

THE OVERLAND MONTHLY-SALT
LAKE CITY.

The September number of the *Overland Monthly*, published at San Francisco, contains an able article on "Salt Lake City," from the pen of a writer who deals with the subject in a liberal and republican spirit, and who evidently has had uncommon opportunities of knowing whereof he writes. There are some points in his article from which we dissent. It could scarcely be otherwise under the circumstances. Men who are not Latter-day Saints, though ever so favorably impressed with the character of the people and their religious views, seldom write upon their peculiar tenets in complete accord with those who entertain them. But this does not prevent us from appreciating any the less the honesty of their motives or the kindness of their treatment of a people and subject, whom it is so popular to ridicule, misrepresent and condemn.

In closing his article he thus speaks of the people of Utah Territory:

"The public, while none the less vigorous in its convictions, is not so ready to begin to fight against them the honor which is due to their persistent energy, industry, economy, temperance, and order. The people of the Pacific Coast, especially of our own mining districts, have always been ready in their admissions of the vast national value of the Utah agricultural settlements. A few years ago, this cheap source of supply to the miners of the necessities of life has enabled them early to develop large districts, and add vastly to the commonwealth. It is something for which we may at last justly congratulate ourselves that during the last session of Congress, when a bill was pending relative to the forcible suppression of the Mormon marriage system—a bill so cruel, unjust, and vindictive in its provisions that it should condemn its authors to endless infamy—every member of the Pacific Coast delegation, to whom alone the subject was in any wise familiar, was found in the ranks of the opposition. We may hope that the day for an armed crusade against any form of religious belief has forever passed. Cutting throats, however valuable an exercise for the discipline of an army, can scarcely be deemed a necessary work."

"But abuse persecutions and wars have ever in our backward view in the diatribe of the hands which mark the onward progress of the race. Mormon polygamy, its evils and its cure, are questions in morals outside the field of political action. It is the department of the missionary rather than of the jurist, statesman, or soldier. Our clergy, and not our Congressmen, should take this evil in hand. Already several eminent divines have taken this position, and warned us that this is not the age when Catholics can broil Protestants, Protestants can broil Catholics, or Presbyterians bang Quakers for the glory of God. The faith of the forty million American Christians is not endangered by the presence among them of one hundred thousand people heretical upon the marriage question. And although the transfer of this great debate from Congress to the pulpits of the land may be a royal road to the capture of a considerable number of obscure politicians, otherwise unknown, and thus perchance still forever the plash and bubble of these several mountains of dish-water, yet even then we have a right to believe that the Republic and Salt Lake City shall live."

Such sentiments find no response in the breasts of the "happy family" which reside in this city. They want no transfer of the question from the floors of Congress to the pulpits. That would spoil their game, and deprive them of the principal amusement which they have in this country. As it is at present, they illustrate the truth of Dr. Watts' sentiment:

"Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do."

But deprive them even of this privilege, in addition to having nothing of use to do, and what would become of the poor creatures? We know of no men who have less legitimate business to do than some men who are sent to this Territory at Government expense; but they contrive, by hook or by crook, to create business of some kind, if it is nothing more than making mischief, destroying wise men's labors, unsettling everything they can and making general nuisances of themselves. Certainly such persons want to transfer of the "Mormon question" from Congress to the preachers.

THE FARMERS IN UTAH.

"It is not too much to say that had it not been for the religious fanaticism, which assembled and banded together the Mormon people in this locality, the country would have remained a desert for generations. Even since the advent of the Railroad, and the consequent opening of the country, there is not so far as we are aware, a single Gentile farmer in the Territory."

