

EDITORIALS.

NOTHING TO SNEER AT.

THE case of John D. Lang, which was dismissed on examination before the Commissioner on Wednesday, seems to afford some food for mirth and cause for wonder on the part of certain individuals, who cannot comprehend the course of one who acts simply on principle. Their ideas of marriage are always associated with sensuality. To wed, and to bed, mean about the same in their reflections. "Assion ways them, and their concepts of matrimony do not rise above that level. The fact, then, that a man may marry a woman as a wife for the next world without contemplating or exacting conjugal relations in this, is altogether beyond their comprehension.

But it was demonstrated by the evidence in this case, that the man, accused of an offence under the Edmunds law, had not broken the law in marrying the woman alleged to be his plural wife, for he had merely contracted with her a marriage for eternity, and not for time. In "Mormon" parlance she had been "sealed" to him, to be his wife in the future state, but no marital relations had existed between them such as the law seeks to punish. This may be very funny, or very surprising, to some people, but it is within the religion of the Latter-day Saints that such sealings may be solemnized. That is part of the doctrine of celestial marriage.

It is founded on the principle of marriage for eternity, revealed from God to Joseph Smith the Prophet. It is in accordance with sayings of the Savior recorded in the New Testament. He said: "In the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage." It is reasonable, therefore, to believe that if a man and woman wish to be husband and wife after this life passes away, they should be united for that purpose in this world, so that the relationship may continue in the next. The marriage of our first parents, as described in Holy Writ, was a marriage of persons in whom there was then no death. They were capable of living forever. It was ordained and solemnized by Deity. It was God that joined them together. If Christ redeemed man from the fall, as all "Christians" profess to believe, then Adam and Eve come together in the resurrection state, and the marriage celebrated in Eden continues, to make them one eternally. That is a celestial marriage, or, in other words, marriage for eternity.

But the first recorded marriage was also for time. It was from that date onward. So with a perfect marriage now, when solemnized by authority of the Divine Being who has ordained it. The atonement and work of redemption are to abolish death when it has served its purpose, and man may now lay a foundation for the everlasting future if it is based upon eternal principles. What God joins together man may not and cannot put asunder, even though he kills the body. The authority bestowed upon God's representatives on earth is such, that what they "seal on earth" by His law is "sealed on heaven." It stands as though done by Deity in person, and is of eternal continuance. Without that authority no contracts for eternity are valid or of any effect. The Almighty recognizes only that which He ordains.

But there are circumstances and conditions that might render a union contracted for the world to come, inadvisable of application to the present life. In such cases the parties may be sealed for eternity and not for time, as some may be married for time and not for eternity. The widow of a man to whom she has been wedded for ever, may marry a living man for this life only, her husband to whom she was sealed claiming her as his in eternity when they both come forth in the resurrection.

This is the sphere in which gospel ordinances are to be administered. Solemnized in time they have effect in eternity. Marriage, including the sealing ceremonies, is to be performed on earth, and many who only married until death should then part, will find that "in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage," and will therefore remain separate and single, whatever may be their other condition. They will have no claim upon each other, for their contract ended in death.

It is the privilege of woman to make here her choice of an eternal companion. When the realities of the life to come are sensed by the soul enlightened from on high, they become of far greater importance than the things that perish. Such preparations for the eternal future as can be made in time, outweigh in value all mere temporal considerations. Men and women who highly prize and esteem each other, under such an understanding may reasonably contract a marriage for eternity that bears no carnal relationship in time. It is a spiritual and eternal covenant and sealing and is not of the earth, earthy.

There are many women who, having gained some experience in this life and obtained some understanding of the value of a good and honorable man, would far rather be sealed to him for eternity without any temporal intimate association, than to marry and live with a man for whom they could not entertain that respect and regard

which they desire to hold for an eternal companion. To the carnally minded this is folly; to the spiritually minded it is wisdom and excellence and glory everlasting.

Why it is needful for a woman to be sealed to a man in order to attain to the exaltation of the celestial Kingdom, may not be clear to superficial minds. But it will be found in the sequel that Paul was right when he said: "The man is not without the woman, nor the woman without the man, in the Lord." And the grand truth will be discovered that no one can enter into the fulness of the glory of the Lord, separate, single and alone. "It is not good for man to be alone," applies equally to the female as to the male, and in a sphere of perfection the sexes will be joined and the family will truly be the unit of society.

There are many more things in heaven than are dreamed of in the highest earthly philosophy, and in making arrangements here for everlasting relationships hereafter, the Latter-day Saints are building as directed by more than human wisdom. They know what they are about, and can afford to pass by the sneers of the ignorant and, if necessary, endure the sufferings and trials which the darkness and malice of the wicked bring upon them because of the eternal principles that God has revealed. Marriage is included in the meaning of the scripture which says: "The things which are earthly are temporal, the things which are spiritual are eternal."

