

EDITORIALS.

A MOST EXCELLENT ARTICLE.

By courtesy of ex-Governor Murray, who kindly furnished us with a copy of the Louisville (Ky.) Democrat of June 11th, we are enabled to present an excellent article from that paper. It appears under the head of "Our Dealings with Mormons." Owing to its soundness, combined with perspicuity, we take pleasure in reproducing it here:

"Without doubt and question polygamy is an institution foreign to the social, political, and religious life of this country. It is something, therefore, not to be cherished by law, but to be restrained to certain limitation until it passes out of existence by the operation of natural causes, growing out of our civilization. Meanwhile arbitrary and oppressive legislation and administration is not only contrary to the spirit of the Federal Constitution, but impolitic and harmful. At this time there are imprisoned at Salt Lake City forty-nine Mormons, all of them but four for having plural wives prior to the passage of the Edmunds law. They are offered their liberty on promise to obey this law in the future, and refuse to accept the terms, because it requires them to repudiate all wives but the first one, and proclaim their children illegitimate. They are nearly all old men, most of them having been married to several women over a period of thirty years.

Now it is evident that the law, as enforced, is cruel and unjust to these men, women, and children. It has a *post facto* operation, requiring a repudiation of the closest and most important social obligations, bound by religious forms of ceremony and social and domestic life, over a long term of years. This is not prudent, and it is not correct government. To commit the American States and peoples to such acts of oppression is an outrage on our own life and profession before the whole world.

It is enough to forbid polygamous marriages from the date of the law itself, and punish violations of it, and not conduct and relations established before the law came into existence. To propose to release men from prison on the condition that they repudiate marital relations long established, and children born thereunder, is a species of refined rascality not creditable to an enlightened people. When an outside force comes into the social life of a community and undertakes to dictate and control social affairs, it should, at least, be civil enough to confine itself to the present and future, and not try to annul and disestablish the past. It is enough force to say there shall be no more polygamous marriages and punish violators of that decree.

Put yourself, reader, in the place of the men in prison, or of the women torn from them, or the children set adrift. The wrong or the right of polygamy cuts no figure as to the heartache of the broken families and the hardships thus inflicted by your law. Take note of the moral endurance of the men who refuse to walk out of prison on the guilt of perjury to those women and children. Instead of putting forward the stock arguments of defense of the Federal Congress in this matter, your Congress, not theirs, study the parable of the tares. The world is the field in which the good seed was sown, and the tares were scattered by the enemy. The Son of Man would not let his (earthly) servants gather the tares lest they should root up also the wheat, but "in the end of the world He will send His angels to gather the tares," "and them which do iniquity," etc. "Who hath ears to hear let him hear."

From the standpoint of reason, justice, wholesome and humane government the foregoing is above the reach of consistent challenge, and does credit to the head and heart of the writer. It is in accord with the judgment of many others who have not the courage, however, to take a stand for an oppressed and inhumanly-treated people in the face of a ferocious popular prejudice. The editor of the Democrat, Mr. W. H. Munnell, is an unwavering advocate of pure democracy.

OF INTEREST TO TAXPAYERS.

We are of the opinion that before our "Gentile" friends get through with special legislation against the "Mormons," they will be pretty sick of their support of, or tacit acquiescence in the schemes of the conspirators, who have done more to damage Utah than would be effected by a financial panic. If the Tucker-Edmunds bill becomes a law and the control of the local offices passes out of "Mormon" hands, how many will be left for the "Gentiles" to vote for? They will nearly all become appointive, and the management of local financial and other affairs will be in the hands of persons not responsible to the people, either "Mormon" or "Gentile." We are as sure as we can be of that which is yet future, that the increased financial burden, which will be the consequence of delinquencies and debts, and jobs and high taxes, will cause many a sigh for the days of the simple "Mormon" regime with its light

taxes and honest administration of public affairs.

