

EDITORIALS.

A KEY TO MORAL CHARACTER.

AMONG such as have made close observations regarding the subject, it has become proverbial that men who affect a detestation of the morals and marriage system of the Christian Scriptures, are corrupt in their own sexual relations. So true is this that the degree of animosity which a man manifests toward the social system of the Bible, is often an index to the depth to which he himself has sunk in sexual immorality. This is true of classes, and even of communities, to a greater or less extent. In proof of this recent developments in the city of Helena, Montana, may be cited. The press of that city has been almost unexampled in its bitterness towards the "Mormons," save by the Utah organs of their maligners. Indeed, it has been difficult, at times, to understand the reason why one or two of the papers published there should devote so much space to abusing a people so remote from them. The facts stated in the following recent dispatches from that town are therefor illustrations of the rule above laid down:

"Sixty-five white and five Chinese women from Wood, Bridge and Water streets attended the matinee in Justice English's court last evening and contributed \$5 each to the city treasury for buying red lights in the hall. The residents of a French section and the colored quarter will attend the matinee to-morrow. This will be a feature hereafter of the sporting life in Helena every quarter."

The pulling of the courtesans was continued to-day and a number of male companions were also nipped. Over 150 solid doves have been corralled and made to contribute a fine of \$5 each."

If one hundred and fifty cyprians had been lined up to the stage of the raid upon them at which the above dispatches were sent, it is pretty safe to assume that there were at least fifty more who had either fled or had not been arrested. This would give the town two hundred of that class. Helena contains a population of probably from 8,000 to 10,000. According to the rule above set forth, it is to be expected that a very bitter anti-"Mormon" sentiment will continue to prevail in Helena for some time to come.

PRESIDENTIAL MORTALITY.

AN exchange notes the fact that the death of William A. Wheeler leaves but one man living who ever held the Vice Presidency of the United States. Andrew Johnson, who was chosen in 1864 on the ticket with Abraham Lincoln, when he ran for the Presidency, the second term, died in 1875. Schuyler Colfax, who was chosen Vice President at the next election, when Grant first became President, is dead about two years, and Henry Wilson, who was elected to that position for Grant's second term, passed away a dozen years ago. Chester A. Arthur, who was elected in 1880 on the ticket with Garfield, and Thomas A. Hendricks, who went in with Cleveland, have died recently, the former a few months ago, and the latter in the closing days of 1895. Those gentlemen comprise the men who have been chosen to the Vice Presidency since Abraham Lincoln's first election, twenty-seven years ago. There is but one ex-President still living—Rutherford B. Hayes. Only two of the unsuccessful candidates for Vice President on the ticket of either of the great parties remain with us. These are George H. Pendleton and William H. English. Pendleton, who is at present the American minister to Germany, ran on the ticket with George B. McClellan in 1864, and English on the Hancock ticket in 1880. All the gentlemen who have ever unsuccessfully run for the Presidency on the ticket of either of the two big parties are dead, except James G. Blaine. Within the past two years two ex-Presidents—Grant and Arthur—four ex-Vice Presidents—Colfax, Wheeler, Arthur and Hendricks—four unsuccessful Presidential candidates—McClellan, Seymour, Tilden and Hancock—and three unsuccessful Vice Presidential nominees—B. Gratz Brown, Hendricks (in 1876) and John A. Logan—have crossed the dark river.

The only Vice President remaining, referred to above, is Hannibal Hamlin of Maine, who was elected on the ticket with Abraham Lincoln in 1860.

THE HENRY GEORGE PLATFORM.

THE United Labor party, the new political organization which Henry George aspires to control, is rapidly increasing in numbers. It now has the element of martyrdom with which to increase its popularity and add to its prestige. Dr. McGlynn, George's right hand man, apparently being about 30 be

sacrificed by the great Romish church because of his affiliation with it. No doubt real or imaginary persecution will only increase the growth of the new faction.

The St. Paul Globe gives the following condensation of Henry George's platform, appending comments on the outlook:

