

## EDITORIALS.

## COMPARATIVE AREAS.

THE following comparison of the extent of various States and Territories of the Union with the areas occupied by some of the old world countries is compiled from a tabulated statement in the *Cincinnati Commercial* and will perhaps be of use as well as interest to many of our readers. They are arranged according to rank in dimensions:

1. Texas, 274,356 square miles, 2. Austrian Empire, 240,943; 3. German Empire, 212,091; 4. France, 204,091; 5. Spain, 177,781; 6. Sweden, 168,042; 7. California, 157,801; 8. Territory of Dakota, 150,932; 9. Territory of Montana, 143,776; 10. Turkey, including Bulgaria, etc., 138,264; 11. Norway, 122,280; 12. New Mexico, 121,201; 13. Great Britain and Ireland, 120,879; 14. Italy, 114,296; 15. Arizona, 113,916; 16. Nevada, 112,090; 17. Colorado, 104,500; 18. Territory of Wyoming, 97,883; 19. Oregon, 95,274; 20. Territory of Idaho, 86,294; 21. Territory of Utah, 84,476; 22. Minnesota, 86,531; 23. Kansas, 80,891; 24. Nebraska, 75,995; 25. Territory of Washington, 69,994; 26. Indian Territory, 68,991; 27. Missouri, 65,350; 28. Florida, 59,268; 29. England and Wales, 58,320; 30. Georgia, 58,000; 31. Michigan, 56,451; 32. Illinois, 55,414; 33. Iowa, 55,045; 34. Wisconsin, 53,924; 35. Arkansas, 52,198; 36. Alabama, 50,722; 37. North Carolina, 50,704; 38. Mississippi, 47,156; 39. New York, 47,000; 40. Pennsylvania, 46,000; 41. Tennessee, 45,600; 42. Louisiana, 41,356; 43. Ohio, 39,984; 44. Virginia, 38,348; 45. Kentucky, 37,680; 46. Portugal, 36,510; 47. Maine, 35,000; 48. South Carolina, 34,000; 49. Indiana, 33,809; 50. Ireland, 31,874; 51. Scotland, 30,685; 52. West Virginia, 23,000; 53. Netherlands, 20,527; 54. Greece, 19,941; 55. Switzerland, 15,233; 56. Denmark, 14,553; 57. Belgium, 11,378; 58. Maryland, 11,124; 59. Vermont, 10,212; 60. New Hampshire, 9,280; 61. New Jersey, 8,280; 62. Massachusetts, 7,800; 63. Connecticut, 4,750; 64. Delaware, 2,120; 65. Montenegro, 1,770; 66. Rhode Island, 1,306.

## WANT AND DESTITUTION IN "CHRISTIAN" CITIES.

THE severe weather that has prevailed during the holiday season has developed several cases of suffering which serve to show the condition of extreme want in which great numbers of people exist in the large cities of Christendom. In New York a man was arrested the day before Christmas for breaking a window and stealing a number of metal faucets. He gave a false name, appeared very stubborn and was committed to jail, but on being led out by the officer, he utterly broke down, exclaiming in tones of agony, "Oh! my poor wife and starving boy!" The magistrate called him back, questioned him closely and elicited the fact that his wife and child were literally starving to death in a garret, and that unable to obtain food either by work or charity, he had attempted to steal the faucets with the intention of pawning them. His statements were found to be correct, and the case being made known, benevolent people amply supplied the wants of the perishing family.

In the same great city on the 30th ult., a man was fished out of East River, who had jumped in with the intention of committing suicide. He was taken before a police magistrate, haggard and forlorn, with the rags clinging to his lean form, wilted and wet, from the recent soaking in the ice-cold stream. When questioned as to his motive for committing the unlawful act he said, as he huddled himself in his rags:

"What else, in the name of God, can a man do? When the world turns its back on you and begging 'I'll only earn you a curse or a blow; when you try to get into the poorhouse, the workhouse, anywhere, and they won't receive you; when you steal and get for it not a month or a week in jail, but only a kick,

there is little left for a man but to end himself."

