

EDITORIALS.

DESERVES PATIENT INVESTIGATION.

A WRITER in a recent number of the New York *Graphic* thus ventilates his views concerning "Mormonism" and the "Mormons"—

It has required a vast deal of tact, sagacity, and governing force to hold such a people together a quarter of a century, and make them contented and prosperous, in the face of so many obstacles and in spite of so much opposition. Allow that there have been crimes; New York is not free from them. Admit duplicity and despotism; you find them also in Washington and in Rome.

We should like to see a comparative estimate of this attempt to regulate the relations of the sexes with the illegal and unrecognized polygamy of New York or Liverpool, or the police regulation of Paris and some other cities. Are women more and more fatally degraded by the open and established relations of Mormonism than by the secret and lustful connections of our great cities? All accounts agree that Utah is comparatively free from the evil that eats out the life of our manhood, and drags thousands of our women down through infamy to death. It must be borne in mind that as yet monogamy is an unrealized ideal, and the exceptions to it in all our large communities are so numerous and degrading in their character that the whole question of the relation of the sexes is still practically an open one, and every great experiment like this which has been tried in Utah deserves careful study. The religious belief of the Mormons is a strange jumble of superstition and crudities. It is almost impossible to believe that thousands of people have been not only converted to it, but have suffered untold privation, and even death, for its maintenance. But Mormonism is something more than a creed. It is a polity, a religious society, a socialism, backed by the pretence of a revelation. The socialism has carried the creed as the river carries the raft. Mormonism has grown, in spite of its beliefs, by the power of social elements and moral forces behind its creed and stronger than its ecclesiasticalisms. It has satisfied wants that other systems have failed to recognize; and, if its work is practically done, as a phase of social development and a phenomenon of religious history it has a peculiar interest, and deserves patient and unprejudiced investigation.

TO BE IGNORED.

THE N. Y. *Daily Graphic* of a late date has the following upon a sensational subject—

What Plymouth Church is going to do about a matter that has set all the rest of the world talking may perhaps be inferred from the following replies, which were received in answer to inquiries by a *Daily Graphic* reporter at the prayer-meeting last evening:

"Mr. A. A. Lowe, is there, or is there not likely to be any movement in Mr. Beecher's church touching the late reputed scandal—as, for instance, a movement for the expulsion or reprimand of Henry C. Bowen?"

"Why sir, I am as ignorant as a child about this matter; but I think not."

"Henry C. Bowen, is there any movement on foot looking toward the consideration of the recent scandal in which your name was mentioned, with those of Mr. Beecher and Mr. Tilton, by Plymouth Church as an organization?"

"There is no movement in this matter of any kind, I think; and I should probably know if there was."

Mr. Tilton was asked a similar question.

"I know nothing about any such movement. Many people think that I am a member of Plymouth Church. I am not, yet I should probably be apprised of it if there was such a movement—and still hesitating I might not."

James Freeland, President of the Board of Trustees, was greatly surprised at the suggestion.

"The Church," he said, "has never dreamed of such a thing as the expulsion of Mr. Bowen."

Deacon Fanning had had a talk with Mr. Bowen, and had asked him what he was going to do about it.

"Nothing," said Mr. Bowen; "I ignore the matter."

Mr. Fanning himself thought that was about the attitude of the Church. It ignored the whole subject.

The Rev. S. B. Halliday, whom Mr. Beecher calls his helper, said:

"The Church has never taken action on the subject, and probably never will."

Our contemporary further remarks editorially—

We have it from the very highest authority that Plymouth Church will take no steps towards investigating the charges against Mr. Beecher, nor toward calling Mr. Bowen to account for anything he may have said concerning his pastor. And, furthermore, we have the best authority for saying that neither Mr. Beecher, Mr. Bowen, nor Mr. Tilton will take any further notice of the disagreeable scandal that has been set afloat, and with which their names are more or less directly associated. So far as they are concerned, the whole matter will be ignored, and buried in silence and regret. We hoped that a different course would be pursued. It has seemed to us that it was due to Mr. Beecher, to the church, to his friends all over the country, and to the American people, that this vast and black mass of accusation and insinuation should be thoroughly explored and completely dissipated. We still think that he and his advisors make a great mistake in not pressing an immediate and thorough investigation. But as they have decided on a different policy, we can only hope that the disagreeable matter will be allowed to drop out of public discussion, and be left to bury itself as best it can. People have long memories, and have a wonderful penchant for recollecting some things. And while the majority of our people will think of Mr. Beecher as the "golden-mouthed Chrysostom" of the American pulpit, there are not a few who will persist in regarding him as the David of the modern church. The thing cannot be helped; but it is henceforth a matter of mere private opinion.