"Mr. George is determined to force his land theories as a political issue before the public. The call for a state convention of the United Labor party in New York, to assemble at Syracuse on the 17th of August, has just been issued. The purpose of the convention is to nominate a state ticket to be voted for at the next November election. The platform upon which the ticket is to be nominated is distinctly set forth in the call, and is evidently written by Mr. George. There are to be four distinct planks in the platform. First, the abolishing of all taxes on industry or its products, and the raising of public revenues from a taxation of land values, the object being to make it unprofitable to hold land for speculation. Secondly, to do away with the banking system, and to establish in its stead a monetary system in which a legal tender circulating medium should be issued by the government without the intervention of banks. Third, to abolish the ownership of railroads and telegraphs by private corporations and the substitution of government ownership. And in the fourth place, such changes in elective and political methods as shall do away with the necessity for the use of money in elections. Such in brief is the platform which Mr. George proposes for the new party, and to make sure that the platform shall be adopted, none but those who subscribe to it are entitled to seats in the convention. When the platform is formally adopted and the State ticket nominated Mr. George and Dr. McGlynn will take the stump and make a thorough canvass of the Empire State, preaching their new political doctrine at every cross road. The result of their canvass will be awaited with interest, for the vote that is polled will determine the strength of the new party in the Empire State of the Union, and will be a valuable factor in estimating the probable result of the presidential election next year. In this respect, at least, Mr. George is conferring a favor upon the country by forcing his land theory as an issue in advance of the presidential election."

THE DEMAND SATISFIED.

FOR many years the press of the United States incessantly urged such legislation by Congress as would destroy "Mormonism." The suggestions as to the outlines of the laws that were needed for the accomplishment of this object varied greatly, but but were almost always in favor of radical measures. Comparatively few journals advocated a mild governmental policy in dealing with the "Mormons." That people furnished a sensational theme for the barren-brained scribe, at all times when other topics become scarce, and Utah affairs were constantly being aired in articles that were generally replete with evidences of either the ignorance or mendacity, or both, of the writers.

But a marked change has taken place, within the last few months, among the newspapers of the country, in regard to this old and favorite theme. They are almost silent upon it. An article upon or in reference to the "Mormon question" is now rarely seen in our exchanges, and when it does appear it is frequently favorable to the Saints.

The inference is that the press has nothing more to ask Congress for upon this subject, and that it feels that its demands have been sated. And no wonder. Even a cursory consideration of the laws of Congress now being enforced in this Territory, ought to satisfy any journalist or other intelligent person that any demand for further legislation by Congress on the Utah question, unless for the purpose of repealing or at least modifying existing statutes, would be extravagant and unreasonable.

The present indications are that the press of the country will not hereafter lend the support it has heretofore afforded to the self-seeking conspirators, who have worked to secure a controlling grasp upon the Territory and its revenues. The selfishness of the lobbyists, in view of what Congress has done, will be too apparent to win sympathy either among the press or the membership of that body.

THE CONSPIRATORS EXHIBITED.

IN another part of this issue we give place to a capable article from the Springfield Republican. It is the second in the same line that has appeared in that able journal, and was evidently called forth by the hornet's nest awakened by the first. "The billingsgate of the Salt Lake Tribune" and the oppressive and insolent methods of the Loyal League stimulated the pen of the writer.

Barring an evident misunderstanding of the genius of the institutions and the real moral status of the "Mormon" people, the article is an excellent one, and in its strictures upon the anti-"Mormon" leral and political obstructionists of Utah, it is logically unanswerable.

The allusion to the endorsement, by the Nephi Branch of the Loyal League, of ex-registrar Witbeck has an element of humor in it, the force of which it was impossible for the Republican to see, not being aware that those who adopted the resolutions commending the action for which he was deposed from office by the Commission amount to a mere handful. They would not constitute a corporal's guard compared with the body of electors in that precinct. Had the trouble been taken to do it, a set of counter-resolutions condemning Witbeck's action might have been adopted by a body of people who, in point of numbers, would have swamped the endorsers. That he should be supported by the members of the secret political society that prescribed the oath with which he sought to supplant the legal one formulated by the Commission did not add an iota in the way of sustaining his position. It was simply the act of a fraction of the League endorsing itself. Since the organization of the society to abolish popular government in Utah, self endorsement has been one of its leading characteristics. According to C. W. Bennett it is composed of "political" authorities, "and J. R. McBride claims that it practically has 'possession and control of the district courts.'"

There is some truth hidden under the idea expressed by the Republican regarding the value of the League to the "Mormon" people. The conspirators, through the agency of that organization, have made the hollowness of their hypocritical pretensions so plain and the nefarious character of their designs so manifest, that a reversal of popular sentiment appears to have set in. The change is not unfavorable to the "Mormons" and its tendency does not have the effect of elevating the self-seeking politicians of Utah in general esteem. In many quarters their course is being severely criticised and is creating a feeling of unutterable disgust. Nothing has contributed more strongly to the alteration of the current of public feeling in this regard than the attempts to invade, in the furtherance of a political plot, the sacred domain of belief and conscience, and the flagrant overstepping of the law in making those attempts to demolish the rights of the people.

The Republican shoots directly into the eye of the inaptly named Loyal League when it asserts that it simply attempted to thwart the will of Congress by means of an oath manufactured in a club house. As a consequence of this effort to override the law being made tolerably clear the conspirators are getting pretty roundly clubbed from a good many quarters from which the blows were startlingly unexpected. The country and Congress do not propose to see the anti-"Mormon" crusade carried beyond a given point. When it is forced beyond the prescribed limit, the reaction arrives.

