

its are generally either wiped out altogether or reduced to so near nothing that those who are entrapped by the will-o'-the-wisp "boom" into buying stock, not only receive nothing back, but are assessed to meet deficiencies until they get tired of it, stop it, the business collapses, and then two or three practical men take hold of the property, kick the "boom" into the invisible beyond, work the property profitably and do well. This is a crude illustration, but let the reader digest the subject thoroughly, inspect all these aerated enterprises, and see if he can't find an application for it in almost every instance. A little time does it all; being a leveler, it goes further and becomes an avenger, for it curtails from the normal condition exactly as much as was previously added to it, leaving the process of natural action to return by natural means.

Inflation has ever, in all ages and among all peoples, done more harm than good. Like the man flushed with wine he is something beyond and above himself, a mighty genius, a powerful creation, while the effect of his potations remains; but it can't stay long; nature gradually gets even and then begins to exact interest in the shape of a wretched, contemptible, enervated and degraded object who perchance envies the bod-carrier across the way his undimmed vision, clear head and painless body; his normal condition was a good one, his exuberance was a good deal better, and his subsequent experience that of Christian climbing the hill of Tribulation with the burden of experience on his back. All created things, everything going on around and about us, teaches the important lesson that moderation and nature walk hand in hand together; undue excitement, being a straining of natural functions, is unhealthful and so is the inevitable depression immediately following it. If there had been no excitement, there would have been no depression, and the even tenor of things would have held full sway.

The period immediately following the civil war ruined more men than it built up a thousand to one, because the nation far and wide was luxuriating in the most boundless "boom" ever experienced in any land. Money was scarcely counted by dollars and cents, but by handfulls and measures; everybody had more or less and it was easy to get. Wages were phenomenally high and this condition of things was polluted by the shortsighted of that day as "prosperity." Fatal prosperity! The fever subsided, and left the patient prostrate; values shrank; money rose in value correspondingly; the few who had looked ahead had plenty, but the many who had not were in too many instances worse than beggars, for custom and pride would not permit them to beg while necessity impelled them to find sustenance from some source, and they must either steal or work for whatever those who declined to stake their all on the "boom" would give; thus in 1865 we were a nation of plutocrats, in 1868 we were a nation of "lawless brigands and breadless serfs"—the impress of hard times stamped upon almost everything and everybody, and a favored aristocrat here and there laughing at the misery the "great tide of boundless prosperity" had wrought.

There is ultimately nothing good in a "boom"; there is always something—everything necessary of a temporal nature—in a reasonable amount of steady work with fair pay, coupled with contentment, economy and progressive intelligence.

A RIGID GOVERNMENT.

WERE it not that she has so many rivals in power and population, the German empire would undoubtedly be to-day, with regard to the rest of the world, what the Roman empire was at the beginning of our era. There is more iron in the fabric of her governmental system than in that of any other of the leading nations. This will appear from the following, taken from a late issue of the *Public Service Review*:

"The military system of the German Empire is the most complete and thorough in the world. The birth of every male child is his enlistment into the military service; and it rests with the government alone when he shall take up his musket, where and how long he shall carry it, and when he may lay it aside. The Emperor, the commander-in-chief, fixes the strength of the army, and calls upon the legislature to supply the means for its support. If there is refusal, or hesitation even, the legislature is dissolved and a new one called. Military order, and military discipline, and military pride reign supreme throughout the empire. It is the first duty of every officer, from the lowest lieutenant to the highest general, when he visits Berlin to call upon the Emperor, and this high dignity, even at his present advanced age, makes it a point to receive them all in person. So, too, must absolute deference to superior rank be shown by officers, whether in the active or reserve force, at all times; and prompt, unquestioning and unqualified obedience under all circumstances is a rule without exception. One of Germany's foreign ministers, who held in addition to his diplomatic office the grade of Major in the reserve, was not long ago called from his foreign station to Ber-