A portion of the public will consider the policy of the distinguished trio mentioned to ignore and hush the notorious scandal with which their names have become connected, a wise one; but there is reason to suppose that a much larger portion will consider it a bad policy. If the representations of the *Graphic* be correct the subject will remain to most people a sort of irregular eleusinian mystery, if nothing worse. Anyway, the private character of the parties, especially the accused, will give an ample opportunity for the exercise of faith.

All these parties seem to be really afraid of the scandal, and therefore resolved to squelch it by ignoring it. Some of the papers take the position that Beecher is a great man, an influential and able writer and speaker, that his private character is no business of the public's, and that if he has made a few bad slips, he is an American institution, and a great institution, and the American public and American society can not afford to see him crushed by even the proving of a heinous charge.

It is a curious circumstance in connection with this affair that, so far as appears, those who made the charges have not retracted them, and those who were charged have not denied them.

BEECHER ADORED BY THE LADIES.

HERE is another installment of the mysterious Beecher scandal business, suggesting that the Revd. gentleman named has been foolish, and all because the ladies of his congregation worshipped him, and, it is to be supposed, he couldn't help it—

Since Mr. Beecher's note to a Brooklyn paper, declaring his simple-hearted assurance that Mr. Tilton had never authorized any of the calumnious statements against him, is the report which I have received through a most respectable channel, that Plymouth Church will proceed ecclesiastically against the other treacherous brother, Mr. Bowen, for slandering his pastor, and thus the whole basis of the charges will be sifted. One remark in Tilton's threatening (*vulgar*) black-mailing letter to Bowen, on being being put out of his editorship, has a strong flavor of probability and of signi-cance. I mean that to the effect that Mr. Bowen sought to have Mr. Beecher compelled to withdraw from the *Christian Union* as well as from the Christian ministry, but was overruled in this by his fellow conspirators. Many here believe that the tremendous competition of Beecher's paper with the *Independent* was the bottom cause of Bowen's belief in Mr. Beecher's alleged infamy, on (as he once confessed) insufficient evidence, and of his zeal to purify at once the former paper and the Plymouth pulpit.

A prominent Congressional minister made up his mind that this thing must be investigated by the Congressional Union at its last anniversary, and announced to a number of his friends his determination to bring forward and demand a settlement. From this, of course, he was dissuaded; but the issue has ripened to a definiteness between Beecher and Bowen that makes a full trial of it inevitable sooner or later, unless forestalled by full confession and concession from somebody. The better opinion among "lovers of good men" is that Mr. Beecher will come out of the ordeal clear and clean, so far as criminal conduct is concerned, but by no means clear of indiscretion (rather passive than positive on his part) such as almost surely gives occasion in a world like this for the making and believing of the grossest charges. The fondling folly of some of Mr. Beecher's female adorers, unopposed by a compensation of wisdom on his part, has much to answer for all this misery and shame. The uncharitable and uncomprehending world without can not understand certain grades of loving familiarity, however innocent, in fact, on any other theory than that of criminal intimacy. Many women, it is certain, have been madly in love with Mr. Beecher. I know of one. Many others have lavished upon him the fondest idolatry, as a sort of god, eager to kiss the hem of his garment, and when favored with actual intimacy—we all know what such women will do. There is some foundation for the story that Mr. Beecher had made a confession and asked forgiveness. A friend of mine has seen the letters. But there was nothing of a criminal nature confessed; only just such indiscretions as I have indicated.

From all which it appears that the affair is yet to be pushed to investigation, notwithstanding the recent assurances that it would not be; and it also appears that the friends of Beecher, although they deny immorality in their adored pastor, still concede that the demonstrativeness of his feminine admirers, "unopposed by a compensation of wisdom on his part," has induced an indiscreet amount of familiarity, probably such as hugging and kissing. Nothing more. Let us hope so, for that is quite enough of the sort.

The dispatches which we publish to-day further state that the matter is to be investigated by Beecher's

church, that he is anxious for it, and that the mode of investigation will be by trying Mr. Bowen for slander.

Our readers will have noted, in connection with this business, the acquittal of Mrs. Woodhull on her trial on a charge of sending obscene literary matter through the post.

SCHOOLMARMS IN EUROPE.

