

sponsible, red-handed mob, now condemned alike by all good men of any or no creed. The statement of facts relative to that cruelly enforced exodus is now a matter of authentic history. Generals Atchison and Doniphan themselves being among the chief writers who unreservedly lay the blame where it justly belongs, exonerating the Saints and convicting their oppressors of high-handed bigotry and intolerance.

In the article, containing, as it does, five grains of falsehood to one of truth, you have (unintentionally I am willing to believe) outraged the feelings of thousands who are now numbered among the best and most highly respected citizens of Missouri, Iowa and Illinois, who know the statements contained in the article to be largely, almost wholly, false in fact, erroneous in conclusions and mischievous in their tendencies.

The leading papers of the country, including those of New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines and other metropolitan dailies, have repeatedly during the past twenty years published the facts of this sad history of fifty years ago, gleaned by their own representatives, and in doing so have made the vindication of the Latter-day Saints (derisively termed "Mormons" by some) so complete that it is a matter of considerable surprise at this late day that an article like the one referred to should find place in your columns. There are really but two statements in the whole article worthy of notice. One is that the Latter-day Saints were expelled from the state of Missouri by a cruel mob, and the other, suggested by one of your readers, is that "Joseph Smith was born." This latter fact will hardly be denied by any candid person; but on the contrary is susceptible of proof by probably scores of individuals, any one of whom is at least as reliable as the writer of the article in question.

Well informed people will not be influenced by such articles, because they are self-refuting. But there is a class of over-credulous persons who are always ready to accept such statements as true, because directed against what is to some extent an unpopular cause, but whose adherents are rapidly gaining proper recognition as exemplars of the true Christian religion.

I suggest, therefore, if the *Daily News* desires to publish the true history of that disgraceful expulsion that Mr. J. M. Terry, pastor of the Latter-day Saints' church in this city, be asked to furnish reliable data for such publication.

### DON'T KILL TOO MUCH.

There seems to be quite an agitation in some quarters over the report that a number of mountain lions have been seen during the past few days in City Creek canyon. Some parties are eager to have these monarchs of forest and glen exterminated at once, lest perchance they should engage in depredatory incursions upon our fair city and carry off, banditti fashion, some of our valued townsmen. The fear has been even expressed that children who venture far up the canyon might be seized by the wild beasts. As the little tots, however, are not likely to wander a dozen miles into rugged, snow-covered mountains, and search in the caves and thickets for the carnivorous brutes, it is highly probable that the expressed fear is merely an ambush of eager sportsmen, who are anxious for permission to shoot in the canyon, that they may kill a few of the deer that are reported as appearing

in large numbers near the head of City Creek.

There is one thing that Salt Lake's citizens do not care to have lost sight of; that is that City Creek canyon has been set apart as a park, and in time it can be made one of the most beautiful in the world, affording as it does an unsurpassed arrangement of mountain, forest, dell and stream. An element that materially enhances public grounds of that character is the variety of animals to be found therein, in what appear to be their native haunts. The value of such a collection as might be made in City Creek canyon for such a purpose is beyond price in money; but in time and by care it can be accomplished there at comparatively small outlay. When the wild game is in safer mountain fastnesses in summer, the canyon can be surveyed off, certain portions being reserved, prepared, and partially enclosed as preserves for different kinds of wild game.

Then when a suitable time came, desirable varieties could be secured as necessary and the actual native animals, to a limited extent at least, could be preserved. The interest in such a collection, albeit there were one or two mountain lions included, would be by no means small. In Europe there are parks where even the tiger can be occasionally seen prowling in the jungle, but safely guarded from the visitor by a strong iron fence beyond which he cannot pass.

We have no special protest, however, to enter against shooting a few mountain lions; there is an exceedingly small number up City Creek. What is objected to is the allowing in the canyon of any shooting at all that is not a necessity. The rule once established should be maintained, and sportsmen be given to understand that there is one place in the Territory where game hunting cannot be carried on unless the public good requires it. Many animals and birds that are far from dangerous but are exceedingly interesting in city parks, have come into the canyon during late years, instinctively feeling that they are safe there. Hunters going in will not miss an opportunity to bag some of this kind of game. To slay any of them would be to kill too much. To allow hunting at all in the canyon now would be to undo a good work of years, and drive off or destroy valuable game, both beast and fowl, that have found a haven of peace and security in what yet may be the most beautiful and interesting city park on the continent.

### JAPANESE ADVANCEMENT.

It is interesting to note the material advancement in modern civilization made by the empire of Japan, its development in that regard affording strong contrast to that of other oriental nations. The cause of human liberty and enlightenment is making rapid headway among the Japanese, and this mainly through the agency of the government itself, which seems to be guided by an inspiration in that direction. American officials who spend some time in Japan return with only words of praise for its people. The latest government officer to express himself in this line is W. D. Tillotson,

of the state of Washington, who arrived from the land of the Mikado on Thursday. He has been there for nearly four years as United States consul-general, and is now superseded by N. W. Melvor, of Iowa. Mr. Tillotson says of the Japanese: "They are reaching out for commerce, and their Diet has been working toward that end for several years past. At present they have some very fine steamers which ply coastwise and even to Honolulu. Three of these steamers are equal to the best vessels on our Pacific coast. I apprehend that they will ere long have their vessels running to our ports. The people are naturally a progressive people, and there is a general desire that their country should take a high place among the more advanced nations. The government also is progressive." Not only do the Japanese have fine steamers, fitted with electric light plants and all modern improvements, built in Europe, but they have inaugurated ship-building to a large extent on their own account. One vessel which is being constructed at the imperial dockyards is a large cruiser which is expected to take its place in the first rank of modern warships.

One feature that is regarded as a sign of inferiority is now sought to be thrown off by Japan, and its government is making strenuous efforts to that end. Under the treaties with several of the larger nations, the latter's consuls were given the right to try offenders of their own nationalities. Japan is now asking to have these treaties remodeled on the form which exists between America and European governments. Because of this extraterritoriality privilege allowed to foreign consuls, the Japanese refuse to permit foreigners to reside in any but their own settlements in the treaty towns. They are likewise prohibited from going to the interior except by special permission, and this is usually granted only for health or scientific research. These barriers are to be thrown down to all citizens of the nations who relinquish the extraterritoriality privilege. The Japanese say they will repose confidence in the nations that give them confidence in their relationships.

A notable feature that has characterized the policy of Japan is that the government itself prefers to civilize its people, develop its country, and build up its commercial relations with foreigners, rather than permit foreigners to come in and take leadership in such matters among the people. These methods give evidence in their results of true patriotism and wise statesmanship. All foreigners who conduct themselves properly are well-treated throughout the nation, and the probability is that ere long people from other countries will be accorded freedom to travel and mingle with the Japanese people as they please so long as they observe the laws of the land, and that they will have greater liberty in this respect than is now accorded them by any nations except the United States and Great Britain. This is virtually the proposition that is made by the Japanese government, whose ministry believe their proposals to revise treaties will be accepted without hesitation, as they will be of advantage to all parties concerned.