UTAH AFFAIRS IN CONGRESS.

There appeared to be one point of attack by the "ring," or the enemies of the people of Utah, which was pushed with a vigor that would have done honor to a good and worthy cause—an attempt to unseat the Hon. George Q. Cannon, by a charge that he was illegally elected; and, if elected, that he was ineligible by reason of being a polygamist. The failure of this scheme is too well known to need further comment, but it may be well to enquire the legal effect if the abortion had passed Congress. The bill to provide the qualifications of Territorial delegates, required the delegate to be twenty-five years of age, seven years a citizen of the United States, an inhabitant of the Territory, to which qualifications no one can object. But the one intended to strike at Mr. Cannon was, "And no person guilty of bigamy or polygamy shall be eligible." Had this bill become a law, it would have failed of its purpose. "*Guilty* of *bigamy* or *polygamy*" means any person *legally convicted* of bigamy or polygamy, which does not and could not apply to Mr. Cannon, for the law presumes a man innocent of *all crime* before trial and conviction, and therefore Mr. Cannon is presumed by the law "not guilty."

When discussing this matter many cite the case of Congressman Bowen, of South Carolina, who was expelled from Congress for bigamy. The facts of Bowen's case are, he was tried by the court in the District of Columbia, found guilty of bigamy, and sentenced, after which he was expelled from his seat in Congress. Being a *convicted* man, he was deemed unfit to associate with honorable men. After George Q. Cannon has been found "*guilty of bigamy or polygamy*," by a jury of his countrymen, and the Supreme Court of the United States at Washington shall declare that conviction legal and binding, it will be time enough to propose to turn him out of his seat. But it is not supposed that Mr. Cannon will live long enough to see the Supreme Court of the United States pronounce an opinion that will convict a man of crime, who only obeys the command of heaven, and when the Constitution of the country declares that "Congress shall make *no law* respecting an establishment of religion *or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.*" Therefore the conclusion is that, if the proposed bill should become a law, it would be declared unconstitutional. But if I am mistaken in this, and it should be declared a valid law, then to be operative on any party he must first be found "guilty of bigamy or *polygamy*" by the courts of the country. So much for this infamous law, which attempts to stake down the right of a people to say who shall represent them in Congress. George Q. Cannon is too well known in Utah to need any defence. Those who know him feel that he is God's noblest work, "an honest man," to which nature has added a full share of talent.

It was intended in this communication to review that celebrated law, the "Poland Bill," and show to the ordinary mind how completely it will fail of the purposes intended by the "ring," to despoil the Mormons of their property and transfer it to themselves, but I will defer this until time and your columns will permit.

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South Carolina—Utah.

It is said to be almost certain that the bill for the regulation of affairs in the Territory of Utah, passed some days ago by the House, will be passed by the Senate and approved by the President. The provisions of the bill have been heretofore stated at length in *The Tribune*, and do not need to be repeated. It is sufficient to say that its effect is to turn every Mormon sheriff out of office, and deprive every member of the Mormon church of one of the most valuable rights of citizenship by excluding them from the jury box. It is, in short, to do for Utah what has been done already for South Carolina.

We beg the Senate to consider this question seriously as one not of sentiment but purely of good government and safe precedent. To turn the owners of the fruitful farms and productive fields of Utah out of the jury-box and disfranchise them from one of the most important privileges of the citizen, is a step involving the gravest consequences not alone to the men whose rights of life, liberty, and property are thus put at the mercy of a minority, but to the whole structure of our government. We leave entirely out of the question now the fact that the minority in that Territory, known as Gentiles, are for the most part landless and irresponsible, having little or no stake in the Territory, and the further fact, patent to all who are familiar with the affairs of Utah, that this law is asked for by men whose sole object is to secure the offices and enrich themselves at the expense of the original settlers and present property owners. We make no account of the fact that these men are making a burlesque of morality and religion when they pretend to be actuated only by a desire to purify the morals of the Territory and maintain the Christian religion. We ask the Senate to lay aside the social and religious aspects of the case and treat the subject from a purely political point of view.