He emigrated to America in 1851 and got along very well when he could obtain work, but latterly, being unable to obtain employment and being refused help by the city authorities and charitable institutions, he tried to steal so as to get locked up and fed. But he did it in so public a manner, that the proprietor of a store from which he took some shoes, merely kicked him into the street, after recovering the property, saying that thrashing was enough for such a vagabond as he. No one would do anything for him, so he attempted self-destruction. He was committed to the care of the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction.

The New York *Herald*, in commenting on this case, says:

"In spite of all that may be said to the contrary, there are plenty of men in New York who are about as desperate and helpless. That branch of charitable effort that is charged with getting work for people who are unable to find it for themselves is wretchedly inefficient."

In the city of Baltimore a whole family died of starvation surrounded with plenty, and the extravagance of Christmas festivities.

The following from the *Philadelphia Evening News*, is only one out of many cases of destitution which abound at this inclement season.

"A poor woman entered the Central Station this morning and asked for the magistrate. She was decently but thinly clad, and carried a small parcel in her hand. When the magistrate was pointed out to her she placed her parcel on a chair generally used by one of the reporters, and drawing her faded shawl around her she timidly approached his desk.

"'Wen't you please send me to the Correction, sir?' she asked. 'I am very cold and have no home. All last night I walked the streets, with no place to put my head.'

"'I am sorry for you, madam,' replied Magistrate Smith, in a kindly voice, 'but I can do nothing for you. The law does not permit me to commit people without proper cause.'

"'But surely you can send me to prison?' pleaded the wretched woman. 'If I were a thief or something bad you would send me there I know.'

"'I can do nothing for you,' said the magistrate; 'I haven't the power,' and he turned away his head.

"'Then heaven help me,' said she, bursting into tears, 'for I cannot help myself.'

"She turned toward the door, stooping to pick up her little bundle, which some one had thrown upon the floor, and then walked wearily out of the place."

"Alas for the rarity Of Christian charity Under the sun."

The traducers of the people of Utah often treat of the poverty prevailing here, where no one need or is permitted to lack the common necessities and where nearly all possess the ordinary comforts of life. We are thankful to say that during the holiday times just over the wants of the poor were amply supplied, and that in all Utah no such a case of destitution as any related above has ever disgraced the Territory or is likely to occur among the Latter-day Saints commonly but incorrectly denominated "Mormons."

## FRAUDS EXPOSED.

CAREFUL readers of western newspapers must have noticed the advertisements of the firm of Lawrence & Co., New York, setting forth extraordinary inducements for the investment of money in stocks, which, by the manipulation of this firm, promised to yield astonishing returns. As the concern was known to respectable brokers to be a fraud, toward the close of the old year a number of them united in a determined effort to expose the conspiracy. A shrewd lawyer was authorized to collect all the information obtainable of the transactions of that firm and others of a similar character, and he at once went to work by advertising for communications from persons who had dealt with Lawrence & Co.,

and who were dissatisfied with the transactions.

Anthony Comstock, the well-known worker against the transmission of obscene publications through the mails, was pressed into the service, and the result is a complete disclosure of the swindle, and an order of the Postmaster General against the delivery of letters and money orders to eight different firms carrying on the same system as that of Lawrence & Co. It is thus explained in the columns of the *New York Tribune*:

An advertisement setting forth the advantages of dealing with this firm is inserted in the papers, and those who respond to it receive first a prospectus in which are fully discussed the "opportunities for making money," methods of dealing in New York, "vast profits already paid," "unerring rules for success," the history of a supposed profitable investment; all indicating that the stock market is a bonanza to all who deal with Lawrence & Co. Letters are added from customers, acknowledging the receipt of profits remitted, with enclosures for further operations; and the circular concludes with flattering notices of the press, most of which prove on investigation to be paid "business notices" in widely circulated, respectable journals.

