

THE UNSOLVED PROBLEM.

In another column an able editorial will be found on "The Mormon Question" from the Chicago Tribune. The writer handles the subject with more than usual temperance, candor and fairness. But it is easy to be seen that the best method of eradicating polygamy continues to be a problem, the solution of which the editors and politicians are no more likely to agree about now than they were ten years ago.

The idea seems to be wide-spread that "polygamy," to use the language of the editor of the Tribune, is "the only distinctive feature of Mormonism in which the public have any interest." Had "polygamy" been revealed, taught and preached contemporaneously with the first principles of the gospel and the organization of the Church, then the Latter-day Saints might accept the now popular idea respecting the effect this doctrine has in prejudicing the public mind against us. But the Church had been organized upwards of thirteen years before the only revelation now extant in writing or in print on the subject of a plurality of wives had been given, and it was not until 1852 that it was publicly proclaimed to the world as a principle of our faith. The most bitter, unrelenting and deadly persecutions that we have endured were all passed through before the fact had transpired that such a revelation had been given. Our persecutions in Ohio, and our expulsion from the States of Missouri and Illinois did not have the pretext of our belief in polygamy as a justification. Joseph and Hyrum Smith were martyred; but no plea of this kind was urged in extenuation of the cruel and murderous deed. Illinois would have eagerly seized such a doctrine as a sufficient excuse for the perpetration of that damning crime which covered her escutcheon with ineffaceable stains. The public who pursued "Mormonism" and the "Mormons" in those days with such insatiate vindictiveness had special interest in some features of the system besides polygamy.

We are satisfied beyond the possibility of doubt that were a new revelation to be received to-day, "peremptorily prohibiting" polygamy, the problem would not be solved. The problem was as knotty a one and as difficult of solution before that principle became a part of our faith and practice, as it is now. Our and greater difficulties to contend with, and more hatred to overcome, previous to the publication of this doctrine than they have now that it is known. It is a great mistake to suppose that if polygamy were renounced by the Latter-day Saints, "it would effectually remove every possible excuse that the good or the bad could have for a quarrel with the people of Salt Lake." That would only be the beginning of the changes required to prevent a quarrel. There are other features that would be and are equally objectionable with that of plurality of wives:—Our belief in present revelation, in the Book of Mormon, in a divinely inspired head to the Church on the earth, in apostles, in the ancient ordinances, in the gifts of the Spirit, and in the gathering of the people together. If the demand for the abandonment of polygamy could be complied with, it would be followed by demands for the renunciation of every distinctive feature of our religion, until we would sink back into the condition in which the people were found when the truths which they now believe were taught to them.

As to the question, "How polygamy is to be disposed of?" we think that can be easily answered. If it be the great evil which this editor and many others think it is, we are the sufferers, and are most likely to find it out first. We have never asked them to share our troubles; but are willing—men and women—to bear our own burdens. We do not seek to force our institutions upon them, any more than we seek to foster those which flourish in their midst. This land is broad enough for them and us too to be left to the full and unrestricted enjoyment of our own domestic institutions; and with such a liberal constitution as ours; there is no need for one to interfere with the other. If we "have redeemed from the desert one of the richest and most fertile territories of the Union"—if we "have cities, villages, farms, mills, factories, and nearly all the results of enlightened industry, which belong to us by every title that can give validity to the ownership of personal and real property"—if we "have made these things with our own hands, and our right to them is good against all the world"—and we have achieved these results while believers in polygamy, in what way have we

wronged or offended our fellow-citizens? Why not leave the problem to us to solve? We are as much interested in its correct solution as any of our neighbors possibly can be; and we are the only ones who can solve it.

As to the statute making polygamy a crime, every unprejudiced jurist knows that it is unconstitutional. It is in flagrant violation of every principle which underlies the fabric of liberty reared by the revolutionary fathers, and utterly opposed to the genius of our Government. The day will come when it will be swept from the Statute Book, and be remembered only as a base attempt to transcend the limits of the Constitution and to use power for partisan ends.

THE MORMON QUESTION.

The completion of the Pacific Railway to Salt Lake, within the next year, will bring the Mormon question prominently before the American people. Outside of Utah there is but one opinion concerning polygamy—the only distinctive feature of Mormonism in which the public have any special interest—and that is, that it cannot be tolerated; it must cease to be a part of the social system of any portion of the country. How can it be eradicated with the least trouble and the least injustice to the parties immediately affected by it, is a most important problem.

