

# DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1880.

## PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

THE Grand Rapids Times says:

"We believe that Elihu B. Washburne stands as good a chance as any of them to be nominated by the Republicans. Supposing Grant just misses it, as he is pretty sure to, and Blaine misses it, who is more likely to come to the front than the man who invented Grant, who has been out of recent fights, who would get all the German votes, who has a splendid record for honesty and economy—the old watch-dog of the treasury? Every good judge says at once that Washburne is the strongest candidate named. An eastern man transplanted in the west, he combines all the strong points of a candidate. It serves a purpose to talk about Edmunds, and to vote for him, for he is a clean man of the best type, but when the leading machine favorites shall have been sent to the shades, Washburne will be more likely to come into the light than any other man we know of. And no other man could so well unite the party.

Washburne will suit us as a presidential candidate, and we should be pleased to see him nominated by the Republican party. We can endorse all that is said of him above, and we believe he would make an excellent President. In case the Democrats do not succeed in placing their nominee in the chief chair of State, we believe that solid men of both parties would take pleasure in seeing so fine and staunch an American gentleman as Elihu B. Washburne at the head of this great nation. As a voteless Territory, a political satrapy, we have no voice in this important national issue, although it is as vital a matter to us as to any other people in the Union. But we have our choice if we cannot give it force in the contest, and there are many people in this part of the country who would give preference first and foremost to Stephen J. Field, as the Democratic representative, believing that he would make the most able Executive, the fairest exponent and the strongest champion of democratic republicanism that the country has placed at its head for a great many years, and failing his election, would hail with delight the elevation to the post of Chief Magistrate, of the man who so ably represented the United States at the French capital during the trying times of the struggle with Germany. If we can't have Field the Democrat, let us have Washburne the Republican, for neither is a demagogue, and either is a man.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE "MORMONS."

THE Rochester, (N. Y.) *Herald* a short time ago published a very foolish article about the "Mormon" Church, to which we made a brief reply, and advised those who wished for information about the "Mormons," to seek for it from the "Mormons" instead of from their enemies. The *Herald* seems quite nettled about this, and comes to the charge again with a number of questions which the editor seems to think very pertinent and funny, but some of which, at least to reflecting minds, will appear impertinent and silly. Among them are these:

"Now will the NEWS give us a few chapters on the mysteries of the Endowment House? We have heard a great many stories about that establishment. Some of them were of a very shocking character, and if true should bring down upon the Mormon priesthood the wrath of the law. And, by the way, is there such a practice in Mormonism as polygamy?"

Another question is in regard to the recent excommunication of certain persons, and the *Herald* wants to know if they were not "expelled from the Church because they testified that they had been robbed of a large fortune by the church, or its officials," and winds up with the following:

"We are after truth, and, according to our Utah cotemporary's advice, we seek it at the fountain. We want information about the Mormons and apply to the Mormons themselves.

We will endeavor to reply. In the first place we have no doubt that the *Herald* has "heard a great many stories" about the Endowment House, and, like a number of other persons and papers, it appears to have swallowed them with a relish. We have heard a great many stories about Masonry and its secret rites and mysteries, also in regard to nunneries and monasteries and other private Catholic institutions. Like the stories about the Endowment House, they are told by apostates from those societies, filled with bitterness and the spirit of misrepresentation, and we take no stock in them nor their "wonderful disclosures." One of the stories most frequently told about the secret ceremonial of the "Mormon" Church is that those who receive its ordinance are required to take an oath of hostility against the Government of the United States. This is the chief charge in the so-called exposures and the one no doubt alluded to by the *Herald*. All the rest amounts to but little, and is not of sufficient importance to notice. For the information of the *Herald*, we will say here that there is no truth whatever in the accusation. Perhaps that paper, with the usual inconsistency of our opponents, will require us to prove a negative. This we shall not attempt, but will leave our emphatic denial to offset the falsehood, the foolishness of which reasonable people might see through at a glance if they were not blinded by strong prejudice.

And now, supposing the editor of the Rochester *Herald* were a Mason or an Odd Fellow, and we were to call upon him for "a few chapters" on the mysteries of Masonry or the secrets of the other Order, how would he respond? We will inform him and all others who desire authentic information about the ceremonial of the Endowment House, how they may obtain it. First, they must believe in God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ. Next, they must repent of all their sins and determine to forsake them. Then they must be baptized by one having divine authority, for the remission of their sins. After that they must receive the Holy Ghost by the laying on of the hands of men appointed to confer that sacred gift. Further, they must come here to the Lord's House, established "in the tops of the mountains," and manifest their sincerity by their daily life; and then they may be permitted to receive the solemn ordinances and sacred rites of the Endowment House or the Temple of the Most High God, which are administered only to those who have complied with the conditions we have named. The ceremony is secret, and those who participate in it are expected to keep it sacred to themselves. This is generally understood. Therefore the request of the *Herald* writer for "a few chapters" about it is both silly and impertinent, just as much so as a request would be from us for a few chapters in the *Herald* on the secret ceremonial of the lodge room of any Order of which its editor might be a member. But as he is "after truth," we have shown him how he can get it "from the fountain;" and to caution him against falsehood, we will add that there is nothing in the whole ceremonial to which we have alluded but what is preservative of chastity, honesty, honor and truth, and that those who aver to the contrary are as unworthy of belief as the pretended expositors of Masonic and other secrets which they acknowledge to have sworn to preserve inviolate.

