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EDITOR: M. THOMAS, EDITOR.

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"KEEP WITHIN THE LAW."

THERE has been some difficulty in the County Court of Salt Lake County over a provision in the law, passed at the last session of the Utah Legislature, in reference to a Bureau of Statistics, and this has been misrepresented in the local sheet which always tries to prejudice the public against officials of the People's Party and apologize for the misdeeds of "Liberal" encroachers upon the public pocket.

That this matter may be properly understood we here quote some portions of the law in relation to it:

"SEC. 2.—The several county assessors and their deputies, of this Territory, shall at the time of taking the lists of property for taxation, procure from each person required to list property in their county a statement of the number of acres he has had under cultivation during the preceding year, the number of acres irrigated, the number of acres he has had under enclosure for pasture, the kind of crops and the respective acreage thereof, the amount of product of each respective crop during the preceding year, number of gallons made of wine, cider, vinegar and sorghum, number of pounds made each of butter, cheese, honey and dried fruits of each kind respectively; number of hives of bees, number of pounds of wool shorn; the number each of milch cows, cattle, horses, mules, asses, sheep, goats, and swine over six months old, owned on the first day of December of the preceding year."

From this it will be seen that the work of gathering these statistics is to be done by the Assessor and his deputies "at the time of taking the lists of property for taxation."

In section six of the same act it is provided that,

"The assessors and their deputies shall receive such compensation for the services herein required as the county courts may determine."

So much for the law. Now as to the facts: Assessor Lynch wants at least ten deputies to do the work required by law. He demands for each of them four dollars a day for services within the city, and five dollars and a half a day outside of the city. For himself for superintending their work he asks eight dollars a day. And he makes a separate and distinct business of this statistical labor from the regular duty of assessing. He estimates the cost at about $5,000.

Sheriman Howe does not approve of this course. He regards the demands of the Assessor as exorbitant and thinks the work can be properly done for less money, and that it should be attended to as the law provides; that is, in connection with "taking the lists of property for taxation," which would be a saving of time and expense. For this he is assailed by the daily mudslinger.

The compensation for this work is entirely in the control of the County Court. That body should see to it that the Assessor performs his duty within the law. He is amply paid for the work of assessment. Blank forms are furnished him, which are to filled up with these statistics. To demand eight dollars a day for supervising this work is very liberal—to himself, and very "Liberal" in its manner of making all that is possible out of a public office. The amount required for deputies, too, are excessive, and we think that Sheriman Howe's position will be supported by a large majority of the taxpayers in this city and county.

Now there is no need for any misrepresentation or political lamentation in reference to this matter. The work should be done as the law provides. It should be done at the time the law provides. It should be paid for by the county, fairly and justly. There is no need to make it an opening for graft at the public purse. The court should not be penurious, but at the same time it should guard the public interest and not be imposed upon nor be hounded by an unprincipled paper into improper expenditures.

The Legislature, in passing this law, did not intend to create chances for public officers to make enormous fees in addition to their regular emoluments, but blended economy with the plan for gathering important information, and placed the duty of collecting it upon the Assessors, because they could obtain it at comparatively small expense "at the time of taking the lists of property for taxation." "Keep within the law!"

HOME AND FOREIGN SLANDERS.

THE meeting of business men held in the Chamber of Commerce rooms last evening was important and suggestive. The villainous slanders about the people of Utah published in the *Illustrated American* constituted the chief topic. The sentiment against the outrageous libels was unanimous and pronounced. There was a striking unanimity in this respect. The action respecting the vile publications partook of the spirit of the meeting, and what was proposed will doubtless be carried out completely.

Without entering into an analysis of the motives which have, in the main, prompted this sleuth no good citizen can fail to indorse it. No matter as to the incentives which lead to a vindication of truth and justice, it is a matter of congratulation when falsehood and wrong are subjected to a verdict.

One of the speakers at the gathering of last night struck a point well worth consideration. Mr. Sheaman held that the object of the movement being to prevent the doing of injury, by publishing slanders, to the material interests of Utah, it was but of much use to seek to check such an influence at a distance when it was exerted much more potently at home—referring to the policy of hate and falsehood pursued by the Salt Lake *Tribune*. The gentleman related an instance of capital having been kept out of Utah by the daily libels perpetrated by that journal. He seemed to be endeavoring to make the impression that some expedition against the course of that paper would be in order. It did not appear, however, that the point made by him was taken up and audibly endorsed to any extent. This could not be because there was any doubt as to his being entirely right in what he said. Every sensible man in this section of the country knows that his position is correct. Unfortunately, however, the number of men who have the courage of conviction which Mr. Sheaman appears to possess is exceedingly limited.