The Mormons have acquired rights in Utah which the American people are bound to recognize and protect. Twenty years ago we knew no more of the Salt Lake valleys than we do now about the districts of Central Africa explored by Dr. Livingstone, and no one supposed they could ever be made valuable to the nation. Only trappers and the most daring explorers had ever seen them, and the sage brush and bunch grass, the only productions of which they appeared capable, seemed fully to confirm the opinion that Providence had forbidden civilized man to attempt to dwell amid desolation so enduring and hopeless. The Mormons having been driven out of Missouri, settled in these valleys in June, 1847, and, by means of irrigation, made this apparently barren soil produce most abundantly, and in the short space of twenty-one years they have redeemed from the desert one of the richest and most fertile Territories of the Union. A hundred thousand people now inhabit the valleys about Salt Lake. They have and nearly all the results of enlightened industry, which belong to them by every title that can give validity to the ownership of personal and real property. They have made these things by their own hands, and their right to them is good against all the world. We need scarcely add that they have equally a right to believe in the Mormon Bible and to practice its precepts so long as its votaries do not violate the statutes of the United States or the common law of civilized nations. The nation is bound to enforce the laws against polygamy, and the sooner the Mormons accept this inevitable fact the better. These laws are not retrospective in their operation. They do not break up existing family relations, but they declare that the evil shall grow no larger, and that time, which cures all wrongs, shall also cure that.

The authorities at Washington ought to be, and we presume will be, prepared to protect the Mormons in all their just rights when the Pacific Railroad is opened. To the disgrace of civilization, it must be admitted that a class of population keeps pace with the progress of the road who professionally disregard law. Under pretence that the Mormons being polygamists are also semi-savages, it is not unlikely that these knaves will do all in their power to harass them. As between the denizens of Salt Lake and the blacklegs and courtesans on the Laramie Plains, at the terminus of the railway, the difference is altogether in favor of the Mormons. The Mormons have shown their interest in the great national railway by taking the contract to grade one hundred miles East of Salt Lake, through the most difficult section of the road yet to be finished. They promise to have it completed before the first of November, and we have no doubt that they will accomplish it. They have made up their minds to accept the opening of the road with all the possibilities involved in it.

But the question returns. How is polygamy to be disposed of? The simplest and the most effectual way would be for Brigham Young to have a new revelation peremptorily prohibiting it. This he told Mr. Colfax and his party three years ago he would be very glad to do, and certainly every friend of humanity would rejoice if the inspiration could be given. It would round up and

complete for Brigham Young one of the most remarkable personal histories of the present age. It would effectually remove every possible excuse that the good or the bad could have for a quarrel with the people of Salt Lake. But in case Brigham does not receive and publish this important revelation, the only alternative remaining to the government is to execute the law. A statute making polygamy a crime in all the Territories punishable by fine and imprisonment was introduced by the late Senator Douglas. It was not passed until after his death, but it is now the law of the nation. If individual Mormons violate it, let them be prosecuted and punished, while all are protected in their rights of person and property. Now that slavery is abolished, the authorities are better prepared than ever before to deal fairly and prudently, but energetically and effectively with polygamy, the last blot upon the national escutcheon. If the law be wisely and firmly enforced, a few years will see the last husband of a plurality of wives under the sod in due course of nature, and there will grow up in Utah as prosperous and virtuous a community as the sun beholds in his course.

SONG FOR THE 4th OF JULY, 1868.

Written by H. W. Naisbitt, Esq., and sung by J. M. Hardie, Esq., at the celebration in the New Tabernacle.

On stern Columbia's shores was lit
The flame of freedom's fires,
(Tis near a century ago,
By our brave-hearted sires,
They left their native land to found
An empire, and a world
Wherein no tyrant's voice might sound
Or find a flag unfurled.

Chorus:

'Tis here we have cherished their old
constitution,
The charter of freedom, the flag of the free;
May all its opponents be swept in confusion
Into the Pacific or Atlantic sea.

And when the tug of war was theirs,
When kingcraft bid them bow,
Went up a shout from earth to Heaven,
One single word—"twas, 'No!
We own no peers, we feel within
The spark which came from God,
To your misrule we give not in,
We fight till 'neath the sod."

Chorus:

'Twas thus they triumphed, thus they won;
Hail patriots, men revered,
Who to the altar brought their lives
And all that life endeared.
Such deeds, such god-like deeds then shook
The kings and thrones of men,
They since that age (to history look)
Have not stood firm again.

Immortal braves, would that your faith
Might sweep the nation now,
Your sacred fires again be lit
On plain and mountain brow.
Then party strife and factious hate
Would flee our country's face,
And she should have no peers on earth,
For none could be so great.