THE FINEST RACE.

LET an observing stranger attend a number of assemblies of young people in Utah, of the class that have been born of "Mormon" parentage, the gatherings to be of a kind that will afford a correct idea of the physical, moral and intellectual qualities of the youth of the community, and if the visitor is a person who has traveled and has acquired the ability to draw correct comparisons in such cases, he will pronounce the young people in this Territory to be the finest in the world, in respect to all the qualities that go to make a people great.

Different explanations of this result may be offered. By some it may be assigned to climatic influences; by others to the remarkable admixture of races and nationalities existing in Utah, that intermarry and rapidly become a homogeneous people; others again may urge the mode of life in these mountain regions as the cause of at least physical superiority. While there is doubtless more or less truth in each of these theories, neither of them, nor all of them combined, sufficiently account for the fact stated.

When logically pursued, each of these explanations becomes an argument in favor of the religious system that led to the colonization of these intermountain regions, though persons offering them no not, in many cases, seem to think so. Providence works upon natural principles, and if it was the divine design that the Latter-day Saints should become a great or a ruling people, it is to be expected that the course of events would in time surround them with those conditions necessary to make them such.

The superiority of their children is a proof of the true character of the people of Utah and their social and religious system, which is necessarily of slow development, but it is becoming sufficiently prominent to attract the attention of observing visitors. As time passes it will become more and more striking, and at length in their children will be found unanswerable evidence of the regenerating force of the work to which the Latter-day Saints have been called.

INFIDELITY.

AN ex-preacher was recently prosecuted in a New Jersey town for the crime of blasphemy, under an old statute which the clash of conflicting forces for 150 years has not been able to eradicate. The transition from a disseminator of what the present offender then called the gospel of Christ to that of a vendor of vulgarity and preacher of heterodoxy seems to have been quite easy and complete; for, if what we have read is correct—and it is a fair presumption that it is or there would have been no prosecution—he deserved the punishment he received, even though there were no law whatever against it, for it was not severe and the majority have some rights which they are entitled to hold as sacred against a minority, especially when that minority is one man only. This new candidate for notoriety as an iconoclast found some passages in the Scriptures the wording of which was not exactly in accordance with what we in this very pure and upright age have been taught is in accordance with good taste and delicacy; and these he paraded, before the world as offensively as possible, together with numerous scoffing allusions to religion in general. He went so far as to be absolutely and disgustingly silly in his unquenchable desire to be talked about, saying among other things—"Christ was born, and was therefore a child; as a child, He doubtless had the measles and the whooping cough; He got His clothes dirty and was spanked, which made Him cry like any other baby," and so on ad nauseum. Even his counsel, Col. R. G. Ingersoll, was forced to state to the jury that such talk was nonsense and indicated a very shallow mind. Perhaps it would be argument thrown away to call the attention of this contemptible blasphemer and the few who do like unto him to the fact that what they are pleased to term the indecency of the Bible is not indecency to men whose thoughts are pure and whose minds grasp the whole of the position they contemplate. Everything in nature and every work of man has some feature less attractive to the senses of men than some other or all other features, and those who dwell upon and make conspicuous such plainer, or less attractive, or more objectionable portions, do so because that is the bent of their inclinations. They are either incapable of or too indolent to educate themselves up to the point of comprehending how vast, how grand is the mechanism of Providence and through it the achievements of man. The locomotive, the ultimatum of the beautiful and powerful in the propulsive forces, loses much of its attractive splendor when too closely approached, and its emissions while in active operation are annoying and even filthy—but it is there with power in its brazen brawn and speed in its iron joints, and never, except through the act of man, makes a mistake or causes a disaster. Should we judge of it by its cinders and ashes and smoke, its nauseous effluvia and its all pervading grease? Should we say the sun is a failure as the source of light and heat because it has dark spots upon its face, or that the moon is a worthless prowler of the upper deep because it is supposed to be unproductive? Such irreverent ribaldry carried to its fullest extent would exclude the inspired sentiments of Shakespeare, Chaucer and many other gifted poets, authors and publicists from the home library, would banish statuary and painting from the haunts of civilization, and would establish an era of false delicacy and abnormal hypocrisy disgusting to think of, let alone experience.