We take this extract from the article on Salt Lake City in the *Overland Monthly*, to which we make reference in another column. The statement respecting the cultivation of the ground we suppose is indisputable. If there is a single "Gentile" farmer in this Territory, we do not know it, but even if there are any, they are so few as to be unnoticed and unknown. We passed through Corinne a short time since. It occupies a site which, for natural advantages, compares favorably with many beautiful places in the Territory; but a more shiftless, miserable looking place than it presented we have rarely seen. The policy which has actuated the original settlers of this Territory, and that which the crowd of adventurers have followed who have come here for the purpose, if possible, of making money out of their labors and trade, could not receive a much better illustration than is afforded by the appearance of that place and the other

towns of Utah Territory. We saw no cedars, no trees, no water-courses, no evidences of cultivation, nothing, in fact, to indicate that men had settled here to make themselves homes or to produce what they consumed; but we saw trading houses, drinking saloons and the other *et ceteras* of a railroad town, a disagreeable, uninviting place, that might, with ordinary enterprise, be built in a few days, and that might disappear in an equally brief period. It looked like a town that had been built by men who calculated to live, not by their own hard work, but by the hard work of their neighbors—a town such as we imagine would suit the "ring" to reside at, where litigation, drinking, gambling and hiring preachers might flourish.

If the schemers who meddle so much with the affairs of the Territory of Utah would turn their attention to farming, they would be much better men, less troublesome neighbors, and be in every way better citizens. Suppose, instead of interfering so much with the "Mormons," who certainly attend to their own business, the men who find so much fault commence the business of farming, and try to cultivate an acre or two, or more, of ground; the pursuit will have a good effect upon them. One of the best Federal officers we ever had in this Territory was a gentleman who brought his family here, secured himself a piece of land and turned his leisure time to account in cultivating his garden. He won golden opinions from the people, all of whom admire industry; he gave satisfaction, we believe, to the government; he kept out of mischief and he raised good fruit, which tasted doubly sweet to himself and family, because he had produced it himself, and which also enhanced its value in the eyes of his friends, "Mormons" and non-Mormons, whom he invited to partake of it with him. We think the pursuit of agriculture would have a good effect upon the temper, judgment and morals of many who are now here; and if they will take our advice, they will adopt it. We are certain that if they will try it, they will feel so much better they will thank us, before their terms of office expire, for suggesting it.

A LATE number of the *Citizen and Round Table*, (New York), has an editorial article headed *De Mortuis*, in which the practice of writing puffing obituary notices is admirably dealt with. It says: "If we are to judge by the tone in which the press and pulpit are accustomed to speak of the dead, we have a greater assortment of saints in the United States than any other country can boast. No sooner does a noted man—whether he be a politician, a journalist, or a private citizen—die, than we hear on all sides nothing but his praises."

It proceeds to cite the case of two men, who for some years have been connected with New York City journalism, who have suddenly died. One was a man, it says, who, during his whole career, had been distinguished chiefly by his wilful abuse of the talents which had been given him. His excellent father had died broken-hearted because of his son's misconduct; his wife had been forced to apply to the law for a release from his companionship; he earned the distinction of having brought to notice and popularized a form of drunkenness previously all but unknown in this country. As an author, his two most successful books were devoted to the details of his experience as an eater of hashish and a smoker of opium. As a journalist, his statements were notoriously untrustworthy. His character and habits were perfectly well known to nine-tenths of the community, and the news of his death had long been anticipated by those who knew the inroads that hashish, opium and brandy had made upon his constitution.

Yet, it adds, if we are to put our faith in obituary notices, this man who made wilful shipwreck of his life, deserved not a whit less praise than the other man who died, who was truthful, honorable and upright.

This man who, we are told, broke his father's heart, whose wife was forced to get divorced from him who popularized opium eating and smoking, was Fitz Hugh Ludlow, whose visit to this country, some years ago, will be remembered by some of our citizens, and whose essay on "Mormonism" in one of his works is such as might be expected from a man of his morals. Our readers' experience will enable them to imagine, if they have not read, the style in which a man of his habits would treat upon such a subject as "Mormonism." Whenever we see men as savage upon the practices of the "Mormons" as this man was, and as some others in this city are, we always conclude that if their private lives were known they would be found to be grossly immoral. Our experience sustains us in having this opinion.

