

Quite a number of our contemporaries are rejoicing over the certain breaking up of the "Mormon" system, while others are descanting upon its impregnability and unfailing force. Take two examples, one from the far East, the other from the West. The Providence, Rhode Island, *Journal* concludes an editorial on the "Mormon" question as follows:

"To put the whole case briefly, the Mormon Church is breaking up in consequence of its natural lack of cohesion, and as it was inevitable it should do, sooner or later, after the strong hand of Brigham Young was removed."

The Portland *Oregonian* on the same subject says:

"Among the most persistent, silent and practically unconquerable forces with which the government at large and a community in a restricted sense has had to deal, is the creed based upon the tenets of Joseph Smith and elaborated in the Book of Mormon."

We forbear commenting on the question what "the government at large" has to do with "dealing with a creed," and simply draw attention to the opposite ideas of the two papers on the one topic. And only add that in neither case does the editor really know anything of what he is writing about. But this is the ordinary condition of the writers for the press in this country when they tackle the "Mormon" question.

NOBLE WORK.

THE story of the rescue of the people who were on board the *Denmark* is romantic and interesting. Captain Hamilton Murrill of the *Missouri*—the rescuing ship—proved himself every inch a man in a dangerous and pathetic emergency. Like a human and generous-hearted sailor, he centered his whole attention upon saving those whose lives were in jeopardy, for this purpose casting all his deck cargo overboard and making for the nearest port with only three days' provisions on board for the precious souls under his care. At one time it looked as if delay, which was imminent from stress of weather, would cause much suffering from hunger, but providentially the storm subsided and St. Michaels was reached. Commander Murrill is entitled to the thanks of the civilized world, and neither he nor the company by whom he is employed should suffer any material loss on account of the noble act of rescue. Such men as the commander of the *Missouri* are a credit to the human race.

SHOULD BE STOPPED.

PRESIDENT HARRISON is reported as looking worn and haggard. This is not at all surprising. He has not the remarkable physique of Cleveland, and will not be able to stand so easily the strain of hand-shaking receptions, the daily routine of executive labor, and the responsibilities of deciding important questions and making so many appointments.

A few days ago, it is stated, a young girl who is intimate with the ladies at the White House, on leaving, after a visit, declined the proffered hand of the President, with the thoughtful remark: "I will not add unnecessarily to the trials and fatigues of the day." The President responded, "It is not that that bothers me, but the everlasting buzz of solicitation in my ears."

This office-hunting is indeed "an everlasting buzz." It is the terror of the presidential position and a reproach to American politics. The highest notion of the meaning of patriotism in the minds of many politicians, is the chance to get an office for themselves or secure it for a friend or hanger-on. The "everlasting buzz" ought to be stopped.

PLANTING SUGAR BEETS.

The Western Beet Sugar Company has issued the following circular under date of April 12, and containing "directions for planting and cultivating the sugar beet seed."

Preparation of the Ground.—Instructions for this purpose may be briefly summarized as follows: Plow the soil from 10 to 12 inches deep very early in the spring, and it is better to do this twice than once. This can best be done by two successive plowings with an ordinary plow. A rich soil should be plowed a few inches deeper (say 14 inches deep) than a mere flat soil with a poor subsoil. The plowing should be followed by passing a heavy iron-toothed harrow over the ground in order to pulverize the soil as much as possible. An iron roller must be passed over the ground so as to equalize the surface and break the clods, when the ground is of such a character as to render this necessary.

Sowing the Seed.—The seed should be sown early in the month of March. Before sowing it must be soaked in water for twelve hours, but the water should be allowed to drain off before the seed is used. It should be buried at a depth of from one to one and a half inches, but in very rich soil not deeper than one inch. The rows must be from twelve to fifteen inches apart from each other, according to the quality of the soil. In the row the distance between each beet varies

from six to eight inches. A lesser distance between the beets gives small and sweet beets, which are difficult to preserve. One acre requires six pounds of sugar-beet seed.

Hoeing and Heaping.—As soon as the seed is growing up, which takes from ten to fourteen days in a wet soil, and several weeks in a dry soil, the first hoeing or heaping should begin. The second hoeing follows the thinning out of the beets, and the last hoeing occurs some four weeks later. When the rows are visible a horseshoe is run lightly across the field between the rows, and this will be difficult if the regularity of the rows were imperfect. One horseshoe with two hoes will work about three acres every day.

Thinning.—The thinning out of the beets in a row should begin when the beet root arrives at the thickness of $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch; then all the beets except the largest, which are placed six inches apart from each other in the row, are removed. If they are grown too wide apart on good land, the beets grow larger but are poor in sugar. On the other hand, if they are planted too close to each other the roots are rich in sugar but remain small. In either case the value of the roots is less than when both extremes are avoided. Beets that are too small are very difficult to preserve, and those that are too large lose in sugar. One row in each acre should be left untouched, or only thinned, in case of any injury to the crop. This row is held as a reserve until the beet-root becomes $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, when all danger is at an end.

Transplanting.—Should it be necessary to transplant beets from the row reserved, this should be done with a wooden borer, great care being taken not to injure the young roots when taking them up and transplanting them. This last operation is often performed by means of a transplanter, an instrument especially made for this purpose.

THE RESERVOIR SITE.

IN this issue is a notice from the Interior Department of the Government at Washington to the effect that the site of Utah Lake had been selected as a reservoir site, was received at the land office in this city. It appeared to state that this selection was made "together with all lands situated within ten statute miles of the borders of said lake at high water." In place of "ten" it should have said "two statute miles."

It should be borne in mind that in the meantime no entries or filings on land located within the prescribed limits will be permitted.

A survey is being made under the direction of the government, the purpose of which is to ascertain its condition and segregate what is still in the public domain.