

DESERET NEWS.
WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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AN UNSAVORY STATEMENT.

THE world produces a goodly crop of people whose chief characteristic consists of a chronic disposition to place themselves on the sacrificial altar for the enhancement of the public weal. Those who perused the minutes of the last session of the City Council could scarcely fail to observe an illustration of this kind, as exhibited in the proceedings.

A gentleman named John Gormly sent a communication to the honorable body, conveying to the municipal fathers the alarming intelligence that in his peregrinations in City Creek Canon he had observed no less than eleven rotting sheep in that locality, some in the stream and none further from it than thirty feet. He concluded his paper with a recommendation that an inspector be appointed to visit the Creek once a week, at the same time benevolently offering to occupy the position without salary, providing the City supplied him with a horse and saddle.

This statement was calculated to cause considerable alarm and no small amount of nausea among the numerous consumers of City Creek water, who doubtless prefer to take it plain. The introduction of putrid mutton in solution does not strike the ordinary mortal as making a health-giving or in anyway desirable beverage. Most people prefer their water clear and their mutton in solid chunks, and to consume it before the process of decomposition begins.

Fortunately Mayor Jennings took the precaution to ascertain, through Marshal Phillips, whether the unsavory condition described by John Gormly existed anywhere else except in that gentleman's imagination. The result reduced the number of decaying carcasses to two, one of which was located at a distance beyond the possibility of its contaminating the waters of the creek and the other practically so. These facts exploded Mr. Gormly's communication, and obviated the necessity of his appointment to the office of dead carcass prospector for City Creek, for the limited consideration of the use of a horse and saddle.

It may be asked—who is John Gormly? We do not know, further than that the gentleman is a plumber who, we are informed, has resided here about two years. He has taken a good deal of interest—judging from the part he has taken in public meetings on the subject, and the surface of paper over which he has spread himself—in the sanitary condition of this city. He has ventured the statement that the people of this town have no idea of its filthy condition. Perhaps, so, and there is doubtless great room for improvement, and the more thorough the measures adopted to that end the better, but a person who multiplies two rotten sheep by five and reports the product and one over as the existing number constituting that form of nuisance, is hardly an infallible authority on matters of that kind. Facts are wanted; not sensational statements. John Gormly is evidently not out for a sanitary inspector.

HOW CONTAGIOUS DISEASES
SPREAD.

ONE of the unnecessary and prolific causes of the spread of contagious diseases was illustrated in this city quite lately. Some time since the sensible and vigilant Principal of one of the leading district schools of this city, announced to his pupils that he wished it understood that whenever a case of throat affection or any contagious disease appeared in the family to which any scholar belonged, the pupil should at once cease attendance. He adopted this pre-

caution as a measure of safety for the school generally.

Last week the same teacher learned of a case of throat complaint in a family in which there were several school attendants. He very promptly, when the healthy members of the family appeared, requested them to leave and not come again until after the patient had recovered. In the meantime he had learned from the physician in attendance upon the sick child that the case was one of diphtheria, causing him to be exceedingly gratified at the precaution he had taken. But notwithstanding his commendable action in sending away the members of the affected household, they re-appeared at school again yesterday, placing him once more under the necessity of dismissing them.

This incident shows the necessity for the establishment of municipal quarantine restrictions to protect the public health from being endangered by the ignorance or indifference of people whose households are infected with contagious diseases. But for the vigilance of the teacher, a large body of children would have been placed in imminent jeopardy from exposure to contagion with the germs of one of the most dreaded and malignant diseases known. This circumstance is doubtless but one among many of a similar character, only this happened to be brought to light.

A MILD MANNERED MAN.

ACCORDING to telegraphic intelligence from Washington, Delegate Singiser is delivering himself on what is popularly spoken of as the "Mormon question." He objects to the majority of the people of three counties of Idaho being adherents of that religion. We apprehend, however, that if their votes had been cast for him instead of the Democratic candidate everything would have been lovely between Mr. Singiser and the "Mormons." It is the political and not the religious tendencies of the objects of his wrath that trouble him.

He talks like an alarmist and an unscrupulous politician with the same breath. His ideas about the 100,000 "Mormon" fighting men make it appear as if the gentleman was afflicted with "a bee in his bonnet." He talks about disfranchising a large body of people because of their religion with an indifference that shows that he has not the remotest appreciation of American institutions. His intimation that if that mode of procedure should fail, "harsh measures" should be adopted. By the way in which he qualifies the subsequent means to be employed in case of failure of the disfranchisement plan it appears that he esteems the latter method as mere milk and water for mildness. What a gentle creature Mr. Singiser is to be sure, to be so considerate as to first prescribe so innocent a measure as the reduction of the most moral and patriotic people of the country to political slavery and debasement instead of dealing out something of a pungent character, such as powder, ball, bayonet, fire, blood and smoke to begin with.

ANTICIPATED STIR.

