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FORCED PROMINENCE.

THE position of the community of Latter-day Saints is one of the chief wonders of the age. They are comparatively small in point of numbers—a mere handful—and in some degree isolated. They claim to have a mission involving the publication of a message to the whole world. They are being aided in the attainment of that important duty to a marvelous extent by the conspicuous position into which they are forced by those who seek to crush them. Their name is known in every nook and corner of the civilized world.

Were it not for the opposition they have to meet the Saints never could become so famous as they are. The report of them has been carried to the ends of the earth, so that in whatever part of the globe an Elder of the Church appears, he immediately becomes an object of interest. That the body of people whose views he represents have been scandalized, and the opinions entertained concerning them are false, does not alter the fact of the way having been prepared that he may not be treated with indifference, which is less preferable than opposition. The very obstacles that confront him, in the form of prejudicial views, wake up his energies, as they give him work in removing the rubbish from the minds of the people, that the ground may be cleared preparatory to laying a foundation of truth.

Doubtless our readers have remarked the manner in which the Saints have been thrust into prominence of late, and the showing has in this phase of the process of pushing forward been greatly in their favor. The operation of giving them wide publicity has blazed out at several points simultaneously. There have been the arguments presented before the House Committee on Territories, at Washington. Reports of the statements made by both sides have flashed over the wires. While those of the representatives of the majority of the people of

Utah have carried with them the force which truth invariably conveys, the averments of the opposition have been, generally speaking, incorrect on their face, and many of them were highly tinged with the color of absurdity mixed with malice. One of the chief ingredients favorable to the majority has been the disgraceful spectacle of a grip-sack governor leaving his post of duty to lobby against the majority of the people, and in favor of his own official interests. His position is humiliating and against even the most ordinary instincts of good breeding, to say nothing of what he owes to the people and the dignity of his office.

As if to make Utah and the "Mormons" still more conspicuous, and turn toward them the eyes of multitudes, the Church suit was presented in the Supreme Court simultaneously with the arguments in relation to Statehood before the House committee. So far as the presentation reached the public through the press, the fact was made clear enough that the suit, from the inception of the statute, was simply and succinctly, as appropriately expressed recently by Judge Zane—the taking of "a large amount of money from a church," the taker having not the remotest right in the premises.

Then look at the local squabbles over the spoils! What a spectacle was here presented! The receiver and his attorneys charged by ex-Chief Justice Zane with fraud, corruption, and unprofessional conduct, his withdrawal from the investigation of the conduct of which he alleges them to be guilty, and the manner of his retreat. The document in which he signified his intention not to proceed electrified the court. By means of it he appeared to take the Supreme Court of Utah by the nape of the neck and dash its nose squarely against the snubbing post. It was a documentary bombshell, and seemed to cause as powerful a sensation as if it had been one made of real explosives, and had burst directly under the bench.

And so the work of spreading the fame of the Saints goes on, and there does not appear to be any immediate stopping-place. It will all result in good in the end to those who stand upon an honest basis.

Therefore, if you will ask of me you shall receive, if you will knock it shall be opened unto you.—*Doe and Co.*

A NEW DESTROYER.

AS AN offset to the heavier and stancher war ships of the great European powers, it is claimed by those who ought to know in the United States that the new dynamite cruiser *Vesuvius* fills the bill exactly. It does not and cannot represent the "slugging" which the bigger and stronger vessels resort to in a fight, but is to make a specialty of running, dodging and getting in blows on the sly from a distance. In fact, it is a marvel in point of speed, making within a fraction of twenty-five miles an hour under full headway, or as much as the average express train, while a man-of-war with eighteen inches thickness of chilled steel encasing it all around cannot do more than half as well.

This great advantage being demonstrated and conceded, the next questions are as to accuracy of aim and destructiveness of the missile when properly placed. To solve these, experiments were recently made which, it is claimed, gave perfect satisfaction. A projectile containing 150 pounds of gelatine and dynamite was discharged from one of the pneumatic guns, and after a bowled flight of over a mile, in which the missile "wobbled" considerably because of having been loosely adjusted in the gun, it struck the water point foremost, as was intended, and in a moment exploded, throwing up a column of water to the height of 100 feet. Few vessels could long endure, if at all, such terrific shocks as that; but it should be remembered that that was a light charge, the maximum amount of gelatine, dynamite or other explosive which the shells can contain and the guns project and deliver at that distance being 600 pounds—enough to destroy the strongest ironclad that floats. In every instance, the shells went just far enough beneath the surface to accomplish the greatest results, this being an arrangement that is very ingeniously devised; the outer coating of the tubing, which is of brass, contains holes through which the salt water runs as soon as the shell is submerged, and when it is thus filled the action of the fluid is such as to produce the necessary concussion, and the explosion takes place. This is within twenty seconds of the time it strikes the water. But if it should strike the vessel marked for destruction, that would explode it also, and the result, while not so completely disastrous as though the projectile were underneath,