The prospectus is adorned with a picture of the Drexel Building, upon the side of which is the single name of Lawrence & Co. Together with this is sent a stock letter, lithographed, enlarging upon the favorable condition of the market for investment. This is the 'bait.' Upon the receipt of these, the person in question sent a remittance of \$10 for investment, and shortly received a letter of acknowledgment, in which he was told: 'We will not send you a certificate to-day, as the combination in which we would like to have you interested is not yet filled; that there was going to be a decided move in a certain stock, which alone would show a large profit, and offering to send him a certificate for 50 shares in the combination (in which the orders were pooled) on receipt of an additional \$20, giving him credit for the 20 shares not covered by his margin until the profits should be declared, of which he should have full benefit on the entire 50 shares. This letter was a 'stock' letter, identical in all cases. The customer responded to this 'liberal offer,' as they termed it, and received a printed certificate, upon which it was stipulated that no profits or capital were to be withdrawn from the combination until the expiration of one month. In about one week he received a circular stating that, 'We made a turn on Lake Shore, realizing a profit of 1/2 per cent., being equivalent to \$50 profit on each 100 shares of stock. N.B.—Profits and its original capital to be used as a working capital until the close.' The victim indorsed this paper, raising his hopes. But in another week he received what he called 'the grand ultimatum' in which he was informed that an unlucky turn had resulted in the entire loss of the entire capital of the combination, 'together with the profits that we had already made,' but encouraging him to retrieve this loss and make money besides by taking another venture. The scheme does not end here, so long as there is hope of inducing the customer to invest further; but letter after letter is sent to him, telling of the activity of certain stocks, evading the inquiries prompted by his suspicion, now aroused, as to their connection with the Stock Exchange, which they tell him is unnecessary for large buyers and not to their advantage. If, on the other hand, the customer makes an original investment of \$100 or other large sum, they are generally satisfied with that plucking of that particular goose. It is said that almost no business is done over the counter by these firms, but that they confine their dealings to those answering their advertisements, or to those to whom they send circulars from their lists of names, of which they have hundreds of thousands. None of the money received is actually invested."

The profits made by thus preying upon the unwary are enormous transcripts of the books of Lawrence & Co., which were obtained by the ingenuity of Mr. Comstock, show that the receipts of that one firm from March to November, 1879, were \$205,890. In the month of October

they reached \$29,484.03, the expenses covering about \$15,000, most of which was paid for advertising.

Another of these thieving firms is run by the notorious Pattee, whose connection with the lottery swindles in Nebraska, Wyoming and other places, and whose exposure necessitates his hiding his name, if not his talents for deception, under the business bushel of the title of Simpson & Co. Following are the names of the eight firms whose nefarious transactions have been convincingly exposed, and who have conducted their operations almost entirely through the mails: Thatcher, Belmont & Co., Barnes, Garrison & Co., Charles Foxwell & Co., Adams, Brown & Co., Allen, Jordan & Co., Simpson & Co., Lawrence & Co., and Heath & Co. The two firms last named, doing business at Nos. 19 and 21 Broad Street, and at No. 1, 227 Broadway and No. Broad Street, are to be distinguished from other firms of the same name, who are well known and respected. There are a few other firms implicated, but the evidence against them is not sufficient to warrant any interference of the postal authorities at present.

The success of these wholesale swindles is based on the widespread desire for the accumulation of wealth by shorter means than honest industry. "He that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent." It is this inordinate appetite for speculation and sudden financial success, that makes victims for the professional gambler, and provides human geese for "confidence men" to pluck. All the tempting baits held out by unknown hands should be avoided, however glittering they may be and however innocent they may appear. They are intended to catch gduons; to make money, not to impart it. The wise will smile at or detect them, the inexperienced should let them severely alone. Financial safety can only be found in legitimate transactions, in all others the chances are ninety-nine to a hundred against the foolhardy dabbler in the uncertain pool. Honesty with industry and contentment is great gain.

## CRIME AND ITS REMEDY.

It is claimed by some that education, using that term in a mere intellectual sense, is a sufficient antidote to crime. Statistics are against this idea. A large proportion of the criminals in the great jails of the United States can read and write, and the reports from French prisons show that the illiterates do not constitute the great body of the felon class. The Omaha *Herald* has the following paragraph, which is a picture of modern society too true to be denied or considered overdrawn:

Murders seem to be the order of the day. They are confined to no locality or sex or condition of life. They are brutal, and some of them as much so amid our highest civilization as though perpetrated by savages on the plains or in the mountains. Indeed life is equally safe in the haunts of the savage as in the great cities of the country. And yet the gallows is busy with its horrid work, though with a constantly increasing number of victims. These are stubborn facts, not complimentary to our boasted civilization—and it is time to enquire why it is so and what is the remedy.

