

I submitted my reports and accounts to them, to challenge and confound the Hill slanders, and when they found it absolutely unimpeachable, they were amazed and chagrined; and to avoid doing me justice and declaring my innocence and integrity, they sneaked, dodged and finally adopted the cowardly course of postponing action until the annual meeting in June.

"This is the act of men beneath the moral grade of the Mafia, and is a deed of shameful malice that a Modoc, a Mormon or a Mephistopheles would spit upon and despise. As co-operators with J. Wesley Hill they are also co-operators in his infamy. They are a disgrace to the Christian ministry and polluters of the Methodist pulpit.

"For some hidden reason, which time will yet reveal, this board of directors cringes under the lash of J. Wesley Hill, and does his bidding in a way that suggests their wholesale fear of him. What knowledge of them, of their secret lives or private deeds he possesses, and which gives him this power over them, I hope yet to unearth. I know he has denounced every one of them for acts, which, if true, would disgrace them before all men, drive them from the pulpit and house them in public prisons.

"I can safely understand why the devil and the liquor dealers, and the coarser elements of the world, and the newspapers and the social parasites assail me and seek to despoil me of my name, fame and influence. I diligently and fearlessly testify of them that their works are evil. They have cause to hate me.

"This attack so full of malice and assassin methods, from the brethren can only be explained by the above facts and by the further statement that to escape the payment of the debts they created, and on which they are being sued in the Ogden courts, they are eager to blackmail me out of money I do not owe, to rob my family of bread and shelter to save their own pocket books from sweating for their sanguine haste and folly.

"I have been published as a reveler on the funds of the university. Barring the fact that the university has never had any funds in my hands and on which I might revel, I reply that I have stinted my family all this past year for the sake of this so-called university. I have lived more quietly and economically than for years preceding. I have endeavored to live genteely and keep my family in decency and simple sufficiency. All this I shall continue to do as it suits my pleasure and means, and shall explain and apologize to no one for the mode and measure of my domestic life.

"I was not born on a pauper's pile of straw, nor raised in the disorder and odor of a pigsty, and my life associations have not been among the mudsills of the social system. I do not propose to let my present style of life be dictated by the products of such probation.

"I have been reticent on this subject except as forced to speak, until silence is no longer Christian and forbearance no longer fortitude. Now I propose to be heard and to ruin every rascal of this handit gang to his hole and fill the hole full of shot and fire.

"Up to this hour I have stood be-

tween the church I love and the exposure of this whole scandalous situation; but now I must let the truth be known to the world, that my name may be used to my future usefulness and to my family when I am gone."

When Rev. Sam Small accepted the presidency of the Ogden university it made a big flutter. He had left Atlanta the week before, after having arranged with Bishop Beckwood of the Protestant Episcopal church for ordination as a priest, within four weeks. Small's evangelism in the Southern Methodist Church would thus be terminated by his becoming a Protestant Episcopal priest. When the news was flashed across the wires from Utah that he was to become a Northern Methodist it astounded both Methodists and Episcopalians, and Bishop Beckwith refused to believe it. Today the Protestant Episcopal convention of Georgia in session in Savannah, by resolution revoked the permission heretofore given for Mr. Small to be ordained without going through the seminary course.—*Special dispatch to the Ogden Standard.*

THE WATERMAIN TAX.

The first case called on in the Third District Court today was that in which Adam Duncan and others are the plaintiffs and E. R. Clute, assessor and collector of Salt Lake City, the defendant. The action involved the question of the legality of certain taxes upon the area known as the seventy-fourth watermain district. In that district there are twenty-four city lots, 10 x 20. These are owned by a large number of persons, and the tax for laying the watermains on these lots was assessed by the superficial foot.

Judge Judd represented the plaintiffs, and City Attorney Hall appeared on the other side.

In the complaint it is set forth that in the year 1872 the corporation of Salt Lake City constructed waterworks for supplying the inhabitants with water, and since that date had maintained the same, charging each consumer a certain compensation. Between 1872 and 1888 the City Council ceased to be laid in the principal streets, to serve for water distribution in the more populous and wealthy portion of the city, large water mains, at the cost of the whole city, expending thereon about \$300,000. In 1888 that body changed the plan for raising the means of defraying the expense of the further extension of the mains, to serve other and less opulent portions of the city, adopting an ordinance on June 12th, in that year, purporting to authorize local taxation in proportion to benefits, among other things. For the extension in all the districts, the cost at the same rate for every unit of lineal extension and the benefits to all abutting or adjacent property, without regard to depth or dimensions, was estimated uniformly at four mills per superficial foot. The complaint goes on to urge that all the estimates of cost of the extension of the mains were excessive, that the character of the ground in the several districts along the line where the laying of the mains was projected was not uniform; so that the cost would be the same in all; and in every instance the local tax

imposed would raise a larger sum than was required to defray that part of the expense of the watermains proposed to be raised by such tax. All the tax districts were not equally benefited, nor were the residents in any one district—inasmuch as many of them had springs or flowing wells, yielding an abundance of water, and in some cases a superabundance. To lauds so supplied no benefit whatever from the mains could arise to the owners. Plaintiffs had been charged a pretended tax for benefits from projected watermains aggregating \$3446.95. It is contended that the defendant has no authority to collect said taxes nor to make sale of their property, according to notice given, on the ground of their delinquency, and that he falsely claimed a lien for the taxes on plaintiffs' lands. The question in this action, they say, is one of general interest, and they file this complaint in behalf of themselves and others similarly situated who might hereafter join them in their protest. The plaintiffs ask to have a decree of the court adjudging that the city ordinance prescribing the form and mode of local assessments is void; that the defendant Clute has no warrant or authority to collect taxes or make threatened sale of the lands therefor.

The morning was occupied in the taking of testimony in support of the foregoing facts, and the case is expected to occupy the entire day.

COUNTY COURT MATTERS.

The annual report of Fish and Game Commissioner Barratt was submitted and read at the County court Tuesday afternoon. It is as follows:

"Since April 1 I have endeavored to fulfil the duties of my office to the best of my ability, and have done all possible to prevent the unlawful killing of game and taking of fish unlawfully from the public waters of this county.

"I regret to say that that part of the law pertaining to fish is hampered with provisions to such an extent, that I find it almost impossible to get a conviction under the law as it now stands.

"The law in regard to game is in much better shape, yet it should be improved to some extent.

"During the year just closed there have been two arrests and convictions under the game law. The two cases mentioned were as follows: On or about December 7, 1890, I arrested one Luther Dalrymple, of Centerville, for the unlawful killing of deer. The case was tried before Commissioner Pratt, of this city; the prisoner was found guilty and fined the costs in the case, amounting to about \$10. On or about December 30, 1890, I also caused the arrest of White & Sons company for having game in their possession which had been taken unlawfully. They were also found guilty and fined \$1 and costs, amounting to about \$25. These were the only arrests and convictions during the year.

"I will say here, that my understanding of the law is that I am to use my best endeavors to keep people out of trouble if possible, and not entice them into breaking the law and then arrest them.

"I regret to say I have been unable to get the assistance I am entitled to, the sheriff and county attorney being the only ones I can depend upon; but they have been always ready and willing to assist in the performance of my duties.