Chorus:

Would that from Utah's peaceful vales,
Whose mountain bulwarks swell,
A force might move from patriot souls,
To drive all wrong to hell;
That Washington, who led the way
To right, through war and blood,
Might herald yet a greater day
In Utah understood.

Chorus:

For here we have cherished our great
constitution,
The charter of freedom, the flag of the free;
May all its opponents be swept in confusion
Into the Pacific or Atlantic sea.

Jas. Linforth, E. B. Rail, F. D. Kellogg.

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Boots and Shoes, Hardware, etc., in Ogden City,
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w2l:lm GROSTINE & CO.

ESTRAYS

FROM SPANISH FORD:—
HORSE, 15 years old, grey.
MARE, 5 years old, bay, branded with S in
squares, on left hip. She has a colt. S
HEIFER, 1 year old, red.
The above described animals will be sold at
the County Pound, Provo, July 23, 1868, if not
claimed previous to that day.
w2l:1 s4-2 EDSON WHIPPLE, Poundkeeper

GRASS AND GRAIN
SCYTHES & SNATHES

VERY CHEAP. Also,

General Merchandise.

NAISBITT & HINDLEY

s4l:3-w2l:4

Administrators' Notice!

HAVING been appointed by the Probate Court of Juab County, Administrators of the Estate of the late JOHN SUTTON, of Nephi City, Juab County, U. T.:

We hereby give notice to all persons having claims against said Estate to present them for payment, and those knowing themselves indebted to said Estate are requested to settle immediately.

Communications addressed to A. F. MACDONALD, Provo City, U. T.

Mrs. MARY E. SUTTON,
A. F. MACDONALD.

June 1st, 1868.

w18-2m

NOTICE.

In the Supreme Court of the United States
for the Territory of Utah.

In the Matter of
WM. H. MILES, JUN., } In Bankruptcy.
Bankrupt.

To whom it may Concern: The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as Assignee of WM. H. MILES, JUN., of Salt Lake City, in the County of Salt Lake and Territory of Utah, who has been adjudged a bankrupt upon his own petition by the Supreme Court of said Territory.

Dated at Salt Lake City, the 12th day of June, A.D. 1868.
w20:3 Z. SNOW, Assignee, etc.

NOTICE!

I HAVE in my possession the following estray animal, which, if not claimed within thirty days from the first publication of this notice, will be sold according to law:—

Sorrel 12 year old Horse, white in face, right hind leg white, branded on left thigh, has some saddle marks.

DAVID UDALL,
Poundkeeper, Juab County.
Nephi, June 24th, 1868. s4l-2w2l-1

FOR SALE.

A LARGE HOMESTEAD, FARM AND RANCH, situated about 17 miles from Provo and 8 miles from Heber City, Wasatch County. The Farm contains about 120 acres of good Meadow Land and is surrounded by a good water ditch. The Ranch contains 1,200 acres in good condition, and offers large inducements for the opening of an extensive Dairy, being adjacent to the Provo market. The Homestead property consists of a new Dwelling House of three rooms, a rock Stable, new Sheds and Corrals. The Ranch and Farm are supplied with good Springs of water.

Forty-five tons of last year's HAY and the present Crops on the Farm will also be sold to any suitable purchaser on or before the 25th of July.

Part payment required at the time of purchase. Good Mules, Horses, Teams and Cows taken in exchange.

Stock Raisers and others are respectfully invited to examine the above or apply by letter to JOHN McAFEE, Proprietor.

w2l:2w

INFORMATION WANTED!

THE undersigned wishes to learn the whereabouts of THOMAS CHRISTENSEN, from Rebgiaard, Denmark, who left there for Utah in the spring of 1865 or 1866. He is a Tailor by trade. Any person forwarding such information to Jorgen Christensen, 707 Sansome Street, San Francisco, or the DESERET EVENING News Office, will confer a great favor on his brother, JORGEN CHRISTENSEN.

w2l:4

NEW TURNIP SEED FOR SALE!

SIX WEEKS TURNIPS! An Excellent Garden Turnip. Purple Top, large, good for Field Culture. CHARLES TWELVES, w2l:1 4th Ward, Provo.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC CHEMICALS,

ARTISTS' MATERIALS,

DRAWING PAPER

And BOOKS of all kinds,

Tracing Paper, Architect's Paper,

CHOICE CHROMOS,

And FINE ENGRAVINGS,

STATIONERY Cheaper than ever,

DICKENS' WORKS,

SCOTT'S, FINE EDITIONS OF THE POETS,

Wells' New Physiognomy,

TOY COLORS, REWARD CARDS, &c., &c.,

Will all be sold

At the very LOWEST FIGURES.

New Views on the Boise Road and of the Great Shoshone Falls.

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