A GERMAN writer in the *Cologne Gazette* gives his opinion on the French soldiers, the result of his observations in the Crimea, Italy and in the present war. He says: "It may sound rash, but he asserts that the French soldier, such as he is, will gain no victory over troops like the Germans, either to-day or to-morrow, still less, for the degeneration will but increase, a few years hence

The role of France is played out; it will remain quiet by the Rhine. The country, which yearly, through the artificiality of its manner of life, its dissipation and its obstinate destruction of human life, is depopulated, and whose people are physically declining; that country, after this fearful and bloody lesson, will have to give up any serious thought of conquest in Germany. The French soldier through his mode of life has lost all military virtues, his discipline is relaxed and his ambition quelled."

We find another statement respecting the peculiarly favorable temperature which has existed, since the breaking out of the Franco-Prussian war, in the West of Europe, for the rapid healing of wounds. The German wounded heal rapidly; but the French do not, the surgeons say because, in the first place, venereal diseases prevail among them, and they are more restless than the Germans.

(SPECIAL TO THE DESERT NEWS.)

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AFTERNOON DISPATCHES.

Proclamation of President Grant with regard to Fenians and all such!

NEW YORK.

War assuming a more savage character—England quietly preparing for war—Formidable sea coast defenses.

NEW YORK.—A *Times* cable, dated London 13th, says the journals, with one accord, this morning, predict calamities to Germany if she perseveres in insisting on the cession of Alsace and Lorraine and continuing the war.

The savage character the war is assuming, in the burning of villages and the shooting of scores of peasants for defending their homes, is causing a violent revolution in the feeling here. The proclamation adjourning the election of members for the Constitutional Assembly was a Bismarckian canard; Gambetta brought no decision with him on the subject and no decision was arrived at at Tours. The latter city is becoming the rendezvous for Republicans from all parts of the world. A Fenian movement in that direction is causing uneasiness to the government there.

The policy of the European Cabinets, to localize the war is likely to produce just the opposite effect. The English apprehend a general European convulsion, and the Prussians are incurring general indignation for provoking the danger. England is quietly preparing for the storm, and while refusing to augment the military expenses, the government is putting her sea coast defenses in an impregnable condition.

I see by the journals that the results of the experiments just made on improvements in the torpedo system, if they are as stated, no hostile fleet can ever touch English shore. Besides this fresh element of invulnerability, I learn from an English officer, actively engaged in the work, that she is spending large sums in strengthening her sea coast defenses. The south east coast is especially occupying her attention. The entrance to the Thames is being fortified in a manner only calculated to repel an invasion.

NEW YORK, 13.—A race between the yachts *Cambria* and *Sappho*, for a cup, valued at fifty guineas, took place to-day. The course was from a light ship twenty miles to windward and back. The vessels started at half past eleven and reached the light ship, the *Sappho* at 2.47 p. m., and the *Cambria* at 2.49 p. m. On the home stretch, the breeze freshened considerably, and the *Sappho* reached her starting point at 7 o'clock and the *Cambria* about three minutes later. The *Don Juan* was actively engaged in the work, that she is spending large sums in strengthening her sea coast defenses. The south east coast is especially occupying her attention. The entrance to the Thames is being fortified in a manner only calculated to repel an invasion.

The *World's* London cable states that Bismarck has received representations from many quarters of Germany that the people are anxious for peace. Bismarck has authorized the Prussian Minister at Brussels to give the great powers to understand that Germany is willing to propose a settlement on the basis of the disarmament of the frontier provinces, the ratification of the frontier line of Rhemish Provinces, and a small money indemnification.

The *World's* despatch states that Bismarck returned to Versailles with a reply to Bismarck's proposition to allow elections, from Favre and other ministers of the Republic, that France would devote herself to driving out the invaders and then would attend to domestic affairs. Bismarck reports Paris tranquil, and confident of success. Provisions are ample, the air from the forts inflicts heavy losses upon the Germans and sickness prevails at Versailles.

