

may advocate or oppose any doctrine that can be advanced, if people choose to listen to or read what he advances. But preaching the principles of "Mormonism," as our Elders are sent to proclaim them, has nothing to do with the polygamy question, pro or con.

The *Herald* is correct in its statement as to the rights of American citizens, and also on the propriety of protecting them in those rights. The full force of law ought to be exerted as much in favor of a "Mormon," as of any other preacher whose right of free speech and free worship is assailed by mobocracy. If he breaks the law, let him be punished by the law. If he advises others to do so, let him be dealt with as the law may provide. But it is not only cowardly but dangerous to society to encourage brute force that he may be muzzled or battered into silence. For, if this can be countenanced against a "Mormon," it may be turned against other religionists whose views differ from those of the majority, and mob law will take the place of statutory law, and social order be turned into chaos.

We have been surprised and grieved to see papers which ought to be the champions of freedom of speech, applaud brute force against unoffending Elders, and even hint that this is the proper weapon with which to put down the preaching of "Mormonism." They are, no doubt, under the impression that such preaching implies polygamous teaching. They are in this greatly mistaken. But if they were not deceived as to this, their support of mobocracy is disgraceful and unworthy of the day and country in which we live.

Every true lover of the free institutions which make this nation great, will invoke the aid of the law for the protection of the unorthodox and unpopular, as much as for the suppression of lawlessness in any other form. And it is a shame and reproach to any paper and any locality where our Elders are mobbed and beaten and abused, while peacefully engaged in any lawful pursuit, that such things are permitted and encouraged, and that all the powers of government, if necessary, are not exerted for the maintenance of law, and the protection of citizens who have broken no law, in the exercise of an inalienable right.

Behold, I will hasten my work in its time.—*Doc. and Cov.*

MORE DECEPTIONS.

A NUMBER of influential papers have been misled by a dispatch from this city, stating that a "Mormon" Bishop now in the penitentiary for violation of the Edmunds Act, has written from jail in condemnation of "Mormonism," and pronouncing the whole fabric a tissue of impostures and frauds. It is stated that the "Bishop" is still in prison, and proceeds to give his alleged history and describe the sensation and apostasy which his open letter has occasioned.

We refer to this matter for the purpose of informing the editors who comment on this supposed item of "Mormon" news, that there is no such "Bishop" and no such letter as described by the veracious (?) manufacturer of press dispatches in this city. Also that the other portion of his communication to the *New York Tribune*, copied into other journals such as the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, etc., is equally false and deceptive.

It is not true that President George Q. Cannon's term of imprisonment was "abridged several months by a pardon from the President." The gentleman served his full term and paid the full fines imposed upon him. The rest of the dispatch is equally misleading and the papers that have published and commented upon it have been deceived. The dispatch, not "Mormonism," is a "tissue of impostures and frauds," and those who invented them ought to be criminally prosecuted, and made to learn behind prison bars that such work as theirs is just as vile as forgery, theft and similar villainies.

Another dispatch, probably from the same hand, informs the public that President Cleveland cut short the official term of Chief Justice Zane, in order to appoint Judge Sandford, and that the latter has made it a practice to punish polygamists with only nominal sentences.

This, too, is wilfully and maliciously untrue. Judge Zane served out his full term of office and over. His successor on the bench has not had a case of polygamy before him, and in cases of unlawful cohabitation has inflicted such penalties as, for a simple misdemeanor, would elsewhere be considered extraordinary and severe.

The clique who are endeavoring to revive here the scenes of sorrow and vengeance which a few years ago paralyzed business and blocked the progress of the Territory, are

compelled to resort to the lowest tactics and the most shameful falsehood to effect their evil designs. They will fail of their purpose, and respectable journals ought to be cautious about publishing and commenting upon anything that comes to them over the wires as news from Salt Lake.

A DAY OF PRAYER.

WE DO not hear of any movement in this city, in response to the recommendation of President Harrison in his proclamation concerning the centennial anniversary of the first Presidential inauguration. Why should not Utah celebrate the day and join in prayers to the Most High for the "blessings of liberty, prosperity and peace?"

The thirtieth day of the present month has been declared a general holiday by Act of Congress. We would like to see it observed and celebrated in the manner suggested by the President. A public meeting in the Tabernacle, to which the whole community should be invited, would suit our views of the proper manner in which to comply with the proclamation. An organ recital would be an appropriate exercise to supplement the special prayers on the occasion, and a few vocal selections by some of our best singers would help to make the affair interesting.

We have not discussed the matter with anyone, but simply offer this suggestion, as we would not like to see the day pass without some action on the part of the people of Utah. They are as much interested as any one in this nation, in the establishment and perpetuation of the great republic which we believe to be the most perfect form of human government on earth. And as they believe that the Almighty moved upon the founders of our national institutions, and inspired them in the production of the glorious Constitution which is the supreme law of the land, it would be eminently proper for the people of this Territory to celebrate this centennial, and show by their works that they have faith in the Divine Power and the Divine guidance in earthly government.

No people should have stronger desires than we for the interposition of Providence in the maintenance and continuance of "liberty, prosperity and peace," nor offer more fervent prayers that "His hand may lead us in the paths of righteousness and good deeds."