And if the howl that the local agitators have set up about "Mormon disloyalty," in not appropriating money to pay an alleged debt to the Government which is not legally due, results in the passage of the Cullom bill, recently introduced in the Senate, will not our "Gentile" friends, who have any stake in the country, bless (?) the impetuous adventurers who have caused them to be saddled with a debt of about \$300,000, to be paid in taxes levied and collected by, to them, irresponsible parties, within a period not to exceed four years? This will be in addition to the regular taxes and those that will become heavier each year, as sure as anti-"Mormon" schemers levy and control the territorial revenue.

The plottings of the villains who have been sustained by the donation or silent consent of respectable "Gentiles" in Utah, have succeeded in getting a great deal more than their projects anticipated in the way of proposed legislation. And their hopes have been founded upon the prejudices that are so easily excited on the "Mormon" question. They knew that congressmen will vote for extreme measures against the "Mormons," not because they consider them just, wise or even expedient, but for fear that if they vote against them they will be accused of being favorable to "Mormonism," either for money or a leaning to "Mormon" principles.

But this same prejudice and cowardice are as likely to prevail in the passage of a stupid bill like Cullom's, which the Gentiles here do not want, as any measure that is like what they do want. And thus those who planned or supported or silently acquiesced in plots to oppress the "Mormons" will be likely to get something that will make them squeal before they get through, a great deal louder than the objects of scheming malevolence.

We have said and proved on several occasions that the alleged debt due to the Government, which the late Governor seemed so anxious to have imposed upon this Territory, was not justly or legally owing by our citizens. The following, which is taken from a document on the necessity of a special session of the Utah Legislature, ably prepared by Hon. Joseph A. West while in Washington, elucidates the matter of this alleged indebtedness so clearly and in such detail that we give place to it here, in preference to remarks of our own, for the edification of all who pay taxes and therefore have a real interest in the question:

On the 23rd of June, 1874, Congress passed what is known as the Poland bill, doing away with certain territorial officers having in charge the criminal prosecutions arising under territorial laws, and transferring this business and authority to the officers of the general government. This law also provided that the expenses of all those prosecutions should be chargeable to the Territory, and that the officers who thus took the places of those formerly elected by the people should be paid according to the United States fee bill, which in many instances allows double the compensation allowed under the fee bill of the Territory. In addition to the increase of expenditure incident to this change, the appropriation for court expenses in territorial cases, which do not include the cost of polygamy or other prosecution under the laws of Congress, have been nearly quadrupled in the last ten years, and yet the United States officials in Utah have swollen the charges against the general government enormously. Examine the following statements showing first, the amounts annually appropriated by the Territorial Legislature, and second, the amounts paid by the U. S. which, it is claimed, are still properly chargeable against the Territory.

Appropriations made by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah for the payment of jurors, witnesses, and clerks of the District Courts of said Territory, in territorial criminal cases:

Session of 1876, total appropriation for 1876 and 1877.....	\$19,111.75
Session of 1878, total appropriation for 1878 and 1879.....	12,000.00
Session of 1880, total appropriation for 1880 and 1881.....	35,000.00
Session of 1882, total appropriation for 1882 and 1883.....	36,637.75
Session of 1884, total appropriation for 1884 and 1885.....	55,549.32
Session of 1886, total appropriation for 1886 and 1887.....	70,856.74
	\$229,155.56

In addition to this, the courts of Utah have been receiving during this time from the general government the following sums annually, which have been charged to the Territory and constitute the alleged territorial indebtedness to the general government above referred to.