The *Times* speaks of "this cause that has made him pre-eminent," etc. The "pre-eminent" qualification in our ex-Governor is his remarkable talent for mathematics. He can make 1880 a larger number that 18,000 and verify it to, too. Of course we refer to political mathematics. He can beat any returning board on the continent when it comes to counting up votes and a personal and political friend is a candidate. He can assume judicial functions also when his office is purely executive, and for party interest use official power to "bluff" a Legislature or delude the President of the United States. Oh! He is "pre-eminent," no doubt.

After all, Murray is in some respects a "pretty good fellow," as the term is used about town. He was a gallant young soldier, he now has a fine appearance, he is genial and can drink with the boys and tell stories, and have a "good time," keeping upright when most of them are on the floor, and he has social and companionable qualities that endear him to a certain class. But for the office of Senator! Oh! The suggestion is too ridiculous for serious consideration. But, of course, it is copied into the columns of the Salt Lake *Tribune*.

DEATH OF CHARLES BRADLAUGH.

CHARLES BRADLAUGH, the noted secularist, died at o'clock this morning, Greenwich time. He has been, for over thirty years, a noted character. On account of his terrific assaults upon the Bible and religion in general, he adopted, in his writings, the nom de plume of Iconoclast, or "image smasher." He was one of the most irresistable in debt lecturers of his time. We recollect him as he was twenty-seven years ago. He was rather over medium height, large-boned and square-shouldered. His forehead was high and broad, but somewhat receding at its upper part. His jaws were square and projecting and his mouth large and somewhat coarse. He wore his hair, which was light colored, somewhat long at that time. He had cold, gray eyes, almost cruel in their expression. His voice was clear, ringing and harsh and his style was incisive and cynical, yet ponderous. He was a powerful speaker, and had the ability to fairly overwhelm and crush an ordinary opponent. There was nothing of the pathetic in his oratory, which was a mixture of gall, vinegar and lightning. Of late years we understand he became modified, however, and was more merciful and conservative.

His struggle to obtain his seat ten years ago, after being elected to Parliament from Northampton, is still fresh in the minds of that portion of the public which takes note of prominent events in the mailbus. At first he refused to take the oath required to be subscribed to by all members, and was denied seat. Afterwards he recanted and offered to take the oath, but his admission was still resisted. Finally, however, he was allowed to take his seat. And it is somewhat remarkable that only the other day the House of Commons, by unanimous action, struck the account of the proceedings connected with Bradlaugh's exclusion from the record.

Bradlaugh was a gifted man in many respects, but was manifestly deficient in one indispensable element of greatness—sympathy. This is a quality which cannot be successfully assumed for any length of time. He who does not possess it is among the unfortunate.

One of Napoleon's veterans died at Alliance, O., Tuesday, at the age of 99 years. Joseph Akins, a native of Belfort, France, enlisted under the emperor when only 16 years old. He fought in many of his battles, but escaped the fatal Moscow campaign. Akins' division at Waterloo was thirty miles distant during the battle and reached the field too late to be of service. It was interesting to note that up his delirium in his last illness the survival of a by-gone age lived again his life in Bonaparte's army, pretending to draw his sabre and then call his comrades to sustain the honor and valor of France.

Crude carbolic acid is better to use as a wash to suspends for trees than anything else. Kerosene should not be used on trees at all.

BUSINESS CIRCLES AGITATED

Over the "Illustrated American" Anti-Mormon Slanders.

STEPS TAKEN TO SULLIFY THEM.

The Rumored Removal of the U. P. Shops.

At the Chamber of Commerce a large meeting of Salt Lake City business men was held last night, January 29th, to discuss certain matters pertaining to local affairs. The meeting was really an adjourned session of one held on Wednesday evening last at the same place. At that meeting the rumored removal of the Union Pacific office and shops from Salt Lake City to Ogden was considered. A committee of ten then appointed to wait on Mr. Bancroft of the Union Pacific, and ascertain the truth of the report.

The meeting last night was called to order by Mr. Dunnigan acting president of the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Scott was called to the chair. On assuming it he made a few remarks, stating the purpose of the meeting and the aims it sought to accomplish.