A *World's* special at O-tend reports that the French won the advantage in the fight about Metz, and estimates the German losses at seven thousand killed and wounded, besides great numbers of prisoners. There are rumors from Namun of an intended retreat of the German forces at Metz.

New Haven and Liverpool, which for so many years have been neglected, will be put in a state of complete defense.

Our correspondent at Rouen writes that the French seaport towns are resisting all exportations of cattle and provisions to England, and the proceeding, violent as it is, is dictated by prudence.

OHIO.

CINCINNATI.—A special to the *Gazette* claims that Wilson, a republican, has been elected to Congress in the fourth Indiana district by 26 votes. In the fourth Ohio district McKining a democrat has been elected by 121 majority.

INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS, 13.—The election of the Democratic ticket is conceded by all parties. In thirty-eight counties the Republican ticket is officially declared to have been elected by a majority of twenty-six majority. Of the seven counties yet to hear from, five gave a Democratic majority at the State election of 1868, of 4,158. The Demo-

crats have a majority of eight in the House of Representatives; the Senate is a tie. Gen. Shenck's majority in the ninth district will not exceed two hundred. Cornu's (Republican) majority in the fifth district is 378. The result in the fourth district is still doubtful.

WASHINGTON.

Proclamation of President Grant.

WASHINGTON.—By the President of the United States, a proclamation: Whereas divers evil disposed persons have, at sundry times, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, begun, or set on foot, or provided, or presented the means for military expeditions or enterprises to be carried out, thence against the territories or dominions of powers with whom the United States are at peace; by organizing bodies pretending to have powers of government over portions of the territories or dominions of the powers with whom the United States are at peace; or by being or assuming to be members of such bodies, by levying or collecting money for the purpose of using the same in carrying on military enterprises against such territory or dominions, by uniting and organizing armed forces to be used amongst such powers; and by fitting out and equipping and arming vessels to transport such organized armed forces to be employed in hostilities against such powers. And whereas, it is alleged, and there is reason to apprehend that such evil disposed persons here, at sundry times, within the territory and jurisdiction of the United States, violate the laws thereof, by accepting and delivering commissions to serve by land or by sea, against powers with whom the United States are at peace; by enlisting themselves or other persons to carry on war against such powers; by fitting out and arming vessels, with intent that the same shall be employed to cruise or commit hostilities against such powers, or by delivering commissions within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, for such vessels, to the intent that they might be employed as aforesaid. And whereas such acts are in violation of the cause of the United States, in such cases made and provided; and are done in disregard of the duties and obligations of all persons residing in or being within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, and are condemned by all law-abiding citizens; now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States of America, do hereby declare that all persons found within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States committing any of the aforesaid violations of law and order; or any similar violation of the sovereignty of the United States, for which punishment is provided by law, will be vigorously prosecuted therefor, and upon conviction or sentence to punishment, will not be entitled to expect or receive the clemency of the Executive to save them from the consequences of their guilt. And I enjoin upon all officers of the government civil, military or naval, to use all the efforts in their power to arrest, for trial and punishment, every such offender against the law providing for the performance of our sacred obligations to friendly powers. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my signature, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, the twelfth day of October, and the year of our Lord 1870, and of the United States of America, the ninety-fifth.

Signed, U. S. GRANT,
President.
HAMILTON FISK,
Secretary of State.

FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

Carrier pigeon service to be started in Paris—Successful sorties by Bazaine.

TOURS, 13.—No official news has been received from Orleans or Chateau Dun, but it is reported that the Prussians have over sixty thousand troops now at the former place. They are also in great force at Chateau Dun, where a strong corps of the French army has congregated. The general expectation has been that a battle would take place there to-day.

A dispatch from St. Quentin states that the energetic defense made by the population, created great enthusiasm there. Over fifty thousand persons assisted in the liberation of the national guards killed in the engagement.