The bill passed the House under the stress of appeals to sentiment, prejudice and passion. Upon the theory that the disgraceful crime of polygamy must be suppressed at all hazards, this bill, which is a worse political crime than the one it is aimed at, since it is a blow at self-government and a denial of popular rights, has been rushed through one branch of the national legislature. The offenses of the Mormons are not to be overlooked or defended. * * * * * *

But neither their past offenses nor their continued disregard of the laws prohibiting polygamy can justify so sweeping a measure as this. The blow which this bill aims at a single community and a single crime strikes at our system of government; it establishes a precedent fraught with most dangerous consequences to the country and the people. In the case of South Carolina there was the excuse that her citizens had committed a political crime in engaging in rebellion; that they had thereby disfranchised themselves, and furthermore, that the emancipated and enfranchised blacks needed protection. But here there is no such argument.

With South Carolina lying prostrate and helpless under the foot of the spoiler, her citizens impoverished, business ruined, enterprise destroyed, lands sold for taxes, her people at the mercy of an ignorant and dishonest rabble, her legislators and her rulers a gang of unprincipled adventurers and shameless thieves, and the whole State crying to the President, to Congress, and even to the passer-by for succor and relief—with such an example of the effect of this sort of legislation under the very eyes of Congress, it is almost incredible that the same policy toward the Territory of Utah should be proposed. South Carolina should be a sufficient warning. The decent and reputable citizens, tax-payers of that State, have sent delegations to Washington praying for some measure of relief. Both the President and Congress have listened to them coldly, and while admitting the hardships of their situation, have said they could give them no help. Is it possible that in face of these facts the process which has brought South Carolina low is to be applied to Utah?—*New York Tribune, June 13th.*

The Poland Bill in the Senate.

SENATE, Washington,
June, 18, 1874.

MR. SCOTT. I move that the Senate resume the consideration of the unfinished business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania moves to resume the consideration of House bill No. 2997, which was the unfinished business of yesterday but was laid aside this morning by a vote of the Senate.

MR. FRELINGHUYSEN. The committee on the judiciary imposed the duty on me of bringing before the Senate a bill for the enforcement of the law in Utah. The bill has passed the House of Representatives. In its form it is a mild measure, only calculated to promote the enforcement of law. That bill has been further amended in the Judiciary committee, so that I think there can be no objection to it. I have received this morning a communication from the Attorney-General stating that it is of the first importance that that bill should pass. I read a part of what he says:

"I think it is indispensable to the administration of justice in that Territory that there should be some legislation upon the subject. The people there have been practically without courts for two or three years. It will be a very great disappointment, and I think calamity, if nothing is done in that direction at this session of Congress."

Now, it is very clear that with the amendments reported by the committee the bill has got to go back to the House. I think that bill can be passed in half an hour; and therefore I move that all other orders be laid aside and that we proceed to the consideration of that bill.

Mr. SCOTT. Is that motion in order pending the other?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair understands that motion not to be in order at present. The question now is on the motion made by the Senator from Pennsylvania, [Mr. Scott,] which must be voted upon. If that should be voted down the Senator from New Jersey can then make his motion.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Then I would simply ask the Senate, in view of the statement which I have made, and of the fact that our friend from Pennsylvania, while he had one measure before the Senate has introduced another which has occupied two or three hours, that we be permitted to dispose of this bill. I am the more earnest about it inasmuch as I am expected to take care of the bill, and to-morrow I must be engaged probably all day in an important conference committee.

Mr. SCOTT. If the measure to which the Senator has referred was one in which the Senator from Pennsylvania might be supposed to have any personal interest, the appeal might have some force. I have simply been acting as the organ of the Senate, as chairman of a committe of conference, and now as chairman of another committee, in bringing before the Senate bills of large public importance. This one has already been discussed at such length that I hope to be able to get a vote upon it in a few minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I did not think the Senator from Pennsylvania had any personal interest in either of the measures except that personal interest which a Senator always has to dispatch the business which is especially committed to him as soon as possible.

