

EDITORIALS.

THE WORK IN EUROPE.

FROM the *Millennial Star* we learn that the Elders in the European missionary field are still diligently prosecuting their labors, in many places with good success.

Elder Moroni F. Brown, writing from Braintree, Essex, reports the addition of ten members to the Church in that district. Elder C. H. Greenwell, who is laboring in company with Elders Howard and Giles in the Nottingham Conference, speaks of five baptisms in the Leicestershire district. Elder William Cooper gives an interesting account of meetings held in the large Temperance Hall, Rotherham, which was hired for the brethren by a gentleman, who had bills posted to the effect that a discussion with three "Mormon" Elders would be held, which drew a large audience and considerable opposition. Elders Harris, Parry and Cooper had the opportunity of speaking, and then answered questions, the majority of the assembly being favorably disposed, while some sectarian preachers were noisy and quarrelsome. The way was thus opened for the Elders to visit many respectable people and introduce the Gospel to them in their homes. Four adults were baptized in Sheffield.

Elder Z. P. Terry writes of numerous baptisms in different parts of the Nottingham Conference, with kind treatment from strangers, and the addition of sixty members to the Church in the Hucknall district since last spring.

Elder John H. White gives a pleasing account of his labors in Cambridgeshire, and the re-opening of the work in villages which had not been visited by an Elder for twenty years.

Elder S. Van Dyk gives a good report from the Netherlands, where there is but little persecution, although one person threatened to shoot him. He has held meetings in many places and baptized five new members.

Elder John Alder speaks encouragingly of the work in Switzerland. Two persons were baptized while he was with Elder Graehl in Geneva, on a visit, and prospects are bright in that city. Bro. Ug had increased the Nurnberg Branch by the addition of twelve members. The efforts of the adversary in the circulation of falsehoods were having the effect to arouse inquiry and aid in spreading the truth.

The *Star* of August 29 announces the arrival on Aug. 27 of the following missionaries from Utah, per S. S. *Wyoming*: Elders John Q. Cannon, C. O. Fjeldsted, Christian Christensen, A. Eliason, Soren C. Pederson, Peter Sundwall, Anders Larsen, James Yorgason, Niels Heilson, Solomon Peterson, H. O. Magleby and Niels F. Borreson. Elder George Pope, visitor, was also with the company. All the missionaries, except Elder Cannon, were from Scandinavia.

Robert Kewley has been released from being Traveling Elder in the Leeds Conference, and appointed Traveling Elder in the Manchester Conference.

MORE ABOUT GEORGIA ANTI-"MORMONISM."

By letter from Elder Walter Scott, of the Georgia Mission, we learn that the excitement in that State about "Mormonism" is intense. Preachers and editors unite in endeavoring to arouse public feeling against the preaching of the Elders and the meetings of the Saints, declaring that all our doctrines are "founded on polygamy," saying, "Let every community become a law unto itself," and announcing, "Georgia wants no Mormons in its borders." The Conference recently held in Georgia is denounced as "a virtual challenge to the legislature of the State," and the brethren are warned by friends that false swearers will be found to testify against them, that they may be killed or haled to prison. Following is the text of the bill which passed the Senate on the 16th of August, and, as we are informed, subsequently passed the House:

"An Act to make it a felony for any person, by persuasion or otherwise, to attempt to mislead or influence others in the commission of the crime of bigamy or polygamy.

1. Be it enacted by the general

assembly of the State of Georgia, That from and after the passage of this act it shall not be lawful for any person in this State, in any address to a public or private assembly of persons, to counsel, advise or encourage in any way the violation of the laws of this State forbidding polygamy or bigamy.

2. Be it further enacted that any person or persons who shall be guilty of the violation of this act shall on conviction be punished by confinement at labor in the penitentiary for any time not less than two nor longer than four years.

The last section repeals conflicting laws.

After a considerable amount of discussion the ayes and nays were called and the bill was passed by a vote of 34 for and 5 against it.