SOME time in the beginning of next week an incident will occur that will set the country ablaze with mock excitement and stale speculation. The symptom, like some other incipient forms of disease, is periodical. The length of time elapsing between the spasms depends upon the dates on which the companies of Latter-day Saint immigrants land at Castle Garden. They are the cause of the malady, and the attacks are consequently confined between the months of May and November of each year. A company from Liverpool will reach New York in a few days, and another convulsion may be expected as the result of its advent.

The occasion will doubtless, as usual, cause reporters, clergymen and political demagogues to brush away the cobwebs from their memories and rake up the recollection of all the old specifics for the utter or gradual demolition of "Mormonism," or cause them to rake up the embers of their ingenuities for unique panaceas.

In case the sensational telegraphers, newspapers, priests and politicians should need a little prompting we take occasion to remind them of the necessity of stopping the tide of "Mormon" immigration, to save the country from absolute ruin, that the 50,000,000 of people of this nation may no longer stand afar off and tremble at a handful of honest and harmless people. The efficiency of the powder, shot, and sword doctrine, of which the meek and childlike Talmage is the leading expositor and supporter should not be lost to view. Governor Murray's scheme of disfranchisement for the purpose of making spoliation places for hungry political hacks should be recollected. Then the advocates of flooding Utah with an influx of "Gentiles" should have some place in the formidable array of anti-"Mormon" physicians as with their advent comes the concomitants of modern civilization—the dram shop, gambling house, and brothel. There are those also who have prescribed through the good offices and example of non-"Mormons," the military establishment and ladies' clothing store, terrorizing institutions to extensive householders.

So we might go on with a long, we might say interminable list of prescriptions which have been carefully formulated for the purpose of application to "Mormonism," to render it an extinct institution, but the few already enumerated will perhaps be enough to have ready for the arrival of the next company.

But, speaking seriously, why all the hubbub that is made at every ripple that appears on the surface of this community? Why is every little incident seized as a pretext upon which to base a great ado in reference to the people of Utah? It is something of which those who are engaged in it have reason to be heartily ashamed. There is evidently an attempt on foot, with an ulterior object at the end of it, to create a popular impression that, "if we let these people alone they will take away our place and nation." The position is so absurd that it is difficult to look at it seriously. The very admission of such an idea would be to logically admit also that there is in "Mormonism" and its adherents a strength, power and vitality that is superhuman, and in this great and powerful nation the most deplorable elements of imbecility and weakness.

We claim, may we insist, that the "Mormons" constitute a community that are in the nature of a preservative of national integrity. They are intensely honest, industrious, peaceful and patriotic. The very genius of their faith and practice is to uphold and sustain every constitutional principle. To do this they are willing to make much personal sacrifice, and would be an element of wealth in any country. Instead of being opposed and ill-treated they should be encouraged and fostered. The advice of the ancient philosopher in relation to Christianity in its early stages—not to fight against it lest it be found that battle was being done against God, would apply with considerable force in reference to the Latter-day Saints. The conclusion reached by the same authority—that if the system was from God it could not be successfully overthrown, but if it were not it would fall to pieces by reason of its own lack of the elements of strength, was logically correct, and has also a fine application in this instance.

In any event, all this fuming and fury in relation to the "Mormons," is "stale, flat and unprofitable," and highly discreditable to those who appear so anxious to crush an apparently small and helpless community. It certainly looks as if magnanimity had fled from a great many breasts on this subject, if it ever had a place there. When fair-minded people give "Mormonism" and the "Mormons" the close scrutiny it deserves, prejudices that may have previously possessed their minds are speedily dissipated.

CHANGE ON THE STAFF.

ON the 9th of the present month (October) Mr. John Nicholson, formerly city editor of the News, vacated that position, which was on the date named, assumed by Mr. O. F. Whitney. The gentleman first named, at the same time, took the position of associate editor on the staff of this paper. We make this statement or the reason that numerous persons unaware of the change

and having communications to make to the local department, still enquire for Mr. Nicholson, instead of Mr. Whitney.

GOVERNORS OF TERRITORIES.

THE following excellent article, giving a statement of the views of President Arthur on a question of vital interest to the Territories, is from the columns of the New York Times:

"One of the substantial fruits of the President's late journey through the northwestern Territories is his resolve that hereafter he will appoint no more carpet-baggers as Territorial governors. It is a pious resolution and has been affirmed by many predecessors of President Arthur. Nevertheless the bad old way of sending to the Territories, as executive officers, disappointed and unsuccessful politicians from older States has been persevered in without variation. It is reasonable to suppose that the active and enterprising population of a new Territory would furnish at least one man competent to be Governor to say nothing of the secretary, marshal and Territorial judges. But Nevada has furnished the Governor of Arizona; New Hampshire has sent the illustrious Ordway to Dakota; New York is responsible for J. Schuyler Crosby, of Montana, as well as for the Chief Justice (L. Bradford Prince) of New Mexico. Kentucky owns with pride Eli H. Murray, of Utah. The Governor of Washington Territory is W. A. Newell, ex-Congressman and ex-Governor of New Jersey, and Lionel A. Sheldon, ex-Congressman from Louisiana, is Governor of New Mexico. The governors of Idaho and Wyoming are imported from the east, but are politicians of lesser note than those already mentioned, and are not credited to the States from which they were appointed.

