

"recent action" on the part of the Legislative Assembly of Utah; but then it is nothing fresh to receive items of news about Utah, never dreamt of here, from a long distance, and this item in the *Times* verifies the old adage,—that one must go from home to hear home news.

After indulging in a variety of speculations in regard to the reasons for this action on the part of the Legislature of this Territory, the *Times* really comes to one very sensible conclusion, in opposition, too, to an hypothesis advanced on the same subject by the *Territorial Enterprise*,—that the "Mormons" will never abandon polygamy for the sake of being admitted into the Union as a State. "Judging from the past history of that people," says the *Times*, "we are of opinion that if their entrance into the Union depends upon the abandonment of the chief feature in their social system, they will unhesitatingly elect to be kept out of the Union." The judgment of the *Times* is very sound in this respect, with this exception, that while we recognize polygamy as a prominent doctrine, it is not the "chief feature" in our religion. And we fully endorse the following: "When polygamy ceases to be a feature in the 'Mormon' religion, the decay of that religion will be approaching, and its voluntary abandonment would be the signal for the breaking up of the Church."

While perusing the preceding we could almost fancy that the editor of the *Times* was a believer, or, like the dignitary before whom Paul was once arraigned, "almost persuaded," to be, his verdict on this point is so sound. But on perusing his article further such a thought would be dissipated, for his judgment seems to be taken away when he sings the worn out ditty, that Brigham Young, dreading the effect of monogamic civilization may be looking forward to the time when he and his people may be forced to leave Salt Lake; that seclusion is necessary to the growth of "Mormonism;" that it cannot compete with western civilization; that so long as the "Mormons" can put a broad belt of desert between them and the people of the East and West so long polygamy may flourish; but remove that belt, surround them with a "gentile population" and in less than ten years "Mormonism" would be reckoned among the extinct religions.

We thought the editor of the *Times* was more reliable than this. He seems to have got far out to sea. His conclusions are puerile and could not possibly be more erroneous. We beg leave to assure him, and all the rest of mankind, that fears of leaving Salt Lake are unknown here; that the "Mormons" have no fear of the advance of eastern or western "civilization." As for "Mormonism" ever being numbered among the extinct religions, it is a conclusion as unwarranted by the facts of our past history as the supposition that the "Mormons," to gain admission into the Union as a State, would relinquish polygamy. And so far as the influx of a large "gentile" population is concerned, it is what no "Mormon" fears, or is opposed to; it is only the crimes and vices developed under and fostered by what is called "civilization" that the people of Utah will not tolerate or encourage.

The completion of the Pacific Railroad, instead of being feared is looked to with joyful anticipations by our people, for they feel assured that it will do more to dissipate misunderstandings and promote harmony and good feelings between them and the good and virtuous among their fellow citizens, in all sections of this vast Republic than the labors and vituperations of their bitterest opponents have ever done to promote discord.

Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY,
Feb. 6th, 1869.

Editor *Evening News*.—Sir,—It is seldom your valuable columns are intruded upon with matters of a strictly domestic character, and for this intrusion I would beg your pardon, did I not consider it an imperative duty, devolving upon myself, to give publicity to a scandalous attempt at seduction by a scoundrel named C. L. Broy, proprietor of the Montana Restaurant.

The particulars of the case, so far as I am informed (and it's my opinion I know something about it) are substantially as follows:

On the third day of February a relative of mine was the recipient of the following gentlemanly and obliging communication from the scoundrel above named:

Salt Lake City Utah
February 2nd 1869

Dear Miss
Seeing you so often on the street, and not having a chance to make

your acquaintance, other than taking the liberty of penning you a few lines, please excuse this liberty, and answer if I can have the pleasure of accompanying you to the Theatre on Friday night next, please answer through the Post Office, or drop a note to the Montana Restaurant to
C. A. P.

P.S.

I will give my true name when we next meet.

Last evening said "C. A. P." alias C. L. Broy, met the lady, or "Dear Miss" as he prefers to call her, and was told emphatically that "Dear Miss" was a wife, and was asked what were his intentions. Mr. C. L. Broy, said his intentions were honorable and as a proof of it he proposed a clandestine visit to the Theatre last night, to which objections were made by the lady. The proprietor of the "Montana," then proposed next Sunday evening at a suitable time for the further proof of his "good intention." ("Hell is paved with good intentions") which invitation I have very strong reasons for believing was also declined. About this time some person or persons resembling the masculine gender is supposed are have emerged from a concealed nook or corner and directed their footsteps towards this virtuous representative of "good" intentions. "The wicked flee!" as did Mr. C. L. Broy. His "honorable intentions" could not hold him, he did not run, he flew and this bad, ku-klux "Mormon" "Danite" after him only because of his "honorable intentions." He not only ran but he yelled, "hollowed," shrieked, whooped and bellowed with a voice that raised that portion of the town. All this was the result of his "honorable intentions." Because of his "honorable intentions" he was caught, because of them, he was chastised, lightly though, and I opine if another attempt at "honorable intentions," is again exhibited in this case it will almost surely be the proprietor of the Montana Restaurant.