Mr. DAVIES. I hope the Senate will continue in the line it was upon yesterday. We had up a bill, and it is the regular order to-day, in which a thousand persons are interested. It is the work of the claims commission for a whole year. Therefore I hope we shall continue its consideration without laying it aside.

Mr. ALLISON. I desire to give notice that I shall ask the Senate to consider the bill providing for the government of the District of Columbia, and I would move to set aside the pending order but for the fact that the Senator from Pennsylvania says it will occupy only a few moments. This District bill, if passed at all, must pass the Senate to-day, and I trust Senators will give it that consideration which its importance requires.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the motion of the Senator from Pennsylvania to proceed with the consideration of the claims bill.

The motion was agreed to.—*Congressional Record.*

HOW INDIANS ARE DIDDLED.—When Harlan, the ex-Methodist parson from Iowa, was Secretary of the Interior there was a treaty made with the Osage Indians, by which for nineteen cents currency an acre the Shadowy, Leavenworth and Galveston Railway Company managed to get color of title to a reservation of that tribe containing several millions acres of the best lands in southwestern Missouri and southeastern Kansas. The lands were then well worth from $5 to $15 per acre. This model treaty also provided that the Osages should accept a new reservation somewhere in the Arkansas river desert, and pay for it thirty-six cents an acre. Our recollection is that the treaty hung fire in the Senate and was not confirmed; but this must be a mistake, for we now see by a Chicago paper that "the famous Osage ceded land cases have come before the United States Circuit Court in Leavenworth, Kansas," and that an application is made by the District Attorney, acting under instructions from Washington, for the cancellation of the patent by which the territory in dispute was conveyed to the railway company. This action, it is further stated, "is taken in the interest of the settlers," and the case will probably go to the United States Supreme Court. So far as the Osages and their rights are concerned the business is ended. Now come a body of settlers, who set up a claim to some parts of the land on which they were unlawfully settled prior to the fraudulent treaty negotiated by Harlan's Indian agents and superintendent with a set of bribed and drunken Indians who did not represent half the tribe. Of course these settlers will be defeated, unless the validity of the treaty is brought in issue before the court; and it is in all probability only to have the courts confirm the grant to the railway company that this order has come from Washington; the unlawful claim of the settlers being put in the foreground as a facing of this last act in one of the dirtiest and vilest official jobs ever put up and carried out in this or any other country. We hope the next Congress will do for the Interior Department and the Indian ring what this one has done for the Treasury Department and the District ring thieves.—*Sacramento Union.*

GOVERNMENT OF LONDON AND NEW YORK.—The London *Standard* of May 29, comparing the local expenditure of the city of New York with that of the city of London, says that both Paris and New York are ruled by real and single municipalities, whereas London is parcelled out among a multitude of petty bodies with independent and often conflicting authority. *Prima facie*, it would seem incontestable that the single great corporation ought to govern more economically than the petty multitude. Moreover, London has a population more than three times greater than New York, and it extends over a far larger area. It would seem not unreasonable to expect, therefore, that the expenditure of London should be three or four times that of New York. As a matter of fact, however, it is not so. In 1871–2, the last year for which we have returns, the total outlay of all the London local authorit es for relief of the poor, police, metropolitan, city and parish purposes amounted to £6,800,000—just a million more than was raised by taxes last year in New York for strictly municipal purposes, and about three-quarters of a million less than was actually spent. Although, therefore, London is more than three times as populous as New York, the expenditure on local government is actually less. In other words, the cost of local government per head in New York is from three to four times greater than in London, and if we add the national taxation this ratio will still be maintained. Again, we find that the debts of the various London local governments other than the Poor-law-Guardians amounted in the same year to a little over £15,000,000. The debts for which the poor-rates of all England and Wales were liable but slightly exceeded £3,000,000. Even if we assume, so as to be quite safe, that all these debts were incurred by London unions, the London debts of all kinds would but slightly exceed £18,000,000, against £23,000,000 due by New York. Head for head of the population, therefore the debt of New York is between four and five times greater than that of London.

