

# CRUELTY TO EMIGRANTS—A SENSATION IN THE NEW YORK "SUN."

A RECENT number of the New York *Sun* contains a most ridiculous article, written in relation to the cargo of Saints which arrived at that port recently on board the steamer *Idaho*. We are sorry to see a leading journal manifest such a disposition to pander so vilely to a depraved public taste; it is beneath the dignity of the most obscure provincial sheet in the land. The *Sun* is aware that anything written against the "Mormons," no matter how false, unjust or ridiculous is a sweet morsel to hundreds, and in publishing such an article in its columns it shows as plainly as possible that money is its great desideratum, and that if it ever did possess any claims to be considered high-toned or to be governed by principle, it has slight claims to such considerations now. Its article is a tissue of vulgar slang, and as is usual with such efforts, it is descriptive of the sufferings and trials of two ladies, but this time instead of "escaping from Utah," they were being brought to Utah. It is only a rehash of the thousand stories of a similar kind, which journals of a not very respectable class are always ready to publish, with the slight change in circumstances we have referred to.

The two young ladies, the heroines of the *Sun's* doleful story, were, it says, good looking and natives of Leicester, England. The "cruelties" and "atrocities" practiced upon these girls by some half dozen elders, consisted solely in keeping them from personal contact with certain parties on board, non-Mormon, who were very eager to become acquainted. One of these parties was a Rev. Mr. Walker, and another an ex-Fenian convict. The result of the endeavors of these parties was increased vigilance on the part of the elders under whose supervision the emigrants were being conducted to Utah. Now, what in the name of common sense was there wrong in that? If assiduous attentions from a self-styled parson, who as likely as not was a veritable wolf in sheep's clothing, and an ex-convict would not cause men, responsible for the spiritual and moral welfare of about two hundred people to exercise more vigilance in their oversight, what would?

It seems, however, that despite these surveillance of the elders the Rev. gentleman and some others did at last manage to obtain interviews with the girls, and the result was, of course, and as might be expected through the columns of the *Sun*, that they did a tale of grief and feelings of the venerable Walker & Company to such an extent that they declared, in the name and on behalf of the Christian people of New York, if said young ladies desired liberation from "Mormon captivity and oppression," they should have it. It does not appear, however, that they availed themselves of this Christian-like offer, the reason of which, according to the veracious chronicler of the *Sun*, was that said girls were drugged before leaving the vessel, and so were unable to do so.

Could anything be more preposterous than the idea of drugging adults and smuggling them in that condition from an emigrant vessel? And yet the *Sun*, in its desire to publish something against the "Mormons," has apparently lost all idea of the ridiculous position it assumes in publishing such a story!

For the *Sun* or any other journal to attempt to throw discredit on the plan on which our emigration is conducted is useless: it is too late in the day. Its workings are generally known and have been commended by all conscientious and truth-loving persons at all cognizant with its details. The captains and officers of the emigrant vessels have borne the highest testimony to the excellence of the system, and the *Sun's* testimony, relating to only two out of two hundred and fifty, the number it gives, is nothing more than a tissue of flippancy and slang that no respectable journal would admit into its columns.

We think the efforts of the Elders, if there be any truth at all in the *Sun's* story, screening and protecting two young girls, strangers on board an emigrant ship, from contamination or being allured into crooked paths by a self-styled parson and an ex-convict were highly commendable; and in this all whose opinion is worth anything, would join, the New York *Sun's* vulgarity and slang to the contrary notwithstanding.

## THE OLD SONG.

THE New York *Herald* is again exercised over the "Mormon problem." In

a leader on the 30th ult., the old platitudes about the degradation of woman, opposition to the United States authority, and the "one man power" are repeated with as much unctious as if they were original, and a "rigorous policy" on the part of Federal Officials is applauded. The *Herald* had better quit this nonsense for the sake of its own reputation. The railroad, which it views as one of the agencies which is to break up "Mormonism," has brought here multitudes of thinking people from the principle parts of the civilized world and they are still coming. They see that in Utah, woman is not degraded, that she does not stoop to "temporal debasement for the prospect of a crown, a celestial exaltation in the eternal world," but that here, above all other places on earth, woman is respected, protected, provided for and cherished as a companion, counsellor, and dearest friend, and her chastity, the crown of her glory, guarded from the ruthless hand of licentiousness. They see also that the "Mormons" show as much true loyalty to the Constitution of our country and far more respect to law and order than do their libellers in New York and elsewhere. They see that the much dreaded "one man power" is the expression of the popular will as well, as the voice of inspiration evoked by a concentration of the people's faith; and they see that the "rigorous policy" advocated by the *Herald* and other rabid opponents of something above their comprehension, is an attempt to rob of their just rights and beautiful homes an industrious, God-fearing and virtuous people.