REMOVAL OF THE U. P. SHOPS.

First in order of business came the Union Pacific matter. Judge Colburn, on behalf of the committee appointed to wait on Mr. Bancroft, presented a verbal report. This report was by no means satisfactory. Mr. Bancroft's utterances were of the nature of a Delphian oracle response. However, the impression left on Judge Colburn's mind was that Mr. Bancroft was favorable to Salt Lake and he would do what he could to prevent the removal of the Union Pacific offices and shops. Several members of the committee spoke on this matter, but it appears that Mr. Bancroft's words were uttered with such beautiful politeness and dubiety that each one received an impression peculiar to himself.

After the committee matter was disposed of, Judge Colburn spoke a second time, saying that he had reliable authority for saying that the offices and shops of the road would be transferred to Ogden in the near future. When this transfer took place he was in favor of organizing a boycott of Salt Lake merchants against the road, and in this way teach it a lesson. Several members spoke endorsing Judge Colburn. Very strong language was used against the U. P., charging it with battling up the Northwest at the expense of the Salt Lake Territory.

The matter was finally disposed of by leaving it in the hands of the transportation committee of the Chamber of Commerce, the railroad to be closely watched.

THE "ILLUSTRATED AMERICAN" LIBELS.

The chairman addressed the meeting once more, saying that the discussion of the libelous articles published in the *Illustrated American* regarding Utah, was now in order.

Herbert Pembroke took the floor, made a short speech, reviewing the matter published by the obnoxious paper, and the injury it was calculated to inflict. This matter could not hurt the Mormons as religionists, because of its absurdity, but it would hurt the prosperity and development of Utah's resources. Mr. Pembroke presented the following

RESOLUTIONS,

based on those adopted by the City Council on the 27th inst:

"Whereas, the city of Salt Lake, at the last session of its city council, Tuesday, January 27, 1891, determined, in connection with the Chamber of Commerce, Territorial officials, real estate exchange, stock exchange and clearing house association, to refute the slanderous statements upon the citizens of Utah, appearing in a recent issue of the *Illustrated American*, and which statements are as follows: (Enumerate the Mormons. In a series of articles published herewith the *Illustrated American* will give the Mormon reply to President Harrison's message. He now was pacific, more warlike. He proposed to legislate. They want to fight. He nobly understands their fighting power. They have an invincible foe to contend with. They have an enormous wealth to supply them. They have an admirable strategic position to aid them in battle. They have the Rocky Mountains to cover their retreat. With the government take up the gauntlet which they are flinging down? To suppose that principle these simple farmers are preparing to butcher women and children, and as for getting the dupe they are taught every Sunday in their meeting houses that a collision is inevitable, and they have long been prepared for it. Governors in Utah say that the collision cannot be delayed."

Whereas, The general commercial condition of Utah is first class and in which all classes of citizens are mutually interested, thereby promoting the development of social affairs, in fact, at no time has there been a period when greater general prosperity, or causes for the same in any portion of this community, than exists at present in Utah. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we refute the words printed in said journal and quoted above, as a base calumny, libelous, false to peaceable, orderly and prosperous people, city and territory. And be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolutions be printed in the *Illustrated American* and other eastern newspapers.

Mr. Pembroke spoke in favor of his resolutions, saying that the commercial interests of Utah demanded a forcible refutation of such articles as those published in the *Illustrated American*.

Judge Colburn said the resolutions were not strong enough. He favored prompt and emphatic action. He would use the telegraph and denounce such infamous libels as those referred to.

W. H. Sherman said that resolutions were hardly strong enough. He was of the opinion that the *Illustrated American* articles were gotten up by traitors in the camp that as long as the Salt Lake *Tribune* continued to libel Utah at home there was little use in trying to stop libels abroad.

The speaker then related an incident which illustrated his point. During his visit to the east last year, he and another merchant of this city endeavored to present the bright side of Utah in a commercial sense. In this they were for a time remarkably successful and induced by their representations a number of capitalists to largely invest means in this Territory. Before the arrangement was completed, however, some copies of the Salt Lake *Tribune* containing the same kind of material as that published by the *Illustrated American* arrived. The result was that the capitalists became timid about investing as they intended and withdrew from the agreement.

Charles Mills said that a document completely refuting the libelous articles was signed by Governor Thomas, Judge Zane and associate justices, the members of the Utah Commission, the United States Marshal and all federal officials, should be sent abroad and published in every city and town in the country. Over a dozen other gentlemen spoke, and all condemned the libelous articles as foul, false and villainous, the work of demons rather than of American citizens.