Gentlemen of the "honorable intention" kind, you are very ignorant, you think the "Mormon" women fools, you have an idea they despise their husbands and only wait an opportunity to fall in with your devilish schemes. How easy it is for a "Mormon" wife to receive a note, like the above; but how hard it is for her to show it to her husband and how repugnant it is for the husband to arrange a plan for the wife's punishment! Let every Mormon wife and daughter when insulted by such villains as the above, act wisely their part, and these "honorable" attempts at sedition and ruin will become less frequent and men will learn that to trifle with this business involves the question of life or death.

If the gentleman (?) A. L. Broy, wishes any additional information connected with last night's raid, he can address a letter to "C. A. P." through the Post Office, stating where he wishes to see me, at which place I will give my true name, and the necktie with the stag's head pin in it.

THE HUSBAND OF A WISE WIFE.

LEGISLATIVE.

Feb. 4th, 2 p. m.

COUNCIL.—Mr. Hyde, chairman of the committee on Revenue, to whom was referred the petition of Wm. Morrison, Assessor and Collector of Sanpete county, reported C. F. No. 15, a bill for an act for the relief of William Morrison, which was read and the bill and petition were referred to the committee on Claims and Appropriations, with instructions to incorporate the amount prayed for in the Territorial Appropriation bill.

Council adjourned till to-morrow at 10 a. m.

Feb. 4th, 2 p. m.

HOUSE.—Mr. Snow presented an act supplementary to the act entitled "an act regulating the mode of procedure in civil cases in the courts of the Territory of Utah;" read and referred.

Mr. Snow presented "an act supplementary to an act entitled an act regulating the manufacture, sale or other disposal of intoxicating liquors;" read and referred.

An act further defining the duties of the Superintendent of the Salt Lake City and Wanship Wagon road, was taken up on its second reading; read and referred back to the committee on Roads, &c.

The committee on Claims recommended that the sum of \$520.20 be placed in the Territorial appropriation bill for services and incidentals, to Theo. McKean, Territorial Road Commissioner.

Mr. Thurber presented a substitute for a Council bill entitled "an act in relation to interest on money;" read and ordered printed.

An act defining the duties of Territorial, County and Municipal officers having the management and expenditure of public funds, was taken up on its second reading.

The bill defining the duties of Territorial, County and Municipal officers having the management and expenditure of public funds, was taken up on its second reading, amended and passed.

House adjourned till to-morrow at 10 a. m.

TENTH WARD LECTURES.—Next Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., Elder James Ashman will, with some forty life size portraits of prominent characters, good and bad, elucidate the science of Phrenology and Physiognomy, at the 10th Ward School House, commencing at 7 o'clock.

Discourse by Elder O. PRATT, delivered in the Old Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, Dec. 27, 1868.

REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.

In ancient times there were certain great decrees which the Lord of all the earth made concerning this Continent and the inhabitants that should, from time to time, possess the same. This continent was first settled, after the Flood, by a colony from the Tower of Babel, who were a righteous people. They were a people with whom the Lord conversed, and to whom He made Himself manifest in a very wonderful and marvellous manner. How many people lived here before the Flood is not for me to say, as it is not revealed. We may however observe, that so far as new revelation has given us information on this subject, this Continent of ours may be ranked among the first lands occupied by the human family. The very first man who had dominion on the face of the earth, under the direction of the Heavens, once dwelt on this Continent. His name was Adam. Whether his first residence was on this land, whether the garden that was planted for his occupation was on this Continent, or some other, is not revealed in any written or printed revelation. But he certainly did, in the course of his lifetime, either from this being his native land, or by emigration, actually come in possession of this part of the globe; and a large settlement was formed, and the righteous who lived before the flood inherited it, and no doubt left their blessing on the land. It was here where Adam, Seth, Enos, Cainan, Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah and Noah dwelt. It was on this land where Noah built his ark, which was blown by the winds of Heaven away to the east, and landed on Ararat. It was here where Enoch preached and published glad tidings of great joy; it was on this land,—the American Continent,—where he gathered the people from many nations, and built up a city and called it Zion. It was here where the people of God flourished before the flood, and were of one heart and one mind, having an experience of some three hundred and sixty-five years in order to bring about a sufficient degree of righteousness and faith to be taken away from here and translated into some other region. It was here where Enoch was clothed upon with the power of God to that degree that he was enabled to publish to the inhabitants of the earth things that were before his day, even from before the foundation of the world, and also to prophecy of things that should transpire from his day down to the end of the world. It was here that he continued his preaching to the inhabitants of the city of Zion until he made them so acquainted with the law of God, and inspired them with such faith that the earth could not contain them. It was by his faith and the faith of his people that the very elements around him felt the power of God; and when he spake the word of the Lord the earth upon which he stood trembled and shook by the power of the Almighty, and the mountains fled from before his presence, and the great rivers of this continent were turned out of their courses, and all things seemed to feel the power of the Lord. Even a new land came up out of the great deep, and so fearful were the enemies of the people of God, and so great was the terror of the Lord upon them, that they left this country and went forth upon the face of the waters and occupied the land that came up out of the deep. These things are not revealed to us by the Bible or by tradition, but by the inspiration of the Almighty through that great modern prophet who was raised up to commence this marvellous work of which you and I are now partakers.