The only remedy that we know of is the training of the moral and spiritual faculties in connection with the education of the mind. Modern scholastic learning tends to skepticism and cynicism, to smartness and shrewdness rather than integrity, to materialism rather than spirituality, and to worldliness rather than reverence for God and His commandments. The complete secularization of the educational system of the country is a prolific source of evil, and the lame and halting system of the execution of law, panders to the evil, and helps it to live and flourish.

Sound moral and spiritual instruction, accompanying general intellectual education, and just laws faithfully and impartially executed, would be most potent engines for the suppression of crime, and it is to be hoped that this fact will be kept prominent before the minds of the people of Utah, a new and rising community, which should be comparatively free from the gross sins of this violent and ungodly generation.

## THOSE LYING DISPATCHES.

THE Silver Reef *Miner*, a red hot "Gentile" paper, devotes a leader in its issue of the 3d inst., to a refutation of the falsehoods telegraphed from this city to the *Chicago Tribune* and copied into other eastern papers in regard to Governor Emery and the "Mormons." The *Miner* indulges in some very strong language about the "lying long drawn out" of the author of these dispatches, and we clip the following in regard to the charge that the Governor, by signing the election law, "practically disfranchised all non-Mormons."

"Has, eh? We think not. But in view of the wonderful things chronicled in the quotations already given from this dispatch, we do not marvel at the writer's discovery that Governor Emery's 'approval of the Territorial election law has practically disfranchised non-Mormons.' In what way this disfranchisement is accomplished, we are not informed, but the lighting fiber not only affirms that such is the case, but backs up his assertion with the intended clincher that 'there has been no contested election since the passage of the law.' Well, what of it? Is it the Governor's duty to turn out on election day and drum up voters for the Gentile ticket? Is it the Executive's fault that (after approving an electoral bill such as we have been clamoring for all these years) the Gentiles should realize their inability to outvote the Mormons, and for that reason refuse to exercise the franchise of which this dispatch-writer falsely states they have been deprived? The fact is, there are too many Mormon and not enough Gentile voters in the Territory, and the latter do not exercise the elective franchise simply because they know that they might as well attempt to extinguish the fires of hell with a squirt-gun as to outvote the Mormons under any election law which does not disfranchise nearly the entire Mormon community. When the dispatch-writer says that, under our present election law, the non-Mormons are practically disfranchised, he states that which he knows—he knows anything at all about the law—to be a base falsehood. The law is as fair and just in its provisions as any that governs in neighboring States and Territories, and none but an ignoramus or a wilful liar will try to make it appear otherwise."

The mendacious clique who claim to represent the "Gentile" population and interest of Utah, after declaring that the non-Mormon element was vehemently opposed to Emery's re-appointment, are now gnashing their teeth in rage and voiding their spleen on the non-Mormon business people, because the latter have so numerous signed a petition in favor of the present Executive. The rabid vagabonds who are all the time stirring up strife here, no more represent the respectable "Gentile" population than Judas represented the primitive Church and its Apostles.

## THE INCOMING STATES.

WE take the following from the Philadelphia *Evening News*, a smart, lively and respectable paper, conducted with great ability. For a wonder, it contains none of the stupid, stereotyped objections to Utah's admission which, started by the latter-day Pharisees, and proclaimed by Mormonianes are repeated by the press without any thought as to their utter lack of reason:

"Four new States are soon to be added to the American Union—New Mexico, Dakota, Washington and Utah. The first 121,000 square miles in extent, with about 160,000 inhabitants. It is rich in mineral deposits and in flocks and herds. The larger part of its population is of Indian and Spanish descent. The second has an area of 150,933 square miles, with 130,000 inhabitants. It is a great grain-growing region. It has space enough for 12 or 15 millions. Its productiveness will eventually make it one of the most populous States of the Union. Washington, on the Pacific, is a land of wonderful beauty of climate and scenery, and of fertility by land and sea. Its rivers and