BOOK OF MORMON IN SPANISH.

BEFORE us is a copy of the Book of Mormon in the Spanish language recently issued from the press of this office. The work of translation was done under the supervision of Apostle Moses Thatcher, ably assisted by Elders Meliton G. Trejo and James Z. Stewart. It should also be added that valuable aid in the prosecution of the work of publication was given by Elder O. V. Aoy, who, being a practical printer, was not only enabled to assist in the translation, but as well in proof-reading and to some extent in typesetting.

The work is now ready to be carried to the Spanish-speaking peoples of the earth. Those who are engaged in studying that language will find it a valuable auxiliary in the attainment of that object. In that regard it will give a double advantage to those whose studies in that line have been entered upon for the purpose of enabling them to preach the Gospel to those to whom that language is native. Its use in that connection will familiarize them with the contents of the book, an indispensable acquisition to the preacher of the Gospel as renewed in this age.

The Book of Mormon has been translated from the English into ten different languages—French, German, Italian, Danish, Swedish, Kanaka, Welsh, Spanish, Hindustanee and Dutch, and published in all of them excepting the two last named.

The price of the Spanish edition is the same as the latest English, varying according to the quality of the binding.

MORE "COMMON BARRATRY."

THERE has been considerable uneasiness in "ring" circles lately. Marshal Dyer is absent, and arrests have not been frequent enough to please the clique that fattens on fees. Grass has been quite short for the pet Commissioner, selected to sit on cohabitation cases in this District as well as many from a distance. There have been rumbles of discontent from the vacuum in the official stomach. So a sudden rustling of deputies has been the consequence, and a few more victims have been bounded for the sacrifice. But the haul has not been quite satisfactory. The results are very meagre. No rich pickings, but only ordinary fees.

And there have been some more flashes in the pan. During the past few days two charges have missed fire. The cases of Messrs. Hogan and Lang had to be dismissed for lack of evidence. Not a red cent in either of them for binding over. To the fee-hunters they were stale, flat and unprofitable, except to a small and pitiful extent. But "half a loaf is better than no bread," and when cases cannot be made to stick they are perhaps better to the fee-grabbers than nothing. And some innocent "Mormons" have been put to considerable trouble and expense. That gratifies malice if it does not satisfy avarice.

The cases of Messrs. Hogan and Lang are two more to be placed on the list of victims to common barratry. The professional complaint-server, Rensch, ought to be made legally responsible for the mischief wrought in these false accusations. It is a crying shame and disgrace that a creature like that is encouraged in making groundless charges against people of whom he knows nothing. If there was any shame in his employers they would whisper caution in his ear. But we do not think they have any sense of decency or perception of ordinary honor. The greed for fees overpowers every dictate of propriety and humanity.

In the Hogan case there was not the slightest excuse for the offence committed against him. No witness subpoenaed to testify had ever even heard that he had a plural wife till the deputies who summoned them said so. It was a trumped-up affair from beginning to end. We call it an offence against him because it was a vexatious prosecution without any basis in fact. It was also an offence against the law. It is the crime of "exacting groundless judicial proceedings" and is a misdemeanor under the territorial statutes. The creature who swore out the complaint ought to be prosecuted for that offence, and they who "advised and encouraged its commission" ought to be prosecuted as provided by law for being accessories.

What is the object of this common barratry, so often committed? Is it anything else than malice and the acquisition of fees? Uncle Sam has to pay the money thus squandered in the name of the Government, and the victims to this greed on the part of officials have to bear the inconvenience and expense of business neglected and time worse than wasted. If there is not money enough in genuine prosecutions of "Mormons," why do not the creatures that get hungry between cases try some respectable means of making a living instead of preying upon the helpless and innocent?

It is time that the protection of the law should be invoked to shield the law-abiding from the rapacity of unprincipled fee-gorgers. Let the offenders be prosecuted, and thus test the willingness of the courts to deal on common justice and put down the infamous practice of common barratry.

ANOTHER STRONG TESTIMONY.

RHODE ISLAND has been trying the experiment of prohibition for a few months. It is a new thing under the sun of that State. It has been enforced to a certain extent, in face of a strong minority interested in thwarting it and rendering it obnoxious. Papers opposed to it in various States are beginning to quote Rhode Island in arguments to show that "prohibition does not prohibit." The Providence Star, however, right on the spot, does not endorse this idea. The following brief article from its editorial columns explains the situation:

"Constitutional prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors for use as a beverage would not be too high a price to pay for the saving of even one man or woman from being a common drunkard. The statistics, however, of six months' prohibition in 1886, as compared with six months of license in 1885, prove that the law, although but imperfectly enforced in Providence and some other communities, has accomplished much of good, and has effected a remarkable decrease in the number of victims of alcoholic stimulants.