Men who choose to become infidels have the unquestioned right to do so, no matter whether sincere or (as is usually the case) in search of cheap notoriety. Those who are absolutely sincere have as a general thing either a diseased mind or do not flaunt their views in the face of the Christian world at every opportunity; nor do they bore their friends and acquaintances with their dismal croakings against what the listeners prefer to reverence; they keep their convictions to themselves until placed in a position calling for an expression of them, and do not resort to grandiloquence or prolixity even then. Some noted unbelievers have been less infidel than are ninety-nine hundredths of the shouters against revealed religion and the Word of God, and it is one means by which their ignorance and desire to be pointed at is determined when some one of the grovelers entertains a gang of loafers with a select lecture beginning invariably with "I am an infidel" and ending with "Tom Paine was the greatest infidel." Paine believed in a Supreme Power and in a life hereafter; so did Voltaire; so did Tyndal and Huxley; and about the only patron saint the loud-mouthed blasphemers really have to look up to, who ever achieved distinction as a man of letters, is Darwin—the inventor of a theory so far in excess of anything the most advanced materialist had ever thought of that he stood almost alone in its advocacy and the error of which has been so repeatedly demonstrated by experiment and is so unmistakably proclaimed every day we live by the workings of animate nature, that the disbelievers have but a slender source of comfort upon which to draw.

The renowned American tragedian, Edwin Forrest, upon the death of his

only remaining sister, leaving him as he expressed it with "no one on earth bearing his blood," thought God was cruel not to make it sure to us that we would be reunited to those we loved here, thus partially admitting while partially doubting. Some years previously the same man stood upon a rock on the sea beach when the tide was coming in; the waves raced up to his secure retreat, dashed madly against it, the spray was cast upon his person, and in the midst of the roaring and rushing of the element he exclaimed in his grand and sweeping voice—"If any one doubts the existence of a Creator, let him stand here and be convinced!"

ADULTERATIONS OF FOOD.

THE State Department will shortly publish a report setting forth the results of a long series of investigations, made by government chemists, during the last three years, of food adulterations practiced in the United States. This report will contain proofs of the existence of a very general system of food and drink adulteration, throughout the country. The impositions are not always necessarily hurtful to health. The sophistication of butter by the addition of lard and cotton-seed oil; of cheese with foreign animal and vegetable fats; of milk, from which the cream is extracted, with water and coloring matters; of olive oil with cotton-seed oil, and of the condiments with flour and starch, are examples in point. But the majority of food adulterations are hurtful, and many of them are poisonous.

An exchange in giving a forecast of the forthcoming report, says:

"Of eleven brands of mustard examined by the Agricultural Department, all sold for pure mustard, not one was found which had not been adulterated. Of all the brands of pepper but one was genuine, and that was of English origin. Twenty samples of ground cloves yielded but two pure samples. Of ten samples of ginger four were pure. Incidentally it is mentioned that a New York spice manufacturer recently ground up 35,000 pounds of cocoanut husks for mixture with his goods, and the fact was noticed in most of the newspapers with scarcely any comment. In other articles used for food it was discovered that adulterations were common, though no series of samples turned out quite as bad as the condiments. When it is considered that the samples used in these tests were selected from all over the country, the universality of fraud by adulteration will be realized."

The American Society for the Prevention of Adulteration in Food, is an organization having ramifications in various states in the Union. Its president is Mr. W. H. Amerling, and in his opening address at a recent meeting of the Society in Washington, he made the following serious, not to say startling, charges:

"Thousands of people suffer and die every year from using adulterated food and drink and especially vinous and malt liquors. In nearly all the large cities malt and vinous liquors have suffered such sophistication as to produce Bright's disease and many other afflictions. Upon analysis in the past three years we have found many of 5,000 samples of supplies adulterated or sophisticated. The malt and vinous liquors were found to suffer the most from adulteration, many of the malt liquors being so unwholesome from drugs and chemicals as to be totally unfit for consumption, and which would have been publicly destroyed in Germany were they to be found on sale there."

More than half a century ago the Latter-day Saints were warned by revelation of the evils that would overtake this generation because of adulterations in food and drink, and were at the same time instructed how to avoid these evils. The verification of that warning is so obvious that neither proof nor argument is needed to support it, and the moral as to the instructions accompanying it becomes plain.

One important lesson taught in connection with this subject is that articles of food, even to spices and condiments, should be produced at home as far as possible, and that articles of drink of the kinds liable to adulteration should be avoided.

HOPT'S PROSPECTS.

IT is probable that the case of Fred. Hopt, the murderer of John F. Turner, will come up in the Supreme Court of the Territory toward the close of the present week.

The proceeding, as we understand it, will be the introduction of the remittitur from the Supreme Court of the United States, which will be ordered filed and, on motion of the District Attorney, a similar document, directed to the Third District Court, will be issued from the Territorial Supreme Court. When the remittitur is introduced in the District Court the prisoner will be brought in and receive sentence, which will be the death penalty, as originally passed. The execution will take place some time between thirty and sixty days after judgment.