The *Herald* is woefully mistaken in the idea that the "Mormons" intend to pack up and move southward. We understand perfectly well that this is what our enemies desire, and why the "rigorous policy" has been inaugurated. But the "Mormons," by the blessing of God, have redeemed these valleys from sterility and desolation, and established themselves in happy homes in a spot which no man desired, and we do not intend to give up our hard-won comforts to the beasts of prey who are prowling among us or howl afar off. We shall hold fast to our rights and the privileges guaranteed to us by our God and the Constitution of our country, and our enemies will not wrest from us an inch of soil nor enough of our property to buy a drink of their much-loved liquor.

The *Herald* refers to the raid by U. S. soldiers at Provo, and thinks it probable that the Mormons refused to deliver up their arms according to the Governor's proclamation and that the soldiers were called upon to execute the order. The *Herald* is mistaken again as it always is on "Mormon" matters. We have no U. S. arms to give up, for our kind Uncle has permitted us to dwell in an Indian country for twenty-three years without giving us anything wherewith to protect ourselves. The arms we have are our own, and we know how to take care of them. And if these troops were, as the *Herald* intimates, acting under official orders, somebody will have to pay a fearful reckoning. Lack of space forbids further comments, but we recommend the *Herald*, when touching on Mormon affairs, to quit the old rhodomontade style and get better posted as to facts. If not, as the Mormons are becoming so well known, the *Herald* will become a public laughing stock.

## A MEMBER OF THE "CLIQUE" IN TROUBLE.

A MEMBER of the "happy family" resides in this city got into trouble on Saturday evening. The "family" has an unfortunate knack of getting into trouble and of putting their foot in it. It might have been imagined that the failure of the Provo raid would have taught them caution. Were they men of sense it would have had this effect, but their acts prove that they are not. They do not lack activity or vindictiveness; but they commit such stupid blunders that their energy destroys their own plans.

On Saturday evening about six o'clock an attempt was made, by Major W. P. Offley, a deputy postmaster of this city to assassinate Mr. E. L. Sloan, one of the editors of the Salt Lake *Herald*, in the office of the latter on First South street. The facts, in brief, as we had them from Mr. Sloan, are as follows: Offley called at the *Herald* office and asked to see Mr. Sloan and was shown in to the latter's room, which he entered, and locked the door inside. He accused Mr. Sloan of having published certain things in the *Herald* derogatory

to his character and said that Mr. Sloan would have to take these statements back. Offley was requested to leave but did not do so. Mr. Sloan made an attempt to open the door, but only succeeded in unlocking it, when Offley seized him and drew a pistol and held it to Mr. Sloan's breast. The latter, however, seized his hand and prevented him from cocking the weapon. At this point Mr. John T. Caine entered the room and Offley was disarmed and given into the custody of the police.

After Offley was taken to the lockup, we are sorry to say, his Excellency Governor Shaffer sent his private Secretary, Mr. Black, to endeavor to procure the culprit's release. In this, however, he did not succeed, as the policeman in charge had no authority to set him at liberty. It is a matter of extreme regret that the Chief Executive of the Territory should identify himself with these disreputable proceedings, and suffer his name to be mixed up with those of an attempted assassin and his associates.

Yesterday morning, on the personal solicitation of Marshal Patrick, the prisoner was released, and appeared this morning before the District Court, when he was indicted and placed under bonds of \$2000 to answer at his trial.

This assistant postmaster, ex-Associated Press agent and would-be assassin, is also, according to his own reported statement, and public rumor, a deputy U. S. Marshal. Truly we have some choice officials in this much favored Territory. This, it is said, is the person who has gulled the press east and west with so many outrageous mis-statements about affairs in Utah.

How much longer will our atmosphere be contaminated by the presence of such persons? When will executive and judicial dignitaries cease to lend their support to such a contemptible clique as that of which this mendacious "correspondent" is a representative? And how long will it take to expose the whole scheme of the malignant but dunder-headed plotters against our liberties?