A broken down and defeated politician seeks a Territorial appointment for a two-fold reason. He may make some money in the brisk speculation which is rife in a new community, and he will be on hand early in case the Territory blooms into a full grown State with two Senators, a Representative in Congress, and a governor to elect. The late J. W. Nye, of Nevada, Governor and Senator, was one of the few lucky ones to profit by this sudden transformation of a Territory from its tadpole state. He was Territorial Governor and one of the first Senators from the new State.

Governor Newell, of Washington Territory, is said to be unpopular with his people, and N. G. Ordway, sometime Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives, and now Chief Executive of Dakota, is cited as another shining example of a Territorial Governor who is alternately detested and ridiculed by the people whom he has been sent to govern. The Ordways and the Newells represent nothing but "the lame ducks" of politics. Territorial Governors, for the most part are men who have failed at home and are sent to govern distant communities by way of rebuke to constituencies who have repudiated them. The Territorial offices are filled with political exiles and refugees. The President who insists on a reform in this direction will deserve the plaudits of his fellow countrymen.—N. Y. Times.

THE COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

THE second annual report of the Utah Commission, recently submitted to the Secretary of the Interior, is an interesting document. Throughout it gives evidence of a disposition toward fairness to as wide an extent as the gentlemen deemed they could venture without incurring the risk of being submerged in a flood of abuse from anti-"Mormon" sources. In consequence, as with the administration of the honorable body in this Territory, the paper has a distinct leaning toward the popular prejudice against the majority of the people of Utah.

We are pleased with the frankness of the statement of the Commission in reference to the absence of difficulty experienced in performing their duties. They candidly admit that the law excluding polygamists from the polls at the late general election was thoroughly executed. "Few if any," polygamists, they say, voted. This is a very im-

portant statement. There are no people in the Union who so dearly prize their political prerogatives as the citizens of Utah, yet the law taking away the prestige as free-men of a large number of them was fully and successfully executed in its first operations. This speaks loudly in favor of the law-abiding character of the "Mormons," and largely nullifies the repeated accusations preferred against them of lawlessness.

There is no outcry from the Commission regarding a spirit of lawlessness here, but their report bears out the fact of the existence of a contrary condition. They contend, their opinion being based upon information gained from "Mormon" and non-"Mormon" sources, that the ostensible cause of the general outcry against the majority of the citizens of Utah—polygamy—is decreasing. This position must have great weight against the demand for additional special legislation, for there would be no logic but great absurdity in calling for measures to repress an institution said on such excellent authority to be gradually diminishing.

Political schemers call out for unconstitutional measures against the "Mormons" that they may get control of the local government. They cannot tear away the political rights of the majority by fair means and they wish to introduce foul facilities. In fact they recently failed to put forth respectable effort by the only legitimate recourse—the ballot box. The report of the Commission in giving the details of the election in plain figures, show that instead of putting forth an endeavor for themselves by depositing their votes like consistent people, they sat down, supinely, folded their arms, and confined their energies to shouting aloud for outside assistance to enable them—a mere handful—to dominate the overwhelming majority.

LEFT HANDED COMPLIMENT.

IN their second annual report the Commission gave Governor Murray a left handed compliment. Mr. Murray had eulogized the Commission upon their efficiency, and doubtless anticipated something handsome in return, but it was cold comfort they gave him. Said they—"We consider it proper to commend the zeal of the Governor of Utah in his efforts to enforce the laws."

Under the circumstances the Governor had to be named, but it was done in a non-committal way, that renders the praise the faintest that could be given. It certainly has the merit of ingenuity, for, while the zeal of the Governor is commended an unbroken silence is maintained in regard to his wisdom, discretion and impartiality.

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 2.

Portrait of Apostle Erastus Snow.—The proof of a very fine steel plate engraving of Apostle Erastus Snow, the founder of the Scandinavian Mission, has been received from the East by Brother Andrew Jensen, editor and publisher of *Morgenstjernen*. The portrait will illustrate the next volume of that magazine, for which Brother Jensen is now canvassing.

General Rich's Condition.—Bro. Charles O. Rich, we learn from a correspondent, is still confined to his room, and mainly to his bed. He looks well in the face, his eyes are bright and he seems to enjoy conversation and a good reader, but his articulation has failed and his desires are expressed simply by signs. Helpless but cheerful, the aged veteran is slowly passing away.

An English Vice-Consulate.—A petition is being signed in this city for the establishment of an English consulate at Denver, Colorado, with a vice-consulate in Salt Lake City, the object of which is to facilitate business affairs between Great Britain and the western portion of this country. The petition is at the London Bank of Utah, awaiting signatures, and will be forwarded to Denver and sent from there with others, to Lord Granville in London.

From Colorado Springs.—Mr. William Wood, whose departure for Colorado Springs with his little daughter, rendered mute from the effects of a scarlet fever, was noticed several days ago, returned yesterday from his trip, bringing with him a