We have not heard of the signing of the bill by the Governor, but as he is a strong Methodist there is little doubt about the result. As we have previously shown, the bill, if it becomes a law, will have no lawful effect upon our missionaries, as they do not advise or encourage in any way the violation of the laws of any State, whether in relation to bigamy, polygamy or any thing else. On the contrary, they inculcate obedience to the laws of every State or nation where they labor, and set an example by observing those laws themselves. More than that no is permitted by the laws of our Church to contract a plural marriage outside of the places specially set apart for that purpose in Zion.

If any of our Elders suffer from the passage of the above law in the State of Georgia it will not be for breaking it. The trouble will arise from the misrepresentations of bigoted editors and sectarian preachers, so affecting the ignorant populace that they will imagine they are acting under the shadow of the law in mobbing and maltreating the "Mormons." Already spies are following the brethren, persons professing to be "Mormon" Elders are insinuating themselves into the company of the Saints, and the Baptists and Methodists in their protracted assemblies and camp meetings, are inciting the people against the Latter-day Saints. However, since the State Conference twenty new members have been baptized, the missionaries are not daunted, but while they feel the need of wisdom and prudence and, more than ever, the direction and guidance of the Spirit of truth, they will pursue their labors wherever there is an opening, trusting in Him who watches over His own work, and who will overrule the machinations of evil men to the glory of His name and the accomplishment of His purposes. Opposition is life to this cause; it is only indifference that a "Mormon" Elder regards with deep concern. When the wolves howl there are sheep around, and it is the business of the shepherds of Israel to gather them into the fold. The movement in Georgia, though meant for evil will result in great good.

WATCHING AND WAITING.

SOME idiot writing to the *San Francisco Chronicle* over the signature of "Timpanogas," says:

"Those who are tired and have become almost worn out in watching and waiting, have, through the assurances of the President, been encouraged to believe that the dawn was not now far off, and Utah was at last to become a country of free speech and free action. His death would drive all those hopes back into the gloom of despair."

Who is there in Utah that is prevented from "free speech and free action?" If there is any wrong permitted in relation to this, it is the complete license allowed to those who delight in assailing personal character and uttering libels against the majority of the people here. No one is hindered from saying anything, no matter how false and vile, against the men who are venerated by the masses of the citizens, nor chastised for the foulest attacks on the faith, character and pursuits of the oldest settlers. What non-"Mormon" is prevented from the freest exercise of the rights of a citizen in all Utah? There is no such thing known in the Territory.

If it be urged that it is the "Mormons" who are not free, "Timpanogas" and other crack-brains may save themselves the trouble of fretting over it. The "Mormons" have no idea that they are coerced or hampered in any way, except by

the class of which "Timpanogas" is a member. They exercise all the freedom of speech or action that any one can desire, unless it be when officials who are sent here for the public benefit use all the influence at their command to restrict liberty and render powerless the popular vote and voice.

As for the suffering President, he, with the rulers of all the kingdoms of the world is in the hands of Providence, and can do nothing when He who controls the destinies of the universe declares, "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther." What the "Timpanogas" kind of fellows are waiting for is a free field for spoils, by the breaking down of local law and the extinction of liberty to the "Mormons." But they will continue to watch and wait in vain for the prey. Write that down and wait a little longer.

The above was in type before the President's decease, and has been crowded out of our columns till now. But it is just as applicable to "Timpanogas" and his tribe as if it had appeared when written.

"THE MORMON SITUATION."

FROM the first announcement by the prophet Joseph Smith that he had seen a heavenly vision, misrepresentation and abuse have been the resort of those who rejected the testimony. The Church which he organized by divine commandment has been assailed with the same weapons through all its career, from the date of its commencement more than fifty-one years ago. It has been a matter of surprise as well as regret that otherwise respectable men have condescended to falsehood and vilification when they have attempted to oppose the system vulgarly called "Mormonism." But while the Latter-day Saints have viewed with sorrow the resort to malicious libel and shameful epithets by educated and religious people, they have been led to rejoice that no other means were available wherewith to attack their principles and policy. Truth being so much stronger than error, the conclusion is inevitable that our enemies cannot find any truth available against us, or they would not so uniformly fall back on falsehood and vituperation.