Let us be patient! A few more shuffles and cuts like the Provo raid and attempts at the lives of our citizens, and the "hand" of the "ring" will be freely exhibited. We abide our time and are certain of the result.

## THE CONFERENCE.

THE Semi-annual General Conference, which terminated last evening will not be forgotten soon by the saints who were in attendance. It has been such a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord as none but Latter-day Saints enjoy. The attendance the two first days was good, but not so numerous as we have seen, on Saturday the people from the surrounding settlements began to pour in, and yesterday the attendance was very large, there being probably not fewer than twelve or thirteen thousand people present, all of whom, with the exception of two or three hundred, were Latter-day Saints.

Such gatherings are ever of a peculiarly joyous nature, because of the family reunions and the meeting of old-time friends to which they give rise. On all such occasions brothers and sisters, parents and children, scattered over the Territory from Bear Lake to the Muddy, meet together and rejoice in each others' society for a brief season. At General Conference, also, those who were fellow members in the same branches of the Church in England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, France, Italy, Switzerland, the East Indies, Australia, the isles of the sea, and from almost every nationality on earth meet and renew the fellowship and friendship of former years.

But apart from, and above all this, there is the inspiration of the spirit of the Lord, resting upon the people, engaged in the great latter-day work of building up the kingdom of God on the earth. This may sound fanatical and visionary to the ears of unbelievers, but their skepticism cannot affect in the least the knowledge of the Latter-day Saints. They know of the truth of the work in which they are engaged, and they all realize, more or less, the grand results which will follow from their present labors,—the emancipation of the whole human race from thralldom and injustice of every name and nature, and the inauguration of that reign of peace, unity, harmony and righteousness which the earth is destined eventually to enjoy. That period has already been inaugurated and is enjoyed to some extent by the Saints; and though opposition and apostasy are

rife, the incessant labors of the faithful are constantly accelerating the progress of the great work.

The building up of the kingdom of God is regarded by the world at large, as something either entirely visionary or as an event that must transpire in the far distant future, but the Latter-day Saints view the matter very differently, in fact they realize and know that they are actually engaged in building up that kingdom.

Then the character of the teachings during the last four days have been of such a character as none of the religious teachers of the world give to their disciples; and this must have struck all present, especially strangers or non-Mormons. They were so practical, so full of wisdom, and so thoroughly calculated in their nature to promote the spiritual and temporal interests of the entire people, to bring about a complete oneness, to break down social distinctions, and to raise and elevate all classes to the enjoyment of the rights and privileges that the Great Creator designs that all His children shall enjoy.

When thousands of people assemble together in convention inspired with such views and feelings, and remain for several days listening to teachings calculated to strengthen their faith, increase their fervor, and spur them on in the prosecution of the high duties devolving upon them it is no wonder that such occasions are joyous in the extreme.

The manifestation of the power and spirit of the Lord, through His servants, the presiding priesthood, was more striking during the past Conference than on any previous occasion; and while such power and wisdom is manifested by the Priesthood, and such power, earnestness and unity by the people, the latter may laugh at the efforts of apostates, and of cliques and "rings" who are their avowed enemies, and whose purpose is to retard the progress of the cause which they are striving to promote, for God is with them, His blessings attend their labors, and will crown them with success in spite of every opposing power and influence that may be brought to bear.

## FORTIETH SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS.

THE Fortieth Semi-Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened on this the sixth day of October, at 10 o'clock a.m., in the New Tabernacle.

On the stand were:

Of the First Presidency:

Brigham Young, Geo. A. Smith and Daniel H. Wells.

Of the Twelve Apostles:

Orson Hyde, Orson Pratt, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, Charles C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Geo. Q. Cannon, Brigham Young, jr., Joseph F. Smith and Albert Carrington.

Patriarch:

John Smith.

Of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies:

Joseph Young, Albert P. Rockwood, Jacob Gates and John Van Cott.

Of the Presidency of the High Priests' Quorum:

Elias Smith.

Of the Presidency of this Stake of Zion:

George B. Wallace and John T. Caine.

Of the Presidency of the Bishopric:

Edward Hunter, Leonard W. Hardy and Jesse C. Little.

There were also Bishops, Elders and leading men from every settlement in the Territory.

Conference was called to order by President Brigham Young.

The choir sang:

"Lord, we come before Thee now."

Prayer by Elder Albert Carrington.

The choir sang:

"Great God, indulge my humble claim."

PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG Addressed the Conference. His in-