A few hundred years after all these things had transpired on this continent, and Noah and his family, the only survivors of the Flood, had been wafted away to distant lands, and had peopled a portion of Asia, the descendants of Noah undertook to build a great tower that they might make themselves a great name, instead of fulfilling the purposes of the Almighty, in spreading forth, and occupying and subduing the earth. The Lord was very much displeased with them on that occasion, because of the wickedness that existed in their midst, which was calculated to be strengthened through their unity. Hence He made a decree, according to the old Book—the Bible, that they should not dwell thus, together. He confounded their language, and swore in His wrath that they should be scattered. A portion of the people from that tower came to this continent.

There is something very remarkable in

connection with the colonization of our continent by people from that tower. I said they were a righteous people. Perhaps this may surprise some, especially if they have drawn the conclusion that all the people who engaged in the building of that tower were wicked. But there were some few families among them who served the Lord their God, and when they learned the decree of Jehovah, that their language was to be confounded, and the people scattered to the four winds of heaven, they had considerable anxiety on the subject. They were anxious that they might be favored of the Lord and that He would lead them to a choice portion of the earth. They made it a subject of earnest prayer, and God heard them, and the language of the righteous portion of the people was not confounded. And God gave them a commandment to go down from the tower to a valley that was northward, called the valley of Nimrod, named after a mighty hunter who existed in those days. After they had come down into this valley by the command of the Lord they collected seeds and grain of every kind, and animals of almost every description, among which, no doubt were the elephant and the curleum and the cumom, very huge animals that existed in those days, and after traveling and crossing, we suppose, the sea that was east of where the Tower of Babel stood, and traveling through the wilderness many days, with their flocks and herds, their grain and substance, they eventually came to the great Pacific ocean, on the eastern borders of China or somewhere in that region. They were commanded of the Lord to build vessels. They went to work and constructed eight barges. They did not understand the art of navigation as we do in these days. They had no astronomical instruments by which they could ascertain the altitude of the sun, or the altitude of the moon and stars, by which they could determine their position on the great and mighty ocean. But the same God who had led them from the Tower of Babel and had gone before them in a bright cloud by day, and had hovered over their camp and had directed them in their journey through the wilderness, was their navigator in crossing the ocean. They entered these eight barges, about the construction of which it may be well to say a few words. A great many opposers of the Book of Mormon, in reading the account of these vessels, have really supposed that there was an insurmountable difficulty connected with the building of these barges because there happened to be a hole in the top, and another hole constructed in the bottom to enable the beings shut up in them to be water-tight. These vessels were built, not in the form of a tea saucer as has been represented by some "anti-Mormons" in their discussions; but the Book of Mormon informs us that they were peaked at the ends, and enlarged as they came to the middle, and they were tight like a dish on the water, and were very light, like to the lightness of a fowl. They were exceedingly strong, and the length of a tree. This is a phrase very similar to one used by Isaiah who says, "the age of His people shall be as the age of a tree." Isaiah does not say what kind of a tree. It was simply a way the ancients had of comparing a great many things. Now these vessels were so constructed that when furious winds should blow upon the face of the great deep, and the waves should roll mountains high they could without imminent danger plunge beneath the waves, and be brought up again to the surface of the water during tremendous hurricanes and storms. Now to prepare them against these contingencies, and that they might have fresh air for the benefit of the elephants, curleums or mammoths and many other animals, that perhaps were in them, as well as the human beings they contained, the Lord told them how to construct them in order to receive air, that when they were on the top of the water, which ever side up their vessels happened to be, it mattered not; they were so constructed that they could ride safely, though bottom upwards and they could open their air holes that happened to be uppermost. Now all our ships at the present day are constructed with holes in the bottom as well as in the top. I have crossed the ocean twelve times, but I never saw a ship yet that did not have a hole in the bottom for the convenience of passengers, and it is one of the simplest things in the world to have holes in the bottom of a ship if you only have tubes running up sufficiently high above the general water mark. These were so constructed that when the waves were not running too high, air could be admitted through unstopping the holes which happened to be uppermost.

But the most wonderful thing con-