

mental to the "Mormon" system. And while its votaries break neither the laws of God nor of their country, the Church will do nothing as to their fellowship. It will not attempt in any way to infringe upon their liberty to adopt the political views of any party and to support at the polls any political candidate.

We say this simply because of misrepresentation and consequent misunderstanding among many persons on this subject. There are strong Republicans in the Church as well as pronounced Democrats. Some of each party occupy very responsible positions in the Church. That makes no difference as to their ecclesiastical standing or influence. When the time has fully come for local issues to be swallowed up in national questions and measures, each will act upon his own views as to party and that will be without reference to his religious faith and his religious duties.

The people of Utah are devoted to the cause of good government. The differences between some of them and the country have been settled by their concessions to the will of the majority. There ought to be nothing now in the way of a united movement of the whole people of this Territory towards that proud position which Utah should occupy as an integral part of this glorious Union of States.

THE NEW ORLEANS LYNCHERS WHITEWASHED.

THE report of the grand jury at Orleans in reference to the lynching of the Italians is very unsatisfactory. There is plenty of it and it contains many interesting particulars, but it does not deal squarely with the main question.

The principal subject of investigation was the unlawful killing of the victims of riot, and the indictment of the persons responsible for the crime was the end to be kept in view. Instead of dealing direct with these objective points, the report is chiefly devoted to the existence of the Mafia, the dereliction of duty manifested by the jury that tried the Italians, and the offenses committed by certain individuals connected with a detective agency.

Of course the grand jury were in the line of their duty in finding indictments against the persons alleged to have engaged in other efforts to defeat justice. But they have shown themselves incompetent or worse in their treatment of the offense which was specially before them for consideration.

The condition of public affairs in New Orleans disclosed by this report is

truly appalling. A so-called detective agency, conducted by a criminal having for his partner a public prosecutor, and for an agent a member of the police force, engaged in the practice of influencing jurors, managing affairs so that juries are largely composed of individuals attached to their interest, is a formidable engine of evil that ought to be broken up effectually. The corruption exposed in the report—though it is rather too general in its narration and not sufficiently specific in its details, is shocking to the moral sense and needs heroic treatment.

The verdict of the jury that tried the Italians is denounced, and the general public charge that some of the jurors were bribed is echoed, but nothing definite is shown against them nor are any of them indicted. It is not made clear that the jury acted in a manner different from other juries when they cannot at first agree. We do not wish to justify them in the least, but merely mention the facts as they are set forth in the report.

The evident purpose of the grand jury in devoting so much of their report to denunciation of the conspirators, the petit jury, and the corrupting influences at work in New Orleans, is to palliate the crime perpetrated by the mob and which they were specially required to investigate. This is made more apparent by the sophistical reasoning about "the people not submitting the surrender of their rights into the hands of midnight assassins," etc., about the condition of affairs being such that "the law itself was well nigh powerless to deal with them," and the expression of a doubt that "any power at the command of the authorities has been sacrificed."

The gist of the report is a wholesale whitewashing of the promoters and perpetrators of the slaughter in the jail at New Orleans. This was not unexpected. Public sentiment was so strong, and there were so many prominent men in the disgraceful affair, that no one acquainted with the case believed the rioters or any of them would be punished. Still, it was thought that, for decency's sake, perhaps some of the ringleaders would be indicted, even if they were never convicted.

But the grand jury, throughout this report, show their intention to condone if not apologize for and approve the lawlessness of the New Orleans mob, and the unlawful killing of the acquitted Italians. They speak of the rioters as "several thousand of the first, best and even most law-abiding citizens of the city."

That is a nice description of a band of blood-thirsty men who slaughtered

helpless prisoners while under the protection of the sworn officers of the law!

And what has their social standing to do with their innocence or guilt? Is an accused person to escape indictment because he is one of the "first citizens?" If the grand jury were informed sufficiently in regard to individuals prominent in the riot to know that they were among the first, best and most law-abiding of the citizens, did they not know enough about them to designate and indict them? Does the fact that so many of the people were engaged in the offense against the law, make it improper or inexpedient to indict such of their number as are known? If it is impossible to indict all, is it wrong to indict some of them? What would be thought of a grand jury who, finding that they were unable to identify twenty or thirty persons accused of murder, refused to indict half a dozen who were identified? Yet this is the position, on a smaller scale, occupied by the New Orleans grand jury in their voluminous report.

If public affairs are in such a condition in that city that the authorities have no power to protect prisoners nor punish people who kill them, something ought to be done to establish there a truly civilized government.

The confession of the grand jury is a disgrace to the city, and its apology for the slaughter of eleven persons who had been acquitted by a jury and who were held until another indictment might be found against them, is one of the weakest excuses ever offered for a crime that will make a broad, deep and damning blot upon the history of Louisiana.

ITALIAN CRIMINAL CLASSES.

PERHAPS the notable New Orleans tragedy has rendered the crimes committed by Italians in this and other countries more conspicuous than formerly. Be this as it may, a number of deeds of surpassing horror have lately been perpetrated in which Italians have been the principals. Some fights they have had among themselves have been characterized by the most frightful atrocities. But their own conflicts are not of so much concern to the general public as are the instances where their murderous acts are directed against other people.

The account of a tragedy that has just occurred at Southport, an English watering place, is blood-curdling in its details. An Italian named Cummino attacked a landlord named Sawyer with a knife. The man who was assailed de-