PLENTY OF GOLD IN ENGLAND.—The bullion in the Bank of England increased during the last week nine hundred and twenty-nine thousand pounds, and now the reserve is forty-eight and one-eighth per cent. of the liabilities—an increase of three and one-eighth per cent. for the week. The bank directors, as a consequence of this increase and enormous amount of bullion, have reduced the rate of discount and fixed the minimum at two and a half per cent. This shows a very favorable condition of British trade. They know how to prevent a great outflow of specie in England, and, therefore, can maintain a specie basis, and also to cheapen money and assist business when gold accumulates. Our would-be financiers talk of a specie basis without specie and when they cannot prevent it leaving the country. England would have to suspend specie payments, as every other country has to suspend, when a continued unfavorable balance of trade drains gold away.—*N. Y. Herald, June 19.*

THE POLAND BILL.

The "blow at polygamy" which the Poland bill was expected to inflict has been averted by the Senate, and the Mormons have every reason to be satisfied. * * Although Cannon was permitted to take his seat, the Poland bill, with all its harsh, and in some cases, seemingly cruel provisions, passed the House by such a decisive majority that it appeared as if something was indeed going to be done to suppress the evils prevalent in Utah. This bill reorganized the jurisdiction of the various Courts of the Territory; * * in short, it took all the power from the Mormon majority and gave it to the Gentile minority.

Almost simultaneous with the passage of this bill in the House came an order from the War Department, to General Morrow, commanding at Camp Douglas, to take by force from the civil authorities of Salt Lake any members of his command who should be arrested by them for violating municipal ordinances, and under these orders General Morrow did, on the 11th instant, break open the city prison, and remove a soldier who had been arrested for beating a citizen. But the cloudy Mormon horizon has been suddenly pierced by a few gleams of sunshine. General Morrow has been ordered to another post, and the Senate yesterday lopped off from the Poland bill nearly all of the provisions that have been so distasteful to the Mormons. Indeed, as it again reached the House, where the Senate amendments were agreed to by a vote of 112 to 38, it contains nothing that the most violent Mormons can reasonably object to, except the mode of drawing jurors. * * Brigham Young has never failed to assure his people that "the Lord" would save them, and now he will be able to turn to good account for his own purposes the result of their attempt to deprive his people of some of the rights to which they are entitled; and no doubt many of his people who have refused to believe that the "Order of Enoch," or, as it is now called, the "United Order," had the Divine sanction, will see in this verification of his prophecy an evidence of his inspiration, and will cheerfully yield up their all to the Church.—*San Francisco Chronicle, June 24.*

Correspondence.

Leg Amputated.

LOGAN, June 29th, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

On Wednesday, June 25th, at Logan, Cache County, Dr. Ormsby, Jr., amputated the right leg of C. Larson, midway between the knee and ankle. The patient, at the present writing, is doing well, especially so for one of his age.

About fifteen years ago Brother Larson had this leg injured by some timbers falling upon it, and since then it has been a source of annoyance to him.

Some two months ago he had the misfortune to again bruise the leg, increasing the irritation which has existed so long, since which time he has suffered exceedingly. Dr. Ormsby, Jr., treated the leg, but with no satisfactory result. Consequently he decided to make an examination of the bone, which he did, assisted by Messrs. Lameraux and Cranny, and removed about three inches of the shin bone. This revealed a carious state of the bones to the ankle, necessitating the amputation above referred to.

Bro. Larson having arrived last fall from Scandinavia, and being a poor man, I understand the Dr. and those who assisted him do not intend to charge anything for their services, which certainly speaks well for them. Such generosity to suffering humanity is not met with everywhere.

Yours in the Gospel,
JAMES A. LEISHMAN.