

EDITORIALS.

FALSEHOOD, OR IGNORANCE?

THERE are certain influential newspapers which, when touching upon Utah questions, seem to be smitten with a profundity of ignorance, or an utter obliviousness to the obligations of truth, which is truly astonishing. Why they should publish such palpable falsehoods, whether from wilful wickedness or dense stupidity is an unexplainable mystery. Here are a couple of samples. The first is from the St. Louis Journal:

A committee of the Utah legislature have reported on the subject of polygamy that they find it to be an institution established by the divine will, and that the legislature should so enact. And yet Utah is asking to be admitted as a State.

The second is from the New York Herald:

The latest outrage in Utah is the passage of a law which virtually disfranchises the Gentile population and places the elections under the control of the Mormon priesthood. Congress ought to rip up the whole Mormon infamy as soon as possible.

Now it is well known to all who have read the report of the committee of the Legislature, to whom that portion of the Governor's message relating to polygamy was referred, that they did nothing of the kind asserted by the St. Louis Journal. They simply declared that marriage was a matter of religion, and therefore that the Legislature had no jurisdiction in relation to it. Utah has never legislated upon polygamy, and marriage is not touched upon in the constitution under which she has repeatedly sought admission into the Union as a State.

The election law referred to by the New York Herald is equal in its provisions upon all citizens, and gives the minority the right to one of the three judges of election in any precinct where there were two parties at the last previous election. The "Gentile population" are not disfranchised by the bill unless they are non-taxpayers, and in this respect the new law is the same as the old, one of the qualifications of male voters being that they must be taxpayers. This provision is a common one, taxpaying being adopted by most of the States as the foundation of the elective franchise.

If any of the "Gentiles" are disfranchised in this Territory it is not because they are "Gentiles," and if any "Mormons" are entitled to vote it is not because they are "Mormons." The disqualification, if any, arises in either case from a valid cause. The bill is extremely liberal in regard to the tax-paying requirement. It simply provides that a voter must be a tax payer in the Territory. In many of the States a certain specified sum, of no insignificant amount, is required to have been paid and the tax-receipt to be produced before registration. But the Utah statute makes it easy for the citizen to establish his right of franchise, and throws no stumbling block in the way of any rightful elector.

The "Mormon" outrage, that the Herald talks so foolishly about, consists of giving the minority a place in the management of elections, opening the way for every lawful voter to exercise the suffrage freely and secretly, and in throwing around the ballot box all the safeguards that could be suggested to preserve it from corruption. If any "Gentiles" are disfranchised by the new law it will simply be because they are disqualified by legal regulations, established in nearly every part of the Union.

The St. Louis Journal and the New York Herald should not be too fast to find fault. They have shown themselves exceedingly false or inexcusably ignorant in their rash statements, and should either read up a little before touching on Utah affairs, or repent and learn to tell the truth.

The telephone has been introduced into the House of Commons and the London Daily News has had parliamentary reports transmitted by this method. The adoption of this instrument is rapid throughout the civilized world.

THE HEATHEN AT HOME.

A PERSON by the name of Jackson, who claims to have lived in Utah, but now hails from Denver, Colorado, has been holding forth "in the States" on the subject of "The Heathen Women of our own Country." He addressed the Ladies' Home Mission in St. Louis, two weeks ago. Commencing with the women of Arizona, he portrayed their dreadful condition of spiritual ignorance as sun worshippers. He passed on to the Signoritas of New Mexico, whom he designated as mere beasts of burden, wedded to the Catholic faith, but one remove from absolute paganism, stunting themselves of the necessities of life to buy a wax image of Jesus to worship. Next he referred to the women of Alaska, worshipping everything they could not understand and, awful to relate, with only two missionaries in the whole Territory!

But the chief point reserved by Jackson, Rev. Sheldon Jackson is his full name and title, was the women of Utah. Here was his grand climax. The sympathies of those Home Mission ladies having been aroused over the idolaters afar off, the polygamy of Utah was used as a clincher, the last effort before passing around the plate. Jackson drew largely upon his imagination, and told some pious and pathetic stories of manufactured horrors, purporting to be scenes he had witnessed in his missionary labors among the Utah heathen.

In summing up the lecture the St. Louis Journal says: "The only thought of the audience was how such things could exist within a three days' journey of our city." Did it ever occur to those ladies or that editor, that there is no need to go one hour's journey from their city to find worse evils than any depicted by the pious fraud Jackson? Is there no field for missionary labor within the "Christian" city of St. Louis? Are there no "heathens" there? No women who live by infamy, and who flaunt their shame right under the noses of the Journal editors and close by the residences of the ladies of the Home Mission? It appears to us that the social evil assumed such alarming features and dimensions in St. Louis that some time ago the "Christian" city fathers adopted the plan of licensing houses of ill-fame, and the statistics of sexual crime exhibited stamped that city beyond dispute as a centre of licentiousness. And with this social filthiness in their very midst, those kid-gloved and scented dames could cast up their eyes in holy horror, at the thought of men having several wives apiece within a three days' railroad ride of their saintly city! No wonder that such travelling clerical impostors as Jackson can move them to tears and wheedle the dollars out of them while they weep!