Illustrations of this fact are to be pointed out by the hundred. There has never been an anti-"Mormon" book or pamphlet or essay given to the public, which has truthfully presented our doctrines, intentions or practices. Among the most recent instances of the use of utter falsehood and gross abuse is an article in *Harper's Magazine* for October, written by one C. C. Goodwin. We notice it because *Harper's* is a popular and respectable monthly, with a large circulation and a deservedly high reputation, not because the author of the article is of any particular importance. He is a comparative stranger to this Territory, having been here but a short time, is densely ignorant of the system which he undertakes to assail, knows nothing of the people whom he so shamefully reviles, and follows the business of writing against them and their religion for pay. We have read the article through carefully, with the view of discovering some redeeming features in a series of untruths presented without the slightest attempt at proof, but in vain. It is called "The Mormon Situation," but presents nothing that may be fairly stated to be a fact. That a moderately cultivated mind can stoop so low for the purpose of defaming a creed and people who do not happen to fall in with his notions of right, is indeed lamentable and cause for pity as much as for contempt.

For the information of those who do not read *Harper's*, we here present some of the more prominent fabrications of this mendacious person, that those who know the truth may see his falsehood, and that people who might be deceived by the boldness of the assertions may not take our silence for assent. He starts out by stating that "The system was founded in the most transparent fraud of the century;" but concludes the first paragraph by predicting that the cloud "if let alone will break at last in tears and blood and drench the whole land." In another place he says there are "a hundred thousand people in the midst of this republic who implicitly believe" in it: that "it is spreading and being daily strengthened;" that "its superb organization is held complete in all its details;" that "the lines are solid from within;" and

that it "bristles everywhere with the defiance of disciplined strength." One would think that "the most transparent fraud of a century" which has had so many frauds that its experience in detecting them is ample, would not be at all likely to spread and have such immense results, and that there could be little danger of its "drenching the whole land," or that because of it, as he further predicts, "the country will be hillocked with graves."

But we will pass from this to the consideration of allegations that exhibit the atrocious spirit of the writer. Speaking of the difficulty that the Courts in Utah have in attempting to punish polygamy, he says:

"Every resident may know the fact, the children of the different wives may be seen daily at play about the streets, the Mormons themselves will tell what the maiden names of the women were; and still arraign that man and charge him with crime, and those very women will come into court, and on oath declare that they were never married to the man, and if necessary, (as they have before now) swear that they do not know who is the father of their own children."

Strangers reading this would receive the impression that trials for polygamy and such perjury as is here described were common things in Utah. What are the facts? That there have been just two trials under indictments for violating the Act of '63; that at the first, both wives testified they were married to the defendant, giving the dates; that at the second the alleged plural wife was the prosecuting witness, and the alleged first wife was never brought into Court. All the other trials and the perjury with which he charges women about whom he knows nothing, are figments of his depraved imagination. Liars suspect others of lying. A man who will deliberately write for publication the grossest falsehoods, may well think that other people are as perjured as himself. Lest the teachings of the "Mormon" Church and the express commands of its revelations should be cited to show that lying is denounced as a crime, he says:

"But such things always have a double meaning. With them it means simply that to a brother Mormon they must be true, while to an outsider that rule does not apply."

Where did he obtain this wonderful piece of information? The very contrary is taught in public and private by the leaders of this people. The idea is an invention of the writer's, or he has adopted it from others whose deception he endorses. There is no truth in it. We are familiar with the doctrines and spirit of "Mormonism," and we declare before heaven and earth that no such villainous Jesuitism is taught or encouraged in this Church, or practised with the consent of the authorities.