It is useless to deride a measure which has such an effect, even under a lax and unsatisfactory police administration. The calm, practical public will judge prohibition by its results, without regard to argument on the one side or the other, and the result placed before us in the records of the police department cannot be nullified by any amount of appeal to interest or to prejudice."

This testimony must strike unprejudiced persons as direct and reasonable. The great objection raised so often by opponents of prohibition, that liquor is sold and bought in spite of prohibition laws, comes back on those who urge it. They advocate the license system. But is not liquor bought and sold without license in places where license laws are in vogue? Certainly. Well, then, if prohibition should not obtain because it does not entirely prohibit, license should not be the rule because every liquor-dealer does not take out a license. And, further, when a license is obtained, are the conditions observed, in any large city, as to Sunday liquor-selling, disposing of intoxicants to minors, and the closing of saloons at given hours? Everybody acquainted with the facts knows that in many instances they are not. But do they demand the repeal of the license laws because of this? Not at all. But to carry out their argument they should reject the license system because it does not always license, and all other laws enacted, local and national, because they are not fully enforced.

Rhode Island is doing pretty well, and, as in other places, the reason why prohibition does not fully prohibit and prevail as equally as other laws in that State, is because those who are entrusted with its enforcement have not their hearts enlisted in the work which it is their duty to perform.

AN INTERESTING STUDY.

AN article in the News a short time since drew attention to certain coincidental events connected with the figure seven. This caused the thoughts of a Logan, Cache County, correspondent to turn in the same channel, his reflections and notations appearing in our columns a short time since. He showed that certain events connected

with the history of the Church of a very important character had occurred during the years in which the numeral referred to appears, from 1827 inclusive to the present, with the exception of 1867, the correspondent being unable to recall any occurrence of special significance as having taken place during that year. In referring to 1877 he noted one important event but failed to note another matter of great importance to the Church—the complete organization of all its States and branches, one of the most vital transactions connected with its history, fraught with great and salutary consequences. Doubtless the Lord has set times and seasons for the consummation of his purposes, but we are by no means prepared to accept of the theory that they are designated by any special numeral. If the phenomenal history of the Church is scanned, from its inception to the present, it will be discovered that it is so pregnant throughout with events of great moment, that almost any number can be signalized similarly to seven in that regard. But, turning to that subject as a mere conceit, so to speak, a reference to 1870 will show that it was a year of considerable prominence on account of the events to which it gave birth. Governor J. Wilson Shaffer (seventh governor of Utah) arrived in this city. He issued his notorious proclamation forbidding the assembling of the Territorial militia for any purpose whatever, the organization having been by that action extinguished. He died the same year. Other occurrences more or less noteworthy also transpired.

This brings to mind a bit of history in relation to 1867. It was in that year that the Black Hawk Indian war terminated. It lasted three years, and cost the people of Utah \$1,121,037.38. The citizens were left to shift for themselves, without any aid from the general government. In undertaking and prosecuting the task of suppressing the Indian uprising around the Sanpete Valley, they were authorized to proceed by United States officials, notably Governor Durkee, and O. R. Irish and F. H. Head, Indian agents. About forty people were killed by the Indians, and the settlers lost many thousands head of cattle. The expense of conducting the campaign—being the amount named in the foregoing—has never been made good to the people, although it was certified to by Governor Durkee as regular and legitimate. The claim was represented to Congress and, on March 26th, 1868, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations. On April 5th, 1869, it was reported back, the committee discharged, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. January 20th, 1870, it was ordered printed and recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs, where it has remained buried, and will rest entombed unless some unlooked-for circumstance should cause it to be resurrected. It is a just debt, nevertheless, and should have been promptly and honestly paid.

Returning to the notable events that have occurred in the history of the Church, an investigation of its career will demonstrate that the community of Latter-day Saints have manufactured history of a striking character with as much rapidity as any people of similar proportions of which there is any record. To generations forward of this the subject will be one of intense interest. It is so to a considerable extent now, and the interest is growing. Every member of the community should make himself familiar with it, without reference to specified numerals. It should be studied in its successive phases, as the work of development has progressed from incipience. The intelligent and unprejudiced student will not fail to be struck with amazement, if he be disposed to recognize the directing hand of Divine Providence, with the numerous evidences given throughout that what is called "Mormonism" has been supervised by a higher power than that of man and that it has a mission of momentous importance to fulfill.

THE WAR SPIRIT.