A NOVEL excursion has just left the New World for the Old, consisting of upwards of 150 American school teachers of both sexes, the feminine largely preponderating. They left New York on the steamer *Victoria*, for Glasgow, about a week ago. Almost all the States in the Union were represented. They are "under the management of a man named Cook," he putting the party through portions of Europe and returning them to America in August for a stipulated price.

Public attention on the other side of the water has been directed to these excursionists. At Edinburgh they are to have a public reception, at Derby a railway welcome, at Alton Towers the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury will receive them in person, at London they are to be entertained at a ball, and a *conversazione* by the British and Foreign Bible Society, and efforts will be made to secure them an audience with the Queen. So that they have promise of a good time when they are upon Europe's shores.

The New York *Advertiser*, speaking of the party when in that city, says—

There is something indescribably well considered and well perfected even about their travelling gear, which one is not apt to find among travelers whose lives have not been schooled to the multiplication table. A severe plainness was stamped upon the apparel of the ladies, and the regulation camp-stool, rug, water-proof, and field glass, told that hints to European tourists had not been made in vain. There was only one exception, and that was a young lady, whose genteel frippery of soft-textured polonaise and Marie Antoinette ruff and black velvet and white Marguerite *chapeau* provoked contemptuous glances from better schooled companions.

The people of England and other portions of Europe will now have the pleasure of seeing fair specimens of the instrumentality employed in "teaching the young idea how to shoot" on this American side of the water.

ANOTHER OLD FRIEND GOING.—The "myths of the middle ages" are becoming more and more numerous, owing to the irrepressible and audacious nature of modern research. Now it is our honored old friend Christopher Columbus who is to be removed from his pedestal as the original European discoverer of America. The Norwegians have lately discovered that one of their countrymen—Leif Erikson by name—landed on the coast of New England in the year 1000, and spent that winter at or near Fall River, Massachusetts. This was nearly 500 years before the landing of Columbus. Ole Bull and a number of other Norwegians of note propose to erect a \$10,000 monument to the memory of Erikson at Madison, Wisconsin, and the enterprise has already got a good start.

If Erikson really made the discovery attributed to him, he should be duly honored for the same. But he certainly appears to have made very little noise about his great discovery, and if nobody else had discovered it besides him, this contentment would have been an Indian wilderness at this very time of writing, and how much longer is hard to say.

Correspondence.

NORTH OGDEN, June 28, 1873.

Editor *Deseret News*:

THE DESERET NEWS and the *Juvenile Instructor* come to hand full of interesting matter, and by the way they leave this office after their arrival it is evident they are appreciated by the people.

Our crops are looking pretty well, though some of the wheat is shorter than usual, and will cause a little more labor probably in harvesting. The corn crop is now doing well, although much had to be replanted in consequence of the continued rains in May, which soaked the bottom land too much for corn. We

have now fine dry weather, and at time of writing there is a little indication of rain, which, if it comes, will gladden the heart of the farmer. Some of the farmers who had an eye to business here, sowed good seed this spring, and the probability is they will realize the benefit thereof, as weeds, smut, cockle, &c., do not pay the producer, while the best quality of wheat will remunerate him for the labor and toil expended.

One step in the right direction has been taken by the indefatigable D. H. Peery, proprietor of the Weber mills, who has so improved those mills that he can produce from our best wheat flour of the very best quality, which sells readily in the Eastern markets for \$5.50 per sack. This is somewhat encouraging, as the farmers will realize cash for their products when exported. I feel to say to other mill owners, go and do likewise if you can and thus establish a name for Utah wheat and flour, which they so richly deserve, for nowhere can better wheat be produced than here.

We have a good school in this district, well attended, and the pupils say they have a good teacher, who studies their temperament and capacities, and judging from the progress made by some under my notice, Mr. H. C. Wardleigh must be a competent teacher.

Many of our brethren are in the mountains, getting out lumber, posts and fencing material, which ere long will show itself by way of improvement in fences, houses, etc., for we think that we should fence as well as the stock raiser take care of his stock, and thus try to live in peace and enjoy ourselves in this probation, according to the requirement of the Gospel.

SIDNEY STEVENS.

LONG VALLEY, Glendale,
June 22, 1873.

Editor *Deseret News*:

Our prospects in this part of the country are not very flattering, our crops being very late, as is generally spoken of as the case through the Territory. It is very dry here, having had no rains to speak of this spring. The air is quite cold at nights, and dry and sultry in the day time, representing a real Indian summer. It is reported that at Mount Carmel, six miles below, unless rain comes, it will be with difficulty that they will save half the crops. The creek seems to diminish every day. The people are mostly engaged in making a good practicable road out of the valley north, intersecting the road down the Sevier. Had the old settlers expended the means they laid out in the place now located, it would have been much better, besides avoiding a big hill. It will be a good thing for us, as we felt that we were shut in, and others shut out.

