

EDITORIALS.

THE INTENDED WRONG TO THE LEGISLATURE.

Tax attempt made in the Senate of the United States to stop the salaries of the members and officers of the Utah Legislature, because of a report to the effect that they have been doing nothing while convened, and of the claim alleged to be held against the Territory by the Government, is very generally condemned and viewed as paltry and unjustifiable. It is surmised that the prime mover in this paltry piece of vicious spite-work, is that champion obstructionist and nullifier, Governor Eli H. Murray. It is just his style. It is a bit of bulldozing quite characteristic of his methods. It is in consonance with his course from the opening of this session of the Legislature. If the suggestion did not spring from him, and if he did not urge it upon Senator Culhoun it bears his ear-marks and smells of his branding-iron.

When the work of the Legislature now near the close of its labors is known, how shameful will the falsehood appear that the People's representatives have served their sixty days "without doing anything!" No body of legislators could have been more diligent than they. No time was lost from the commencement, in the introduction and consideration of measures needed by the Territory. Bills were acted upon early in the session so as to give no excuse to the Governor for neglecting them, as he had done in former instances, under the specious plea that they came to him too late for careful consideration. Perhaps more time than was absolutely necessary has been consumed in speech-making on some occasions to suit some folks, but that has been less indulged in than in any similar body elsewhere.

The legislators have worked hard in committee and in open session, and have done their best to conciliate the Governor and conform to his notions, crochets and carping objections, without compromising entirely the rights of their constituents and doing violence to the wishes and sentiments of the people, by whom they were elected. If they have erred on this matter, it has been in the direction of pandering to his whims and yielding to his caprices. But all their work has so far been in vain. The Governor has either sneeringly vetoed their measures, or quietly ignored the bills sent to him for his signature, and then let the idea go forth—that is said at his personal instance—that they have sat out their time and done nothing. The wilful untruth of this charge will be made fully to appear, and those who have manufactured and repeated it will be shown up in their true light before the country.

The spirit in which this movement has been made is wrong and to be despised by every fair man. It is a miserable attempt at coercion. It is an appeal to the pocket. Those who in- augurated it, judged the legislators of Utah by their own mercenary souls. They imagined that "Mormon" law-makers worked merely for pay. Pelf is the main object of the average politician and fame or notoriety comes next. Our representatives care little or nothing for either, when principle is at stake. Many if not most of them will lose financially, even if they get their full *per diem*, by serving the people in the Legislature.

We do not know one of them whose time is not worth more than four dollars a day. Their absence from business, in several instances that we could name, will entail losses that their salaries will not nearly recover. The honor of serving their constituents and the pride they take in doing anything that will tend to promote the interests of the Territory, have prompted them to neglect their own affairs and devote themselves to public duties. They will bear this robbery, if it is consummated, with the full understanding that it is a high-handed and shameful assault upon them because they are "Mormons." Only one of their number is a non-"Mormon," and he will have to suffer, if at all, for being in their company.

The pretenses for withholding their pay will not bear scrutiny for a moment. The first, as we have shown, is utterly untrue. The second is equally groundless. This Territory is not indebted one cent to the General Government, and if it were owing as many millions as it is claimed it owes dollars, this Legislature is not and cannot be held responsible for a dime of the debt. As a threat and an inducement to procure the enactment of such measures as will suit their enemies, it is a scheme of the basest and most reprehensible character that the strongest language would fail to fitly denounce.

Its object will not be achieved, its projectors will gain nothing by the imposition, if it is perpetrated, and no one will receive any benefit from the flagrant and inexcusable wrong. But we still believe that when the matter is fully investigated and the facts are clearly explained, both the officers and members whom unprincipled tricksters are trying to deprive of their fair earnings, will receive the amount appropriated by Congress for doing the work which Congress has required them to perform.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC ASSEMBLY.

The ladies' mass meeting on Saturday, in the Theatre, was a mammoth and enthusiastic affair. The spacious building was packed in every part and many could not gain admittance. Stage, wings, parquette, circles, sitting and standing room were all occupied, and the most intense interest was manifest in the proceedings. The speeches, poetry, songs and musical exercises were all inspiring and appropriate, eliciting tremendous applause, and the only regret was that a number of ladies who could have contributed greatly to the interest and variety of the meeting, were not able, in consequence of the length of the programme, to express their views to the assembly.

We publish this evening two speeches which were omitted in our Saturday's issue. They will appear in their proper order in our corrected report, which will be published in the semi-weekly DESERET NEWS of Tuesday. Those who wish to forward copies of the paper to friends and others had better subscribe for the semi-weekly containing the full report.