In answer to the question, "Is there such a practice in Mormonism as polygamy?" We say N., if the term "polygamy" is to be here taken in its general meaning. "Mormonism" does not include "polygamy" as the word is explained by lexicographers, nor as the custom is practiced in polygamic countries. But it does embrace a marriage system in which men considered to be worthy may have more wives than one, sealed to them for time and eternity in the holy ordinance of celestial marriage, which is very different in principle and opposite in intent from that which is known in the world as "polygamy."

To the next question, whether certain individuals were expelled from the Church "because they tes-

tified they had been robbed by the Church or its officials" we answer, certainly not. The fullest means are provided within the Church by tribunals chosen by the body, to ensure justice to all its members, and no one is prevented from testifying to anything, whether true or false, in regard to the Church or its officials. The parties referred to were excommunicated for violation of a rule of the Church which forbids brother going to law against brother before the world, but which hinders no one from seeking for justice. If that is what members desire they can obtain it in the Church. If the Church tribunals do not satisfy them, they can go to others, but not as members of the Church.

If the *Herald* wants any more information about the "Mormons" and will apply to us again, we shall be pleased to impart it so far as we are able, if the questions are consistent. If we have answered in this instance with some degree of abruptness, our readers should consider the manner in which the queries were propounded, and remember that there is a guide given in the Scriptures as to the way in which replies should be made in given instances. When people ask with a genuine desire for correct information on any of our principles or practices, and not in the spirit of sarcasm, ridicule or ribaldry, we are always pleased to answer in kindness, patience and exactness, having for our object the promulgation of truth and the refutation of falsehood.

## A POOR RULE.

THE New York *Herald* has repeatedly called attention to the frequent cases of brutality of husbands toward their wives, and the inadequate punishment meted out in the courts for this heinous offense. A case is related of a policeman being attracted to a house in New York, by the cries of a woman in distress, where he found a man kicking his wife's face and neck, and says: "For this brutality, which imperilled the victim's life, the offender gets off with a sentence of thirty days' imprisonment, if he fails to give bonds to keep the peace. This is a ludicrously inadequate punishment of such a crime."

Now, if that kind of thing was at all common in this Territory, or if a single case of the kind should occur, it would at once be bruited abroad as straight evidence of the demoralizing and brutalizing tendency of polygamic marriage. But as these outrages are frequently perpetrated in monogamic "Christian" communities, of course it has no bearing on the effects of monogamy and modern Christian civilization. Certainly not, how could there be any connection between such causes and such effects? The rule applied in our case must be a poor one, for it won't work both ways.

## THE PREMIUM OFFERED FOR SUGAR.

WE have received a communication asking several questions in relation to the premium offered by the Legislative Assembly for the best sugar produced in this Territory. The writer is evidently unfamiliar with the law enacted specially on this matter, and as many others may be in the same condition, we will explain its chief provisions, and this will answer the queries propounded.

The amount of the premium is two thousand dollars. The quantity of sugar to be produced by each person or firm contesting is seven thousand pounds, (not 700 as some imagine). The sugar must be manufactured in Utah from cane grown in the Territory. It must be submitted in convenient packages of one hundred pounds each. The best samples of seven thousand pounds will take the premium. If two or more lots are offered of so nearly equal quality that the best can be determined with great difficulty, the premium may be divided among those presenting the two or more best samples. The sugar must be offered for competition on or before the 15th of November, 1880. The Awarding Committee consists of John Clark, George E. Bourne and Samuel P. Teasdel, all practical grocers of long

experience and gentlemen of judgment and fidelity, well known to the community. They will take such measures to guard against fraud or imposition as circumstances may require, and on their certificate the Auditor of Public Accounts will issue warrants on the Treasurer for the payment of the premium.

This is the gist of the law. We hope there will be many competitors for the prize offered. Those who intend to strive for it had better be on the alert with their preparations. A good sandy loam is the best soil for the cane. The Early Amber is the most promising variety to plant. The Stewart process is considered the best for the manufacture of the sugar. C. A. Madsen, of Gunnison, Sanpete County, the head of the company which has already been very successful in sugar making, we believe will cheerfully give information to persons desiring to try their hands at this important business, which we firmly believe will yet prove one of Utah's most profitable industries, and will certainly be of vast benefit to the Territory, as a source of revenue, an opening for labor and a preservative from the arts of the modern adulterator. Who will try for the premium?