The people generally are very healthy indeed. As remarked by our Bishop to-day, he could challenge any part of the Territory with the same amount of people, having the best health and least sickness, he attributing it to our eating Graham bread, as our mill is not completed so as to make flour.

We were alarmed last Sabbath with the report of a pistol, and the screams of women, and on nearing the place whence it came, we found, to our surprise, that two brother-in-laws had been engaged in a shooting match, the pistols going off so near together that one report was only heard, one bullet passing through the ear of one, and the other through the other's left arm, between his elbow and wrist, breaking some bones. This seems rather a dear way of settling difficulties, and I sincerely hope that such plans will not be resorted to again by those professing to be Latter-day Saints.

The people mourn the loss of our departed friend, President Joseph W. Young; he was a friend to the people, being intimately acquainted with those that composed the Muddy mission, having taken a part in developing that country. He was a man of wisdom and understanding, his mind was constantly grasping for good, that he might enrich and exalt his own spirit, and pour forth the treasures of goodness that he had gleaned from every possible source to purify and elevate the minds of his brethren over whom he had the watch care. He has left us, but his works do and will follow him.

JAS. W. WATSON.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The recklessness of ship owners is the theme of a novel which Charles Reade is constructing.

The new Spanish ministry has announced the separation of church and state as part of the government programme.

A brilliant future awaits "the claimant." The issue of the present trial lies between acquittal and a disagreement of the jury, and in either case his friends will propose him for a seat in parliament, to represent one of the metropolitan districts of London.

The "claimant," the pseudo Roger Tichborne, having made an unsuccessful appeal to the treasury for assistance to produce witnesses for his defense, now writes: "It is now quite plain that I must do one of two things, either appeal again to my friends, the British public, or cave in under the enormous pressure brought to bear against me by the government and my relatives. Inasmuch as I have fought now for over six years to try and regain my rights for my children, I feel assured that my friends will not now desert me. Therefore I make bold to ask them to render me what assistance they can to defend myself against the government and the purse of the nation."

A London letter to the New York *World* says: I have reason to believe that the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh to the daughter of the Czar will not come off. At least the course of Prince Alfred's love does not run smooth. Since his return he wears anything but the air of a happy lover; and to a friend who ventured to ask him how the affair was going on, he displayed an anger that boded no good. The trouble is, I am told, that the young lady does not wish to accept him, and that her parents, for reasons quite satisfactory to them, are not displeased at her reluctance. Nevertheless the match may come off, although I doubt it.

The *Journal de Florence* mentions a rumor that the Pope in his interview with the Empress of Russia said to her Majesty: "I have to fulfill a great duty, and I address myself to your exalted intellect and your generous heart—I must speak of Poland. I am far from wishing to interfere in the question of the government of that nation, but ought to demand of your Majesty that religious liberty is necessary—it is desired by God, and is not only the right of the Catholic people of Poland, but it would also be for the good of the Russian empire and dynasty." The Pope is said to have warmly and eloquently dwelt upon this subject. The Empress, in reply, promised to transmit the speech of the Pope to the Emperor, and to plead the cause of religious liberty for the Polish church.

On Saturday night, May 24, on the arrival of the Irish mail from London at Rugby, at 10.25, the fireman proceeded to rake out the fire-box of the engine, when he was horrified to discover the head of a man, the hair slightly singed, and the face partially roasted, but with the features quite recognizable. The station-master, Mr. Livock, at once telegraphed up the line and search was made, when a mutilated trunk was found about a mile and a half from Willesden Junction on the Rugby side. The body is believed to be that of a gentleman returning from a cricket match. On Sunday afternoon following, the head was sent Willesden, in charge of a police constable, for identification and for the holding of an inquest.

Earl Granville informs the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society that the memorial to the Khedive, urging the abolition of the slave trade in Egypt, has been presented to his Highness, who assured Col. Stanton of his willingness to do all that lay in his power to put an end to the slave trade, but remarked that time would be required for its total suppression. His Highness added that stringent orders had been given towards stopping the introduction into Egypt of slaves from neighboring countries, and towards releasing those that may be discovered to have been introduced. When practicable, such released negroes are to be sent back to their own country, and where this is impossible proper employment is to be found for them, the children of both sexes being sent to the government schools.