Colonel Lett read a copy of a telegram prepared by members of the Real Estate Exchange with a view of having it sent to the *Illustrated American*. Here is a copy of it:

To the publishers of the *Illustrated American*, 112 Dearborn street, Chicago, and Bible House, Astor Place, New York:

The Salt Lake real estate exchange, representing over $20,000,000 of new improvements in Utah, Territory, and composed of all classes of religious belief, respectfully and emphatically protest against the publication of the series of articles calculated to inspire hatred in a coming war between the United States and the Mormon Church, two of which articles entitled "Determinate the Mormons," and "Will Utah Mormon Fight?" appeared in your issue of December 27, 1890, as calculated to prejudice the future of Utah and destroy confidence in this rapidly growing region. The best gentile minds in Utah are now in there to see more danger of the breaking out of a war between the government and the Mormon Church than there is that the Mormons will move New York City will use and massacre the Presbyterians of that city. I doubt if you can find among the quarter of a million people in Utah one person who will adopt the line you so emphatically express.

"In the interest of honest journalism if for no other reason, out of compassion for a long and trusted citizen of public repute, and to use your expression, that you may 'avoid good will and appreciation of the good of the good union,' you ought not to continue the publication of so outrageous a misrepresentation of people of Utah. Gentile, Jew and Mormon alike protest against your attempt to direct their united efforts to induce immigration to this favored section of our common country.

"H. G. LETT,

President of the Salt Lake Real Estate Exchange."

After some more talking Judge Colburn, as a substitute to Mr. Pembroke's resolution, offered one providing for a committee of three to draft a proper statement, have it signed by the federal, territorial and municipal officers and by the officers of the commercial and industrial organizations of the city. This resolution was adopted.

Mayor Scott appointed the following committee: Judge Colburn, Colonel Dunnigan and Mr. Pembroke.

The committee were to meet today and fulfil the requirements of the resolution.

A gentleman spoke for the Associated Press, saying that it would help in every way to promulgate the refutations to the outrageous libels of the illustrated paper.

The meeting adjourned subject to call of the chair.

WHY THE DESERET NEWS SHOULD BE SUBSCRIBED FOR IN PREFERENCE TO ANY OTHER PAPER.

1. It is the Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the authorized medium through which the views, wishes and instructions of the Church Authorities are expressed, and given to the public.

2. It may always be relied upon as advocating or defending the right side of every question proper for public journals to treat upon.

3. It is devoted to the interests of the Latter-day Saints and has, from its inception, valiantly defended their rights and advocated the principles in which they believe, and every Latter-day Saint should therefore feel under obligations to do his part in helping to sustain it.

4. It is not published for speculation, and never has been, but for the good which it is capable of accomplishing; the profits, if any there be derived from it, being devoted to extending its sphere of usefulness, and benefiting the community.

5. In doing its utmost to establish home industries, among which are paper making and type-founding, stereotyping and electrotyping—it has been a necessity to the development and independence of the community, but which, during their infancy (which, in this Territory they have not yet passed), can only be carried on at a pecuniary loss.

6. There is no danger of any subscriber to the News failing to get what he subscribes for through failure of the business and a suspension of the publication—a result in the case of hundreds of newspaper ventures every year.

7. It is now printed throughout in new and readable type, so that even the aged can peruse it without difficulty or danger to their eyesight.

8. It is free from objectionable advertisements, so that no parent need fear that his children will have their minds corrupted from having access to it; in fact, it refuses thousands of dollars worth of the best paying advertisements annually, because it is devoted to the moral and spiritual interests of its readers instead of to gaining gain at their expense.

9. Its tone is not regulated by public opinion nor the hope of gaining subscribers or advertisements. It advocates that which is right and endeavors that which is wrong, regardless of popular, financial or other sides.

10. It never nauseates its readers by painting of columns of self-praise for news items.

11. The News practices no deception and resorts to no subterfuge to induce people to subscribe; but on the contrary, prefers to stand on its own merits as the people's newspaper, with a promise only to do its utmost to give its patrons the full value of their money—a promise which it has endeavored to faithfully keep in the past.

12. In conclusion, if a Latter-day Saint can afford to subscribe for only one newspaper, that paper should be the DESERET NEWS, and if more than one, the NEWS should invariably be the first.

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