For expenses of Territorial Courts in Utah, including fees of attorneys, commissioners, marshals, clerks of courts in territorial criminal cases and expenses of penitentiary:

Fiscal Years.	
1875.....	\$15,636.28
1875 and 1876.....	20,068.28
1877.....	21,765.95
1878.....	28,297.08
1878 and prior years.....	1,037.98
1879.....	27,496.47
1879 and prior years.....	13.00
1880.....	23,877.76
1880 and prior years.....	13.00
1881.....	28,854.90
1881 and prior years.....	6.44
1882.....	23,239.80
1882 and prior years.....	34.50
1883.....	28,830.25

1884.....	31,736.98
1885.....	26,000.00
Total.....	\$281,776.27

An investigation of these accounts made by me since my arrival here has developed the following illegal charges which I feel confident are but a few of the many, that they contain. The entire expenses of the penitentiary are charged to Utah, when only the amount of the cost of keeping offenders against the laws of the Territory ought to be so charged. As evidence of this I quote sections 1882 to 1895 inclusive, Revised Statutes, as follows:

Sec. 1892. Any penitentiary which has been or may hereafter be, erected by the United States in an organized Territory shall, when the same is ready for the reception of convicts, be placed under the care and control of the Marshal of the United States for the Territory or district in which such penitentiary is situated, except as otherwise provided in the case of the penitentiaries in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado.

Sec. 1893. The Attorney General of the United States shall prescribe all needful rules and regulations for the government of such penitentiary, and the Marshal having charge thereof shall cause them to be duly and faithfully executed and obeyed, and the reasonable compensation of the Marshal and of his deputies for their services under such regulations shall be fixed by the Attorney General.

Sec. 1894. The compensation, as well as the expense incident to the sustenance and employment of offenders against the laws of the United States, who have been, or may hereafter be, sentenced to imprisonment in such penitentiary, shall be chargeable on, and payable out of, the fund for defraying the expenses of suits in which the United States are concerned, and of prosecution for offenses committed against the United States; but nothing herein shall be construed to increase the maximum compensation now allowed by law to these officers.

Sec. 1895. Any person convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction in a Territory, for a violation of the laws thereof, and sentenced to imprisonment, may, at the cost of such Territory, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by such rules and regulations, be received, subsisted and employed in such penitentiary during the term of his imprisonment, in the same manner as if he had been convicted of an offense against the laws of the United States.

The United States District Attorney by law should receive only \$3,500 a year, both for United States and Territorial business, but he has received a compensation of \$6,000 per annum, and his assistants all that they could make out of territorial prosecutions which for the last quarter of 1885, the only returns that I have been able to examine, amount to \$1,293 or a ratio of \$5,180 per annum. These last charges have been entered against the Territory.

That there is no legal justification for such enormous charges is plainly evident from the following provision of the Poland law to be found on page 100 Sec. V. of supplement, to the Revised Statutes 1874-1881. The act of the Congress of the United States entitled "an act to regulate the fees and costs to be allowed clerks, marshals, and attorneys of the Circuit and District Courts of the United States, and for other purposes approved February 26, 1855, is extended over and shall apply to the fees of like officers in the Territory of Utah."

"But the District Attorney shall not by fees and salary together receive more than thirty-five hundred dollars per year, and all fees or money received by him above said amount shall be paid into the treasury of the United States."

The clerks of the District and Supreme Courts of the Territory have been receiving what we suppose to be full compensation from the Territory for all service rendered in territorial cases, but these accounts exhibit additional payments made to them by the general government for such services.

It is therefore impossible to determine how much, if any, of this alleged indebtedness the Territory of Utah should justly pay, for the accounts are not subject to our inspection, the officers are not amenable to us, they are not under bonds to the people, and they have no means of knowing whether the statements rendered by them are correct, or whether the services for which those charges have been made have been actually and fully performed.

P. S.—Since writing the above I have learned that in addition to the amounts contained in the first list above, the Utah Legislature has appropriated for court expenses in Territorial criminal cases, \$38,056.50, making a total appropriation for this purpose since the passage of the Poland bill, of \$257,213.06.