But how blessed is Alaska! It has no Sheldon Jackson within its borders, and if the missionaries it supports are anything like him and his tribe, there are only two of them in the whole country.

And now we will quote for the benefit of the Home Mission ladies and the reflection of the editors of the St. Louis Journal, the sayings of One who was a foe to all humbugs, religious and otherwise:

"And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?"

"O how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold a beam is in thine own eye?"

"Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast the mote out of thy brother's eye."

AN IMPORTANT SUIT.

A DECISION has just been rendered in the New York Court of Common Pleas, in a case which has created considerable interest, involving the possession of the Madison Avenue Hotel and other very valuable property, and the legitimacy of two children. The suit was brought by Mrs. Mary E. Hynes, and its main points are as follows:

Mr. William R. Hynes, a New

Yorker, residing in England, lived with the plaintiff as his wife for several years, and was the father of her two children. There was no ceremony of marriage between them, but Wm. Hynes publicly acknowledged the plaintiff as his wife, and she bore his name. The first real declaration of the marriage was in London, in 1871, when Mr. Hynes, after stating that he was opposed to priestly ceremonies, said she was his wife, in the presence of others, and giving her a ring, said that if she remained true to him he would consider her as his wife, just the same as if they had attended to the ceremony. After this, while crossing the English Channel to France, Mr. Hynes repeated his announcement, and told her that being on the high seas, his declaration was tantamount to a ceremony. About a year ago he was thrown from his carriage and died from the injuries he received. Immediately before his death he requested his "wife and children" to be brought to him.

Mr. Hynes' sisters in New York administered to his estate, claiming that he was unmarried and had died without making a will. Mrs. Hynes has made a strong fight for her position and the property, and has met with bitter opposition from Mr. Hynes' sisters.

The court ruled that if the deceased made the contract with the plaintiff with the intention of effecting a marriage with her, under the laws of the State of New York, which require no ceremony, and of returning with her to the United States, it was a marriage, although the laws of England required a ceremony. Also that the acknowledgment on the high seas was a contract according to the laws of that State. Cohabitation having been proven, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, which the Court and the Bar coincided.

Efforts had been made by the defendants to the suit, who employed a detective, to obtain evidence damaging to the plaintiff's character, but they signally failed. Mrs. Hynes is acknowledged as the legal widow of the deceased, her children are cleared from illegitimacy and she gains possession of property valued altogether at about \$2750,000.

This is in accordance with New York law which is, no doubt a protection against the schemes of licentious men, but at the same time it leaves a large opening for the wiles of designing women. It would seem that persons who honestly designed living together as man and wife, if opposed to any formal ceremony, might at least make a contract, verbal or written, in the presence of witnesses, on which there could be no dispute after the death of either party. But the marriage state is very lightly regarded in these degenerate days, and one of the surest signs of the decadence and ultimate downfall of a nation, is its carelessness to the marriage rite and the family condition. When once the religious nature of matrimony is ignored the road to its destruction is short and easy.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Almonds are becoming a productive crop in California. It is said they will grow where the peach will flourish. Utah should be a good almond district. One grower in California had 13,000 pounds for his last year's crop, worth at wholesale \$1,300.

The "hell" controversy ought now to subside. The school debating society of a small district in Clark County, Kentucky, have decided definitely that there is a hell. They will soon settle the question of the nature of eternal punishment, when the theologians may retire and take a rest.

Philip C. Bleil, a New York patrolman, has at different times rescued 18 persons from drowning. Six times he risked his own life to save that of others. On the 21st inst. he was presented with a handsome gold medal worth \$200. It was given by the Treasury Department at Washington and presented by the Mayor of New York.

New York city has passed an ordinance imposing a fine of ten dollars, or in default, imprisonment for ten days, for carrying concealed weapons without a permit. The permit can be obtained by respectable persons on showing to the po-

lice authorities that it is necessary for self-protection. But persons who are not respectable keep on carrying concealed weapons all the same.

Why is profanity that is inadmissible in respectable society permitted and tolerated on the stage? People who would be shocked at such language in a parlor will laugh and applaud it in the theatre. There is no more excuse for pandering to the profanity of theatrical authors than for allowing bad language in a drawing room. It ought to be frowned down in public as well as in private.

Some ladies who were quietly sitting engaged in sewing, on the second floor of a dwelling house in New York a few days ago were "somewhat surprised" by hearing an explosion and the entrance through the wall of a rock weighing 3,000 pounds. It was the effect of some blasting in an adjacent lot, and damaged the house and furniture to the value of \$1,500. The hole in the wall measured six feet by three feet. No one was hurt.

A Boston confectioner has been found guilty of adulterating candy with chromate of lead. In his defence he showed that English candy manufacturers used it extensively, and that chrome yellow was used by every large confectionery establishment in New York. Fancy candy eaters, get pure home made sweets, if you must have such things; don't patronize the pretty but poisonous dainties, full of deathly temptation.