## THE SCHOOL MEETINGS IN JUNE.

A CORRESPONDENT at Brigham City calls our attention to the probability of lack of attention in some places, in proper time, to the provisions of the new school law in relation to the election of Trustees. The day is drawing very near when all the school districts in the Territory must hold an election. Lest any of them should be unacquainted with the requirements of the law in relation to it, we will give some particulars which the present trustees should clearly understand and promptly act upon.

The first election under the new law is to take place on the first Monday in June—June 7th, 1880. The present trustees are required to give public notice of the meeting for this election, at least ten days previous. The notice may be posted in three public places in the district, or published in some newspaper having general circulation in the county. This notice must state distinctly the day, the hour and the place as well as the purpose of the meeting. The mode of procedure in election is not particularly described in the statute, but the voting must be by ballot, and none but registered voters can vote for trustees. Printed tickets would be preferable to use. However, the tickets must exhibit plainly who is the candidate for the one year, who for the two years and who for the three years term.

As the Justice of the Peace of the precinct is now empowered to approve the bonds of school trustees, much trouble may be avoided in districts remote from the county seat. Provided with blanks (official bonds) the men elected may without delay, have their bonds perfected and forwarded by mail to the County Clerk. But great care should be taken to have the bonds drawn up, signed and approved in a correct manner.

To comply with the law and avoid serious liabilities, no trustee should attempt to perform any official act, until he shall have filed a proper bond and taken and subscribed the oath of office. This remark will apply equally to all officers who are required by law to comply with these conditions.

Every person elected to an office who accepts its responsibilities, is in duty bound to qualify himself as far as possible for the faithful performance of its requirements, and should become thoroughly familiar with such laws as relate thereto. If the study of those laws is too much trouble, he ought not to accept the office.

It is to be hoped that the registered voters in the respective school districts will attend the meetings for the election of trustees, and put such men in office as are likely to carry into effect the wishes of the majority. If trustees are chosen who will not be the servants of the people, but try to become their masters, it is the fault of the people themselves. These matters are too often left to a few individuals, the majority not taking interest enough in the matter to at-

tend the meetings and cast their votes; and then in many instances they complain of the selections made and wonder why such persons are placed in office.

Let the trustees understand that it is their bounden duty to call the meeting for the election as the law provides, and the registered voters male and female, that it is their duty to attend and use their influence to place suitable men in the important position of school trustees.

## ARIZONA ARCHAEOLOGY.

SOME of the people in Arizona are deeply interested in the archaeological treasures to be found in that Territory. While other portions of the continent have received considerable attention from the antiquarian and explorer, our southern neighbor has been comparatively neglected. Yet from accounts we have received the archaeological treasures to be found there are wonderful and extensive, and should be brought to the notice of the scientific world. To effect this object we learn from the *Expositor*; it is proposed that a Territorial Archaeological Society shall be established with headquarters at Phoenix, to gather up such relics as can be removed, classify and arrange them and provide a museum for their preservation. A writer to the *Expositor* on this subject says:

"Here the two great tribes who constituted the primeval races of America met and blended their civilization. The stone axes of the mound builder and the knives of obsidian of the Aztec are found together in our ruins. The bone, shell and stone ornaments of the two races are here intermingled, as well as the rude architecture of both, as shown in stone and mud buildings here found together. Their knowledge of the cardinal points of the compass and their skill in levelling for waterflow in irrigation, the last of which has not been improved upon by engineers of the present day, are here exemplified.

And ours is a *terra incognita* in a great measure to the savants in archaeological study. We have the richest fields, the most extensive ruins from which to read the manners and habits of those who preceded us, in their rude civilization of the past ages. This, at present, sealed book, remains for the people of Arizona to open and read. Its records are written on our pictured rocks, or may be concealed amid the implements and ashes of the mighty ruins that are around us on every side."

We hope the project will not be allowed to die out. The people of Utah are deeply interested in all that relates to the early inhabitants of this continent, and look for future development to unite with past discoveries, in establishing before the whole world the truth of the only plain and authentic record of the ancient settlement of America by colonies from the Old World—the Book of Mormon—which science and theology will yet both have to acknowledge as the key to the mysteries of American archaeology.

## LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, MAY 14.

**Dismissed.**—The long contested suit of Elizabeth M. Townsend against W. H. Hooper *et al.*, regarding the old Townsend House property, was yesterday dismissed by stipulation, and on motion of the defense, each party to pay costs.

**Going South.**—Persons desiring to go to St. George, within a week or two, may get an opportunity of going right through by team, by applying at this office, or at the residence of Thomas Symons, opposite the 11th Ward Meeting-House.

**Snow Again.**—"Well of a-a-all things!" was the exclamation of many a good person, this morning, on arising and looking out at the falling snow. Heavy flakes descending in the middle of May. Surely the seasons are sadly out of joint.

**Attempted Outrage.**—Late last night, the screams of a woman were heard issuing from one of the buildings in the Kimball Block, and night watchman Burgess and Mr. James Currie, rushing up into a room from whence the sounds proceeded,