

evolved that would imperil the existence of the Republic. Governmental ownership and control of all railroad, telegraph and telephone lines would mean the creation of an immense army of official parasites. The host now in existence would be swelled to proportions unparalleled in any country extant. The government patronage would be almost incalculable, and the influence that would be wielded by means of it would be invincible. Indeed, it would be so great as to render it an easy matter for the party in power at the time such a measure was enacted and enforced to perpetuate its administration indefinitely. Hence the general result would be the breaking up of American institutions and the substitution of a plutocracy. Yet strange to say, it is class and party tyranny of which those who demand such a measure complain. What they offer as a curative would not only increase the evil, but would inaugurate a regime that would destroy popular rule and render this country no better than a monarchy.

All these Utopian demands go to show that it is not difficult to point out the glaring evils that are afflicting the nation, but it takes statesmanship of the highest order—a thorough knowledge of political economy—to present measures that would tend to mitigate and, at least, hold the wrongs in check. The trouble is that men organize into classes and make extreme demands with the object of ameliorating the situation within the circle to which they belong, without taking a broad view outside of their immediate environment. Hence, what they imagine would benefit their own class would be of infinite damage to the nation at large. This being the case, they themselves would ultimately suffer in common with the whole. History teaches emphatically that no portion of the people can suffer under the laws without the whole nation being detrimentally affected.

THE GUTTER-WAYS OF JOURNALISM

The illustrated magazine which has been publishing those articles purporting to be written by a "Mormon," but which were purposely made up by an anti-"Mormon" to deceive the public, replies to the DESERET NEWS in this way:

"The Mormon Church has thrown down the gauntlet of defiance. It threatens us with libelsuits and hurls upon our heads the anathemas which it generally reserves for its apostates. We are willing to take up the gage. The leaders of the Mormon Church are foemen worthy of our steel."

It then quotes our first article exposing the deception practiced on the American people by ascribing the authorship of its literary hodge-podge to the "oldest Mormon in the Rocky Mountains," and says:

"It went into this matter with full determination to bring the Mormon situation before the country, and to persuade Congress, in pursuance of President Harrison's message, that prompt action was necessary."

"The identity of the 'Old Mormon' who made the original statement is a matter of subordinate interest."

"We do not assert that this venerable member of the Mormon Church was still living in Salt Lake City. What we asserted was that as a contemporary of Joseph Smith he knew the history of the Mormon Church from its inception."

To this we reply, the "Mormon" Church has not thrown down any gauntlet, nor made any threats, nor hurled any anathemas; it has certainly done nothing of the kind in reference to the mean and money-grubbing publishers who have palmed off their rehash of old fables as the handiwork of a "Mormon." The Church has said nothing on this matter. The DESERET NEWS is not the Church. Its utterances are its own and the Church is not responsible for them in any way. That religious organization is no more likely to take official action as to the periodical that has used this contemptible means of increasing its circulation, than to proceed against the yelping of a hungry dog. What individuals or the DESERET NEWS may do or say will be on their own responsibility. There is not one member of the "Mormon" Church in a thousand who will see the mingled nonsense and malignity of the magazine alluded to.

The ——— gives its case away in the remark that "it went into this matter" for a purpose. And still further in saying that "the identity of the 'Old Mormon' is a matter of subordinate interest." It was the deliberate falsehood that made an "Old Mormon" the author of the articles which the magazine now confesses it "went into," that gave them any interest whatever. The identity of this "Old Mormon" was the matter at issue between the DESERET NEWS and the magazine. It was the palpable fraud of the whole assumption that was exposed. The mingled mass of well known historical facts and stale and stupid fiction had no value as the production of a New York adapter or literary scavenger. It was only when presented as the narrative of a Utah "Mormon" that it appealed to the public and gave promise of increased circulation for the paper that published it.

The further statement of the editor: "We do not assert that this venerable member of the Mormon Church was still living at Salt Lake City" is a

falsehood that can be proven such out of his own mouth. In the pretended statement about the Mountain Meadow Massacre he says concerning some of its alleged perpetrators: "They live in this city today. They nod to me in the streets and I nod back to them."

How could this mythical "Old Mormon" nod back to these imaginary murderers in this city if he was not still living here? The editor of this romancing magazine is one of those persons who ought to have good memories, but like others of his class, he falls at a critical moment.

We do not question the right of any editor or publisher, whatever may be his motive, to gather up from any source he may choose, stories and arguments however scilicious and foolish, however ancient or novel, and attack "Mormonism" with his badly stuffed club. But we protest against the infamous meanness and despicable fraud of displaying this fabrication as the work of a "Mormon," and of putting into "Mormon" lips the vile sentiments and bloodthirsty expressions which are as foreign to "Mormonism" as they can be to any truly Christian system or to any peaceable individual.

The twaddle now being issued in the same magazine on the polygamy question is open to the same objection. It is evidently made up by the same hand. There is nothing genuine about it. The pretended arguments in support of polygamy and the purported replies are bogus, and contain no sound reasoning on either side of the question. They are manufactured like some of the testimonials to quack medicines and with a similar object, which is purely mercenary. It is a movement in the lowest gutter-ways of journalism.

OUR DEGRADED CITY.

JANUARY 22 we received a call from an intelligent-looking soldier, of the Fort Douglas garrison. The object of his visit was to request us to publish a fact which might be of use to people suffering from a malady of which he had recently been cured. He had been terribly afflicted with rheumatism, from which he had endured the most excruciating agony. In the hope of obtaining relief he paid frequent visits to the Warm Springs, in which he not only bathed, but also drank freely of the water. The result was that in two weeks the rheumatism had disappeared. Not only had he been benefited in that regard, but dyspepsia and nervousness with which he had also been to some extent affected, vanished as well and his health was as sound as at any time in his life.