One million, three hundred and thirty-nine thousand, three hundred and thirty-three dogs were taxed in Great Britain last year, netting about \$1,750,000 to the government treasury. Yet it is contended that this is only about a third of the amount which would have been paid if the tax on all the canines had been collected. Four millions of dogs is a large number. No wonder there has been so much barking in Britain during the Russo-Turkish war.

The Popular Science Monthly for March contains, as usual, a number of very interesting and well written articles, among the chief of which are the second part of "Evolution of Ceremonial Government," by Herbert Spencer, and the second part of "Spontaneous Generation," by Professor Tyndall. This excellent magazine is always pregnant with suggestive matter and frequently sound and irrefutable doctrine. It can be obtained, with other current literature, at Dwyer's.

French butchers have adopted the Bruneau system of slaughtering animals. It is a great improvement over the old methods. A leathern mask with an iron plate to fit over the mid-forehead is strapped over the animal's face. In the centre of the plate is a round hole in which a bolt or spike is inserted. A smart blow with a wooden mallet drives the bolt into the brain and immediate death follows. An improvement on the bolt is the hollowing of the lower end by which enough air is conveyed into the brain to produce instantaneous insensibility. Painless death is produced in half a minute. The blindfolding renders a fractious animal quiet, and a six pound mallet is of sufficient weight.

The telephone is now worked successfully between points 133 miles distant. It is used by the English Houses of Parliament. Great Britain and France are in telephonic communication. In both hemispheres it is utilized by railroad, gas, elevator and other companies, and in large cities, business offices and doctors establishments are connected with private dwellings, drug stores, etc. And in large factories it is found a most useful means of swift communication. Utah's enterprising business firms, mining and smelting companies, etc., can secure its benefits and we refer them to Mr. Musser's notice in another column.

A celebrated physician condemns the practice of round dancing, particularly the waltz, by young people, as conducing to a premature development of the passions. After describing its effects and inveighing against its familiarities, he says: "The effect of dancing in this respect may be altogether different when practised in the home circle between members of the family, but even here there may be a taste formed in the young that amounts

to an absorbing fatuation, which soon seeks gratification in a more public place. No greater misfortune can befall a boy or girl than to be subjected to such a forcing process. It causes them to become developed in advance of their age, and being naturally impulsive, they are easily led beyond the bounds of propriety and into sin."

The Supreme Court of North Carolina has recently decided a singular case. A man named Shaft was sentenced to six months imprisonment for marital infidelity. The laws of the State permit the hiring out of prisoners. Shaft, after being in jail two months was hired out to his wife for five dollars a month, and was let out just before sunrise, being required by the bond to return just after sunset every evening. Complaint was made to the County Judge, who remanded Shaft to prison for the remainder of his term on the ground that the hiring was a practical evasion of the sentence. But the Supreme Court has decided that the County Commissioners had the right to decide the question of the hiring and that they probably intended to punish the culprit more by hiring him to the woman whom he had offended so grievously, than by keeping him in jail. The Court uttered this bitter sarcasm with the utmost gravity, and the erring Shaft was sent home.

The New Hampshire Sentinel of February 21st contains an interesting account of a centennial gathering at Greenfield, near Peterboro, on the 15th ult., when Mrs. Elizabeth Weston reached her one hundredth anniversary. One hundred relatives met to congratulate the old lady, who spent the early morning in a buggy ride, which she greatly enjoyed without fatigue. She said, in answer to a question as to her ability to attend to her household duties, "Bless your soul, I have washed my dishes this morning; I wash the dishes and make my bed every morning and I have knit two or three pairs of stockings this winter." She has an excellent memory and repeated nearly all of the 103d psalm containing twenty-two verses. A number of speeches were made by different members of the party, and Mr. Samuel Weston aged eighty years read an essay of his own composition. Mrs. Weston is a relative by marriage of Bishop L. W. Hardy of this city, who also comes from a family noted for longevity. His grandmother lived to the age of 121 years and when a hundred years old had a new set of teeth grow, which she said gave her more pain than anything she had endured all her life. So says the Bishop, who saw her when 101 years of age. We notice the above at his request. He is acquainted with nearly every person who attended the centennial gathering.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, MAR. 5.

Eastward.—Superintendent John Sharp left for the east yesterday morning on a business trip.

Missionary.—Elder John Morgan left for a mission to the Southern States yesterday morning.

Donner Lake.—Mr. Fred Lam-bourne has finished a very good picture of Donner Lake. The time of day represented is early dawn.

Legislative.—As one of their exercises the members of the 20th Ward institute purpose organizing themselves into a Legislature, with a duly constituted Council and House of Representatives. The object is to render each one familiar with the nature of such bodies and also to indulge in a little amusement.

Gone West.—Mr. C. R. Savage left this morning for California, for the purpose of obtaining photographic views of scenery. Before his return he will probably also visit Fort Yuma, near the Mexican border, said to be the hottest place in the United States. He proposes being absent several weeks.

Stock on Jordan Range.—We are informed that stock running at large in the vicinity of the Utah and Salt Lake Canal, are liable to damage crops. We are requested to state, for the information of the owners of such animals, that the latter will be impounded when found. It will be to the interest of stock owners to see that their animals are kept from trespassing.