We congratulate our Sisters on their success. The meeting was well conducted. The speeches were animated and vigorous, but couched in proper language, and nothing was said or done that was inopportune or out of order. We think the appointment of a committee to draft a memorial to the President and Congress of the United States was wise and timely. We hope the ladies composing the committee will get to work at once, and formulate such a document as will strongly express the views of the women of Utah on the questions which concern them more than any other persons living.

This movement of the ladies is for the maintenance of home, family, the ties of affection, the welfare of their dear ones, and the vindication of sacred principles that are worth more than any earthly thing. They are in earnest. Let who will, think they are mistaken, but let their voices be heard in tones that will convince all who hear, of their sincerity and firm convictions. And whatever may be the result, they will know they have done their duty. The rest we are all willing to leave in the hands of Him who will yet deal out even-handed justice to all.

STAND BY THE RIGHT.

The attitude of the majority of the members of the House in standing erect instead of bowing down to the dust while the Governor treads upon their necks, will be approved, we have no doubt, by the constituents of those gentlemen who by voice and vote rejected, on Saturday, any further attempt to provide for unjust juries and a vicious and partial jury system.

The Governor has vetoed the bills providing for juries which have been framed in perfect accord with the Acts of Congress relating to the subject, and providing for the payment of jurors for the ensuing two years. Let the responsibility for the absence of funds for such payment rest where it belongs—upon the head of the obstructing and nullifying Executive, who stands in the way of every just measure for the good of the people whose interests he is paid to subvert.

We are not afraid of any consequences that misrepresentation of the facts may entail. The people of Utah are accustomed to injustice. Let the plotters against their peace, with the Governor at the head of the cabal, do their worst. Neither the legislators nor the people whom they represent will become willing slaves, knocking down at his behest and surrendering what few liberties are left to them to enjoy. If they are deprived of any right or privilege to which they are entitled, let it be wrested from them by arbitrary power, so that the responsibility may rest upon their spoliators and not upon themselves for voluntarily giving their rights away.

Our legislators will be honored for standing by the right and the motto, "Do what is right, let the consequence follow," will do to tie to in all our affairs, civil and religious, now and forever.

AN EXCELLENT MEASURE.

The bill providing for a territorial board of equalization, which was killed in the Legislature, then resurrected, cured of its imperfections, rehabilitated and improved, has passed both houses, and is in the hands of the Governor. It is a good bill, and in its present shape appears without objectionable features. It may not look so to the Governor, because it provides for the officers who are to constitute the board, and everybody knows that he wishes to find places for all his friends, in some Territorial position, and doesn't like any measure that does not minister to that desire.

The bill, however, though it does not give the Governor a place on the board, is similar in regard to designating the officers as the law in relation to the Insane Asylum. The Governor signed that six years ago and as this bill contains provisions that he has stated he desired to be embodied in law, he will act

very inconsistently in withholding his signature from it. But then he never cares for that, and we await his little veto with complacency, having no fond anticipations to be blasted. The Legislature has done right in passing the bill; he will do wrong if he vetoes or neglects to sign it.

THE WEALTH OF "MORMON" LEADERS.

It is impossible for one public journal to notice all the falsehoods which are poured out in a perpetual stream about the "Mormons," their leaders and their system. Charges are made against them which have no foundation in truth, and small and trivial circumstances are so exaggerated and warped that they appear as crooked monstrosities, and are presented to the world as common "Mormon" occurrences.

Very often these accusations are couched in such abusive and foul language as to preclude reply and to render them unfit for notice in a respectable newspaper. Heaps of this vile rubbish we have to ignore, and tirades of abuse from ambitious but insignificant journalists, we have to treat as the yelps of noisy little snarling fies too contemptible even to throw a pebble at.

There are some misstatements, however, which through frequent repetition become established as accepted facts and are referred to as though they were undisputed and undisputable. These we occasionally expose, so that those who care for the truth—and who by the by are few and far between—may be undeceived and may receive correct information. We are pleased to know that our efforts in this direction are not in vain. But no matter how much or how little success we may meet with, our efforts will be continued while our powers shall last, as labors of love as well as duty.

One of the common errors about the "Mormons," originating in wilful and intended falsehood, is that their leading men have become enormously wealthy from funds obtained from the masses of the people. The statement has been no end of times repeated that, "A hundred of them possess more property than a hundred thousand of their dupes." This imagined wealth of the leaders is supposed to have been derived from the tithings of the masses.

It is known that one of the doctrines of the Church is that each member should donate to the Lord one-tenth of his annual increase, or earnings, to be used for ecclesiastical purposes. It is supposed that this is compulsory, and that the revenue accruing therefrom is something enormous. And greedy persons, judging others by themselves, have concluded that having ample opportunities the leading "Mormons" have nicely feathered their own nests out of the funds of the Church.