In addition to what is set forth in the foregoing, the right of Congress to legislate money out of the treasury of a Territory is involved in this matter. We deny that any such authority exists in Congress, or in any other body except the Legislature of the Territory. The money is the property of the people of the Territory. It does not belong to the nation and therefore the national Legislature has no control of it. The Poland bill was tanty to begin with. It attempted by Act of Congress to appropriate money out of the treasury of an organized community possessing full authority over its own financial affairs. No attention has been paid to it because it

M. E. MISSION CONFERENCE.

The sessions of this religious gathering, lasting four days, concluded on Tuesday. The last sitting was taken up principally in hearing and discussing committee reports. As a matter of course one was presented upon the main local topic. The minutes, which have been regularly published by the Salt Lake Tribune, fail to state whether the report was adopted, but there is nothing to the contrary, and consequently it is to be presumed that it expresses the sentiment of the majority, at least, of those who participated in the proceedings of the Conference. It evidently did not, however, meet with unanimous favor, as it "elicited warm discussion and some severe comments." Had the assemblage been composed of men imbued with the true Christian spirit such an intemperate and bigoted paper would either never have been introduced or would have been quashed instantly. Coming as it does from the religious wing of the anti-"Mormon" crusade, we give it space:

"We have again been brought to a crisis in the affairs of this Territory, which demands that the Methodist Church give voice to its sentiments in no uncertain sound. We rejoice in the evident signs of encouragement that the government is at last awakening to a consciousness of the deplorable condition of affairs existing here, and is putting forth strenuous efforts toward suppressing the crimes perpetrated under the guise of religion.

We heartily approve the policy begun and carried out by his Excellency, Ex-Governor Murray. We condemn the neglect of the recent legislature to place this Territory in harmony with the enactments of Congress.

We recommend the bill now before Congress known as the Edmunds-Tucker bill, as comprehending the true character of the Utah problem in a way that was never before here done, and as calculated in its provisions to effect a radical and desirable change in the administration of the Territory. The strict enforcement of the Edmunds law and the promise of more stringent legislation is evidently creating dissensions in the Mormon ranks, and is opening the way to a more successful evangelization of the people than has hitherto been enjoyed, and therefore demands the broadest charity and the most active efforts on the part of Christian churches.

The flood of infidelity which threatens to sweep over this Territory, demands the most unequivocal and direct preaching of the word of God."

The crusade against the "Mormons" is religious as well as political, and the Methodists have, greatly to their discredit, done their share to bring about the crisis ever which they seem to rejoice with great gladness. The report indicates exuberance of pleasure over the Edmunds-Tucker or Tucker-Edmunds legislative enormity. It is expected to be the crusher that will extinguish "Mormonism," because it robs its adherents of the most common rights of men. It is the monster that is expected to lay the "Mormons" on their backs and pinion them while sectarians hold their noses and pour down their helpless throats copious solutions of Methodism. It is expected to "open the way to a more successful evangelization of the people than has hitherto been enjoyed." That declaration makes an unwitting admission of the puerility of Methodism when compared with the system which engages the hate of its adherents. In order to cope with "Mormonism," the strong arms of politics and oppressive legislation have to be enlisted.

The talk about the prospective flood of infidelity is rich. If a disbelief in all religious pretensions is meant by infidelity, we know of no cause so prolific of it throughout the world as the loud professions of religionists with their mouths, claiming to be followers of the Lamb, while in their actions they manifest that they are led by the spirit of the arch enemy of mankind.

Fancy professed followers of the meek and lowly Jesus rejoicing over measures which cast men into prison because of their religion, and cause untold sorrow among tender women and innocent children. Imagine true disciples of the Savior gloating over the prospect of a people being oppressed, robbed and destroyed. The spectacle presented by these "despisers of them that are good" is disgusting to a very eminent degree.

The members of the religious wing of the religio-political crusade against the "Mormons" who favored Tuesday's report, are but following in the line of those who, at a similar gathering at Ogden a few years ago, said "Mormonism" "should not be reasoned with but should be stamped out."

Why are these fanatical bigots not told to attend to their own business instead of dabbling in political questions, and seeking to influence the State against an unpopular religion? Is it not the anti-"Mormon" theory that there should be a separation of church and State? We beg pardon—these meddlers belong to a popular church. They are not "Mormons."