An attack is again made by Goodwin upon the character of the deceased Brigham Young, and he asserts that a leader of this Church was a party to "a suit which compelled the heirs of the Prophet to make restitution of more than one million dollars stolen from a deluded people." This is also untrue. No money was ever recovered by suit from the estate of President Young, and it was never claimed by the Church that Brigham Young ever stole a dollar of its money or the money of the people. Goodwin has taken hold of the wrong end of the litigation to which he refers, as he does with everything that pertains to "Mormon" affairs, about which he is more stupidly ignorant than even an eastern editor. He next states that people in Idaho were "ordered how to vote last year," and that "at the time a Mormon Bishop stated that against their will they were ordered to vote." This is also entirely false. No "Mormon" Bishop ever made such a statement. A leading man in Idaho was said to have stated something of the kind, but published an emphatic denial. He further alleges that certain gentlemen whom he names, were cut off the Church for "advocating mining." False again. They were not cut off for any such thing. They had gone into spiritualism and apostasy, had a fair trial and were excommunicated, as they would have been for a similar course in any other religious body.

This coiner of inventions then makes the statement that Brigham Young "before a full congregation, on the Sabbath day, in Sanpete, in-

structed his hearers to kill" Rev. Mr. McMillan, who "despite three attempts on his life, still lives and continues to teach and preach in Sanpete." Just think what bunglers these "Mormons" must be, after all the assassinations which C. C. Goodwin has conjured up and laid to their charge, to make "three attempts" on that young man's life and yet "he still lives and preaches." The whole story is a villainous falsehood concocted for the righteous purpose of creating public sympathy and raising money in the East. After repeating further stale and exploded slanders about the deceased President Young, he next attempts to tell something about the "Mormon" system of Church government. He says:

"Every ward in the city, every small precinct in the country is under the control of a bishop. To him the people have to submit all their affairs, temporal and spiritual. His advice amounts to a command and a command which must be obeyed. The Bishops report to the Elders, the Elders to the Seventies, the Seventies to the High Priests, the High Priests to the Presidents of Stakes, they to the Patriarchs, they to the Twelve Apostles and they to the President and his High Councilors."

"At the last October Conference the burden of the harangues to the people was to impress upon them that the chiefs being daily and regularly inspired by God could make no mistake, could do no wrong."

The Latter-day Saints will be much amused at this blundering description of the powers of Bishop and the order of reports as emanating from the impudent mendacity of the statement about the claims of the "chiefs." We do not know any one in the Territory who has or does submit all his affairs to any of his affairs temporal and spiritual to any Bishop. Bishops perform a great deal of gratuitous labor, working at the same time for their own support, but if the above statement was correct they would not only be employed night and day looking into the affairs of their people, but would each have to engage a dozen or a score of assistants. The falsehood of the assertion is only equalled by its absurdity. And the Bishops do not "report to the Elders," nor to the Seventies, nor to the High Priests, etc., but the whole rignarole is another invention of Goodwin's, or the poor creature in his eagerness to make up "The Mormon Situation" has permitted himself to be stuffed with anti-"Mormon" nonsense. He exhibits consummate ignorance of the "Mormon" question whenever he puts pen or pencil to paper. He scratches away in the dark. He renders himself a laughing-stock to all who know anything of the subject who read his effusions, and fails to make a stroke of injury to the people whom he hates with such vindictiveness. It has never been claimed, either at the October Conference or any other time, that any man in this Church "could make no mistakes and could do no wrong." The writer of such an inexcusable fabrication must be lost to all sense of shame in publishing it. The are provisions in our Church courts for the trial of every officer the organization in case of transgression, and the liability of every one to error and sin is acknowledged and provided for.

We find that we have not space to touch upon as many points as intended, in the batch of untruths served up in the magazine. But will give two or three more as further samples of what remains:

"When men, poor and weak, are groping in the darkness of this world make laws which are contrary to their desires, or which conflict with their plans, they are not under the slightest obligation either to obey respect them, but have a perfect right to commit perjury or any other crime to avoid obeying them."

"Under that law (the elective law) girls under age and alien women with the odor of the emigrant ship still upon their clothes, etc., cast their votes as they are instructed to."

"Brigham Young when arraigned swore that he had but one wife, though he never was, but once married."

"At the last October Conference Apostle Cannon defied all powers of earth and of hell to interfere with the Mormon Church or customs."

"The great mass cannot read B-