The whole superstructure of these vain imaginings is based on an error. The "Mormon" leaders, that is, the Presidency and Apostles, are none of them wealthy. Two of the Apostles may be called well to do. The rest are more or less in comfortable circumstances, but are not in possession of available means to any great amount. Like most of the people of this Territory who have been here for any length of time, they or their families own the homes in which they live. They have farms, or are engaged in some business enterprises which bring them a moderate income. They are men of business capacity, and if their time was not so fully occupied with the affairs of the Church, they would, in all human probability, become wealthy, as others with less ability have done who were not so engaged in Church duties.

Such property as they possess was not acquired out of the tithing or any other Church fund. What they have they have gained by their own talents and exertions. The tithing is not their property. They pay tithes as faithfully as any member of the Church. In this they set an example to their followers, who are not compelled to contribute anything. They are continually on the altar of sacrifice. Their time and substance and all their powers are devoted to the service of the Church, and they are ready at a minute's notice to go here or there, or perform any labor that is needful for its interest and the welfare of the people. They are not paid for preaching or advising. Such means as they are permitted to draw from the tithing is limited closely, and is allowed as a small remuneration for travel and services in promoting the general interests of the colonies and settlements of the Saints. If it were not for the means they have accumulated independently of Church assistance, they would not be able to sustain the families which look to them for support.

The people are indebted to them for their ceaseless exertions, not they to the people for what they have received in return. No men in the world with the abilities they have, travel as they do, study the public interest as they do, spend day and night as they frequently do for the good of their people, with so meagre a compensation. Yet no one ever heard them complain of this, but they have proven their willingness to go to the ends of the earth, without fee or earthly reward, to preach the Gospel, gather the poor and

labor for the building up of the Kingdom of God.

The voluntary tithings of the people, to which the leaders of the Church without exception contribute their part, are used for the building of temples and tabernacles, the relief of the poor, the widow and the fatherless, the payment of those who labor on Church works and the general interests of Church institutions. It is carefully watched over, its accounts are audited, its disbursement is closely scrutinized, and those who are interested can become acquainted with its manipulation.

But persons who do not belong to the Church are more curious to find out all about it than the people who contribute to its funds. Impertinent curiosity is never satisfied. Imagination swells the Church funds to gigantic proportions. Anxious anti-"Mormons" want to know how much it comes to per annum and what is done with it. That is none of their business. Their inquisitiveness will not be gratified. They may query, and wonder, and invent, and misrepresent all they please, but they will have guesswork and imagination to work upon in their misleading reports to the world. The "Mormons" do not inquire into their ecclesiastical finances, why should they try to pry into ours? We ask none of their help, we want none of their money. We do not interfere with their church management, let them keep their fingers out of our business and their lips from lying about it if they can.

It is not true that a hundred prominent men of the Church own more property than a hundred thousand of the people. There is a greater proportion of "Mormons" who occupy their own houses than of any other people in any part of the world. There are few really wealthy men among them, and they have acquired their possessions in the general way of trade and industry. Not any of them have accumulated a fortune out of the funds of the Church. The prominent Church leaders helped to make this country. They might have devoted their time and talents to the acquisition of wealth. They might have obtained vast possessions. But they labored for the public welfare, and during all the years that have elapsed since they came here, their followers know that they have sunk self-interest and sought first the good of the people. That is why so much confidence is reposed in their integrity, and why the Saints cling close to them, no matter what is said concerning them by the world.

Personally, our only regret in this connection is, that now they are treading upon old age and the frosts of many winters have whitened their locks or bared their noble heads, they have not been made financially secure and independent of monetary cares. They should be as rich in purse as they are in spirit, and he who grudges what little they possess, has a narrow soul and a niggardly and envious disposition. No money can compensate them for what they have endured in the cause of truth and salvation, at home and abroad, on the land and the sea, on the wild plains and the rugged mountains, as missionaries, pioneers, colonists, explorers and leaders in every enterprise for the good of their people. That they are comparatively poor is evidence of their disinterested integrity, that they are accused of grasping the earnings of their followers is proof of the perfidy of those who delight in maligning everything attached to the name of "Mormon."

FATE OF CANE CREEK MOBOCRATS.

From Elder Geo. J. Woodbury who has just returned from Tennessee, and who recently had a talk with Brother Condon, of Cane Creek, in that State, the scene of the massacre in which his son and stepson, as well as Elders Berry and Gibbs fell victims, we learn that seven or eight of the fourteen persons who were engaged in that awful tragedy have died during the past year and a half.

The deputy sheriff of Hickman County, who was one of them, died last year, and had become so desponded before his death that his funeral was only attended by negroes, not a single white man going near him.

