part of the authorities should seal the lips of every witness in the land whose evidence might hereafter become necessary to convict criminals when they do not happen to reside in this city; and, in the second place, his right of action for damages for his imprisonment and detention and enforced services in the interests of the people is by no means free from doubt, and may entail litigation that must cost in counsel fees alone five times as much as would now satisfy Anderson."

Of course it is very important that witnesses to crime should be secured in order that the guilty may be punished. But in the treatment of such witnesses the adage that it is better that ten guilty men should escape than that one innocent person should be punished seems to be entirely reversed. It is time that this defect in the judicial system of the country should be removed. Where is the legal reformer who can point out "a more excellent way?"

## WHY HE LIVES.

EVERY day for a long time the dispatches have contained bulletins respecting the condition of the Emperor of Germany, which is one to excite universal pity. Frequent reference is made to some such fact as the receiving by him of some official report, or the granting of an audience; but the telegrams have not described the manner in which the invalid monarch passes most of his time. From other sources, however, it is learned that he is concentrating his dying energies upon the work of remodelling the constitution of his empire.

During day and night the tube in the Emperor's throat requires to be removed, cleansed and replaced, at frequent intervals. Strange abcesses continue to form. There is difficulty in taking food, and still greater difficulty in securing rest. There are the combined tortures of fever, headache and pains that shoot through the parts in which the terrible malady of the royal patient has its seat; and there is the further feature of certain and speedy death staring him in the face, which alone would amaze most men of the strongest nerve and most determined purpose.

But through all this the Emperor continues to frame, write out upon paper, revise and strengthen sentences, the purpose of which is to establish more firmly the unity of his empire, and the liberties of his subjects; to make wiser, better and stronger the

basic law of the great nation whose throne he must, in a few days, surrender.

A nobler work than this to engage the last days of a monarch's life could not be conceived; and of all that constitutes true heroism the reign of Frederick III of Germany will pass enough to make his name great, although that reign be but a few weeks in duration. The prolongation of his life from day to day seems due to a grim resolution not to surrender to the fell destroyer until his task shall be completed.

That men inspired by the spirit of a great duty and a fixed determination to complete it, may hold a length for an indefinite period the messenger of death, seems to be true. General Grant has often been named as an example in this. Reduced to comparative poverty by business misfortunes, he battled a fatal disease until he had accomplished a work which would have been his widow's against want; and the pen of the dying soldier and statesman was stopped in its work by the power of death, it had completed an invaluable record.

The world is made better by inspiring examples as these two have given it; for they have shown what it is possible for a man to accomplish, even while struggling to face with death. By such heroes as they have displayed, the hearts of millions are touched, and the human nature is strengthened.

## APPLIED ELECTRICITY

THE art of applied electricity is making rapid progress. It is but a few years since the first attempts were made to propel machinery with this subtle agency, but much has already been accomplished in this direction. Formerly a mystery amounting almost to the supernatural surrounded the subject of electricity, but this has almost entirely worn away, and the means of scientific experiment, nature and laws of this force have become much better understood. Electricity is now defined and generally believed to be "a vibration or motion, among the atoms of which substances are composed," and in this respect it is compared to light, heat, etc.

A small electric motor is now being manufactured, which is attached to a table of a sewing machine. A battery in a neat box stands on the floor, or near the machine, and supplies the motor. The operator can perfectly control the speed of the machine with a touch, and thus supplied a substitute for foot power, the furnishing of which has been so destructive to the health of sewing machine operatives. In factories sewing machines are now run by electricity conveyed by electric wires.

In describing a street car which is now being successfully run by electricity in New York, the *American* edition of the *London Illustrated News*, published in that city, says:

"This car has been in successful operation for some months on the Fourth Avenue line. When it reaches the end of its trip it is run into the depot, and into a berth between two long tables. The panels in the sides of the car under the windows are then removed, and the storage batteries are slid out on to the tables. Wires from an electric light generator are then connected to them, and they are recharged, and slipped back into place under the seats, ready for the next trip. The motor by which the electricity thus stored up is converted into power for driving the car, is placed under the car, and is controlled by a reversing lever in the hands of the driver on the front platform. The storage battery is often misunderstood. Its principle is not the storage of a quantity of electricity; but the storage of a quantity of prepared chemicals from which the electricity is generated, exactly as in other batteries. When the battery is run down—that is, when the chemicals are exhausted—it is recharged, as they are, by passing electricity through it, which reacts on the mixed or destroyed chemicals, restoring them to their former condition. They are then able to produce electricity by recombining as before."

The same paper describes an invention by means of which it is proposed to propel trains on the elevated ways in the city named, the motive power being electrically conveyed along the rails. Practical results of value have not yet been obtained, but it is believed that the invention will soon be so far perfected as to accomplish the object sought.

Medical as well as mechanical science is utilizing electricity for the accomplishment of important purposes, and it seems likely that the successful treatment of disease, in the stomach especially, will be wonderfully facilitated thereby. The journal above quoted in describing the manner in which the human stomach may be peculiarly examined by the aid of electricity says:

The patient is laid upon the operating table, and a slender tube carrying a glass bead upon its end is introduced into the stomach. A small light inside the bead is supplied by fine wires running out through the tube and connected to a small battery. The interior of the stomach is plainly lighted,