THE fact that the chief war correspondent of the chief daily newspaper of Paris (*Figaro*) has been ordered home from his New York visit for duty, is enough of itself to cast a very dark shadow upon the disc of Europe; but it is only a small matter compared with innumerable others and all pointing in the one direction of a gigantic war, embracing in its operations all the great continental States, perhaps England as well. The cause of all these warlike preparations and notes of alarm are various, but none of them, one would think after a cursory review, sufficient to justify so enormous and deadly a conflict as is imminent. There is the old grudge of France toward Germany, which the former would gladly wipe out if the other would give it a pretext or a chance; but the land of Bismarck can't just now, even with all its bustle and worry over military preparations, think of a solitary reason why she should knock a chip from France's shoulder, as she certainly has nothing to settle with that nation having left all the grievances growing out of their conflict of sixteen years ago on the other side. But still she is going to arm herself at all points; her Prime Minister and Chief Captain,

backed by the Emperor himself, keep on talking war, talking it louder and becoming more rampant every day, and we all know from history just what this sort of thing—long continued leads to—the rusty quality in the organism becomes too effervescent to be longer contained within its immediate environment and it runs over, carrying everything movable along with it. In the absence of France making some kind of hostile demonstration on the frontier, such as quietly taking possession of and unfurling the tricolor upon the parapets of Metz and Strasburg fortresses or landing a corporal's guard of armed men on the eastern bank of the Rhine, or a formal declaration of war, Germany has no apparent room for discontent; out she is actuated by the fears engendered in the past through a knowledge of the French character. As to overt proceedings or language even, there is no issue between these two great nations. Bulgaria is the only visible bone of contention, but if the war should be because of that puny principality, Germany would only be indirectly interested and France not at all. Eliminating them from the theatre of the impending conflict, there would be left the conspicuous figures of Austria and Russia. The maintenance of a present autonomy in and its own eventual protectorate if not dominion over Bulgaria, is of great moment to the former power, because for one thing, it is contiguous and added to Serbia, (which under another name and with semi-independence is really a part of Austria) would form a straight and unimpeded highway to the Black Sea. The commercial supremacy thus established would be more than the Muscovite, who has been coveting the same territory for many years, can bear; thus any further movement of Austria would provoke an outbreak with its northeastern neighbor, and vice versa. But the *status quo* has not been violated of late, not in the absence of immediate danger and therefore pressing haste, is it likely to be; Bulgaria stands where it did between the disputants, controlled by neither and influenced by both. So there seems no present material out of which to construct a conflagration in that quarter—and yet, if the war-dogs were once unleashed in any part of either of these powers, there would in less time than the sun takes to complete a diurnal rotation be long lines of bristling bayonets, a huge array of dusky-throated cannon and a perfect legion of mounted men on the frontier of each and every one, thus showing how, while disclaiming preparation or exhibiting to the world any necessity for an outbreak, each is armed to the teeth and eager for the fray.

The war spirit was never more rife, no matter if oil be now and then poured upon the surface of the troubled waters. All that is pacific in France or Germany is merely on the surface. Delay is only aggregating the volume of waters accumulating against the dyke, so that when the flood does break through, its force and fury will be the more ungovernable. The reason so much caution is shown in all movements is because each desires to have the moral support of the world by the responsibility for beginning the conflict being upon the other; hence the necessity for avoiding all appearance of impending belligerency. Bismarck and Von Moltke are bolder and more outspoken than the French statesmen; they make no denials while disclaiming the intention of either initiating or provoking hostilities; the French deny that the Germans have any cause for uneasiness, their massing of troops on the frontier is simply a dress parade on a grand scale, and the cutting down of timber for defensive structures is only to give the soldiers exercise. Under such a condition of restraint, one or the other will eventually light the match that will fire the mine.

"STRAINING" THE CONSTITUTION.

THE St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* devotes nearly a column of its editorial space to an attack on George Ticknor Curtis, for denouncing the Tucker-Edmunds bill on the ground of its unconstitutionality. That astute lawyer, in his able argument against the measure, adverted to "the laws already on the statute books," which he claimed "if administered humanely and justly, however firmly, are perfectly sufficient of themselves." The *Globe-Democrat* says this refers particularly to the Edmunds law, which it avers "was condemned in stronger language by Mr. Curtis when it went into effect five years ago."

We think the *Globe-Democrat* is slightly mistaken about that, but granting its statement, what has that to do with the present argument? Mr. Curtis in condemning the Tucker-Edmunds bill does not endorse the former anti-"Mormon" legislation. And in stating that the latter is sufficient without the proposed addition, he does not thereby acknowledge that it is either proper or constitutional. He merely asserts that it is sufficient for the end desired and that the further unconstitutional legislation is needless.

The *Globe-Democrat* does not undertake to dispute the position of Mr. Curtis, nor to show the constitution-