Another of the mob died last year from a mysterious disease which the doctors said they had never seen anything like. He turned black all over, his eyes burst out of their sockets, his mouth turned inside out, and he suffered untold agonies before death came to his relief.

Still another got into a drunken brawl and was stabbed by one of his fellows who had also taken part in the massacre, from which he suffered long and severely and after recovering became deranged. While in this condition he talked continually about the Cane Creek tragedy, often telling where the horses were hidden and how the deed was committed. His companions in crime finally became so alarmed at his blabbing that some of them remained constantly at his bedside and prevented others from coming near to listen to him until death stilled his tongue.

Solomon Hinson, the chief instigator of the massacre, who rode about for two days previous to its occurrence inciting the people to hatred of the "Mormons" and gathering men for the contemplated raid upon Cane Creek, and who is uncle to Dave Hinson, the leader of the mob who was

killed in the fray, has been gradually wasting away ever since that time until he has become a mere skeleton, and his death from consumption at an early day is expected.

Still another of the mobocrats has gone crazy, and his wife boldly asserts that his condition is the result of his having taken part in the murder and the memory of the deed preying upon his mind. Indeed, many non-"Mormons" in that region freely express the belief that the fate of all these mentioned is nothing short of retribution for the crime of killing the "Mormons."

John Vanderver, one of the mob, who was a rather noted Baptist preacher in that region and did all he could previous to the massacre to stir up a murderous feeling, by going about the country reading the villainous "Red Hot Address" published in the Salt Lake Tribune to his congregations, was last year excommunicated from his church for rape, but was afterwards reinstated on declaring publicly to his congregation that the victim of his outrage was as much to blame as he was. Since then he has been preaching away as hard as ever, with undiminished popularity.

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

ST. LOUIS, 9.—A long statement containing all the material facts in connection with the strike on the Texas & Pacific Railroad, as made by Governor Brown, Receiver of that road, has been received here. The essential parts of the statement are as follows: Having referred to the appointment of the receiver of the road, Receiver Brown states that when about December 9th he went to Marshall on business connected with his office he was waited upon by a committee of employees of the shops and asked if the receiver would ratify the agreement made by the management in force in March, 1886. Receiver Brown replied that the property being managed under the orders of the court and the receivers being agents of that court, the sanction of the court was necessary before such action could be taken, but the receivers would deal frankly with the operatives, and the same rate of wages would be paid them as was paid by the former management, and none of the receivers thereafter received any complaint until Brown in January received a communication, purporting to come from Wm. Moon and others, signed as a committee, which again drew his attention to the agreement, a copy of which was enclosed, also a copy of the regulations they wished and would enforce. These regulations expressed a desire for harmonious relations between the Texas & Pacific Railway Company and the Knights of Labor on said road; desiring that there be no reduction in the rate of wages unless mutually agreed upon; that no discharges be made without just cause and investigation, and that all disputes be referred to an arbitration committee of six members, which should be drawn equally from the company and the Knights of Labor.

To this Brown replied substantially as to the other committee, adding further information showing that the court only had final jurisdiction in the matter. The reply concludes with the statement that the refusal of the receivers to sign the agreement referred to, to do which the power invested in them was inadequate, was the sole cause of the strike and any other allegation is an afterthought.

Following is a statement which contains the communications, commencing Feb. 24, between T. J. Burnett and Martin Irons, respectively, members of and chairmen of the Executive Committee of the Knights of Labor, and George Noble, general agent for the Receiver, wherein Noble is asked to come to Marshall to settle the trouble in the shops, to which Noble not recognizing the authority of the agents, replied evasively. To subsequent dispatches of the same tenor, and a final one asking if Noble had received the dispatches the latter replied that he had not answered because he knew of no trouble in the shops, nor of any authority vested in Martin Irons to represent the employees or the court to whom the company was responsible. The statement says the men left the shops undoubtedly upon order of Mr. Irons, and have not yet returned. The belief that the majority of the men went out against their wishes, induced the company to offer them the privilege of returning on March 4th, which they declined. The statement avows that the discharge of C. A. Hall is an afterthought with the strikers. Hall's discharge was on account of his incompetency.

PITTSBURG, 9.—A horrible double murder and robbery were committed yesterday at the farm house of John T. Overhart, near Lickingville in the northern part of Clarion County. A boy in the family returning from school found Mrs. Overhart lying on the floor with her throat cut from ear to ear, and her mother, Mrs. Gilfillan, in the spring house also with her throat cut and life extinct. The house had been ransacked and \$300 taken.

WASHINGTON, 9.—The following confirmations were made to-day: To be Postmaster, J. T. Carville, Buffalo, Wyoming; Cyrus P. Phelps, of Vermont, to be Secretary of Legation at London, England; Henry White, of Maryland, to be Secretary of Legation