The government has issued decrees for the purpose of stimulating all ranks to enter the army and to encourage young talent, making appointments and advancements, according to the talent displayed or the service rendered. The former rules stopped such advancements, but now military grades may be conferred upon persons not belonging to the regular army. The grades are to cease at the end of the war, except in cases of unusual merit and of great services rendered. It is desired that the workmen in the government armories and arsenals are not to be forced into military service; they must, however, form companies and drill.

When the Prussians shelled Orleans, Bishop Dupanloup and the Mayor of Orleans sought the Prussian commanders and requested a cessation of the shelling as the town was open. The attack was successful, and at seven in the evening the Prussians entered Orleans and established a battery commanding the road.

Cable dispatches from Tours says, it seems the purpose of the Prussians is to occupy Orleans for some time. A large force of Prussians re-entered Ploisiers and treated the inhabitants brutally, yesterday; they then marched to Saint-Lo, twelve kilometers beyond Orleans, towards Blois.

A decree of the government at Tours authorizes the Prefect at Fontainebleau to take all possible measures to save objects of art and of value at the palace. Lists of articles, hidden or removed, are to be kept.

A balloon reached Lille to-day from Paris, with despatches and letters. By this balloon was sent a person to establish the system of carrier pigeon service between this city and Paris, by which daily communication can be sustained between the government authorities in these places. The prefect of Yonne announces the entrance at Gisors of a force of 8000 Prussians with artillery, who are commanded by Prince Albert. They have called and are awaiting the arrival of more troops, with which they will march upon Rouen. The prefect of Colmar announ-

ces that the siege of New Brische continues. The town is completely surrounded by heavy detachments of Prussians, who are making enormous requisitions of supplies for their commissariat upon the surrounding country.

The Greek Charge de Affairs has arrived at Tours from Paris, having obtained permission to cross the Prussian lines. It is reported that two delegates have arrived from the Paris government, with instructions for Gambetta. The news received shows that Bazaine's soldiers at Metz, on the seventh, eighth and tenth instant were exceedingly successful. Several Prussian regiments were cut to pieces and a large amount of provisions and munitions were captured. The Prussians were forced to change their position for fear of being cut apart.

A late message from Paris has the following comprehensive statement, for workmen: Coal and metals, food and good will are abundant here.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Paris to be reduced by a long siege—Paris well supplied with meat.

LONDON, 13.—The *World's* Versailles correspondent states that Bismarck caused an intimation to be conveyed to the legation of St. Petersburg and Vienna that an intervention to secure peace would be acceptable now to Prussia. The conclusion was reached by the Council of War yesterday that Paris cannot be successfully attacked, but must be reduced by a siege of many months duration. The advance of the French army of Lyons upon Metz has been resumed, and rumors are current that the siege of that city has been raised.

An appeal to Bismarck has been made by Prussia, by a proposition through Prince Orléans, for the mediation by congress of the great powers at Brussels.

The Prussian journals infer from the fact that the Germans are purchasing sheep that a winter campaign is certain.

The French internal ambulances have been disbanded, and those organized by the means of the French press soon will be.

Advices from French sources admit that since Tuesday evening the Prussians have held Orleans. Their artillery was placed in strong positions and drove the French beyond the line. Several houses in Orleans were destroyed by shells before the occupation of the city.

Lord St. Leonard, whose death was prematurely reported, to-day still lives.

A dispatch has been received from Gambetta, stating that he is assured that Paris is amply supplied with fresh meat. Gambetta also states that Gen. Bazaine has voluntarily given in his adhesion to the Republic.

PRUSSIA.

King William rejoices in another victory.

BERLIN 13.—The Queen received the following dispatch from King William: "Versailles, Wednesday, thousands of prisoners fell into our hands as a result of the Vaucluse victory, near Orleans. The battle lasted from two in the morning to seven in the evening, and was fought on difficult ground. The capture of Orleans followed. The loss of the French was heavy; ours small. Details of the battle are wanting."

Special Notices.

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(Signed) G. BUNE.

Ogden, September 30, 1870.

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