Had these religious people been actuated by the spirit of the Master they profess to serve instead of by that of him whom they really follow, their course would be the antipodes of what

it is. If they were genuine Christians and had an idea that the "Mormons" were in error or even in sinfulness, there bosoms would be softened with the divine influence of sympathy, instead of being racked with the satanic poison of gratified hate. They would naturally say: "Here are a people who are treading the path of error. They are receiving the fiery darts of malignity from every worldly source. Coercion is being applied to them. Force is not an element that leads to enlightenment. Conversion from error to truth is a spiritual and mental operation. The application of coercion can never change men's religious or other belief. It may make them hypocrites, causing an outward appearance of change, by the influence of fear. Thus, by such methods, their condition is rendered worse than before and they become tenfold more the children of hell than previously. We will use persuasion, longsuffering, and appeal to their better judgment. We will not call for and urge on their track the political dogs that they may be worried by those hungry hounds, for that would destroy what little influence we might have with the people, because they would properly look upon us as their enemies. We will not join in the hue and cry against them, but rather seek to let light into their minds and remember that they are God's creatures and we are no more."

Such a line of conduct would be consistent with what is professed by these pretentious persons, and would have entitled them to some degree of respect. As it is, no matter if they even had superior religious truth to offer, which is not the case, they go outside of their pretended calling and array themselves with the rabble, among the bitter foes of the people they have come among ostensibly to offer "glad tidings of great joy," and publish "peace."

The jubilation over the anticipated segregation and general extermination of a vital religious system is, to say the least, premature. Such hopes have been indulged in before. Thus far they have not been realized. Who is able to give an assurance that the consummation so "devoutly wished" by those whose "crafts are in danger" from its existence is not as distant as it ever was?

Toward the close of the Conference a vote of thanks to the Salt Lake Tribune was proposed. In speaking to it, Bishop Warren is reported as having said:

"I heartily approve of this vote of thanks to this able paper. So far as I know it has always been on the side of good government, pure morals and true loyalty with most signal ability."

The paper to which this overdose of sweetened stuff was thrown has advocated the use of the gambling hell, the dram shop and house of prostitution as a means of drawing young "Mormons" away from the restraints of their religion. If that is the side of pure morals according to the ideas of Bishop Warren, we are "sorry" for him, "very sorry." It is on a par with the side of "good government," and "loyalty," championed by the same sheet. It advocates the extinction of both in this Territory. For shame! Bishop, that you should so glaringly and unblushingly seek for the applause of men, and risk receiving the displeasure of God.

THE SCANDINAVIAN ELEMENT.

In commenting on the character of "Mormon" converts, many slurs are thrown out concerning the relative number of Scandinavians. The local journalistic maligner that never loses an opportunity to defame and belittle everything "Mormon," talks with frequent scorn about the Scandinavian element, as though the fact of the presence of such people was sufficient to show the degraded character of Utah's population. This all comes of ignorance mingled with prejudice and egotism. The idea that everything American must be superior to anything foreign seems to be taken for granted, and the very name of Scandinavian to mean something inferior and to be ridiculed.

We think that neither the people of Utah in particular nor of the United States in general, have any cause for such invidious remarks as are often indulged in concerning a thrifty, sober and productive people, who readily assimilate to American life and institutions, and make a strong and sturdy addition to the race that boasts in the term "native-born." The real native is the Indian. The white stock is a composite piece of human architecture, a product of many grafts on the human tree. And the nervous and slender so-called "native" American, is greatly improved in his generations by a Scandinavian or German cross.

The Swede, the Dane and the Norwegian is each seen best to advantage in his own country. And no one who has traveled in those regions and noted the progress that has been made there under many natural disadvantages, will join in the contemptuous remarks which are often made in regard to Scandinavians; that is, if he has any sense of justice and propriety. The Scandinavians are as a rule law-abiding, peaceful, industrious, saving and steady. They are courteous, good-natured, gentle and hospitable. They