lin by Bismarck for consultation upon diplomatic matters. When the minister reached Berlin he promptly called upon Bismarck, and then paid his respects to the Emperor in person, who invited him to dine the next day. But before the time for the dinner came the diplomat was sent for by the military commander of the post of Berlin, called to account for neglect of his military duty in not having reported to his military superior, the post commander, immediately after his arrival, and placed in close military arrest. The plea of the diplomat's obligations to the department of state in which he was serving, of his prompt report to the chancellor, and to the Emperor—the military as well as civic head of the nation—was of no avail. A military duty had been neglected, and that could not be offset by any form or degree of civil obligation or service. Though not in active military service, but employed actively in the civil service, he must pay the full penalty for omitting a formal military duty. By the intercession of the Emperor, the arrest of the diplomat was suspended long enough for him to dine with the Emperor according to engagement, but went into full force as soon as the dinner was over, and continued for the time ordered by the Post commander, eight days. To appreciate the force of this German system at its full value it must be borne in mind that it is not the result of mere temporary regulations or new-born orders—it is the outgrowth of years. For several generations men have been born and bred to it. It is part of their inheritance and their lives. Their ambition and their pride are ever at work to support and enforce it. Sustained as it is by the greatest industry and the highest order of talent, it makes the whole power of the nation available at all times for any military purpose to which the rulers may see fit to apply it."

It is reasonably certain that none of the Great Powers of Europe would long remain such were they to relax the rigor of their military systems, unless all, with concentrated action would "bury the hatchet." This is a consummation of which philanthropists have dreamed, but of the realization of which there is no immediate prospect.

It is appalling to think what devastation would ensue were a nation like the German empire to gather all the strength at its command and make a sudden and desperate leap upon an antagonist of similar power and resources such as France.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM?

A LETTER written by the notorious scandal-monger and peripatetic anti-"Mormon" plate-passer, R. G. McNiece, a Presbyterian preacher of this city, has been published in the East and was read by Joseph Cook, the Boston bean-bag, at his closing lecture. Of course it abounds with misrepresentations, and its purport is abuse of the "Mormons," with the object of blinding the public as to the truth and enlisting further aid of a pecuniary nature to put "the masses of the Mormon people in possession of education," etc. This is the usual phraseology of the dollar hunters, who are about as likely to be sought after by "the masses of the Mormon people" for education as for theology, or sympathy or treasures of earth or heaven. We do not propose to wade through all the prevarications which it pleased McNiece to write and delighted Cook to read, but will simply allude to one or two points which will illustrate the whole mess. Referring to the test oath taken by jurors in this District, he said:

"The same men who on the day before swore they would obey the law of Congress condemning polygamy as a crime, did not hesitate on the day following to swear, in substance, they believed polygamy to be right and the laws against it should not be obeyed."

Everybody here acquainted with the facts knows that the part we have put in italics is a deliberate and wilful falsehood. The jurors "swore nothing of the kind. The statement is the fabrication of the Rev. (?) R. G. McNiece. No juror said or intimated that the laws or any law "should not be obeyed." They took the oath to obey the law, but many of them believed it to be unwise, unjust and inexpedient. Yet they took the ground that it should be obeyed because it was the law. This was why they agreed to observe it. Not because it was inherently right, but because it was part of the law of the land. A person who cannot see the distinction is excessively dull, and a person who intentionally perverts it and substitutes its exact opposite, is diabolical.

Are there no laws on the statute book which intelligent people object to and yet obey? Does every banker sustain the silver law? Does every free pass preacher approve of the inter-state commerce law? Are there not judges in the land who think certain laws which they rigidly enforce ought to be repealed? Is a citizen who obeys the law but yet thinks it wrong, "disqualified from jury service? Rather is not a man who has sense enough to understand the law and to perceive its defects, but is yet willing to obey it because it is the law, far better fitted

to serve on a jury than one who does not discriminate nor care a cent whether the law is wise or foolish, proper or improper?"

McNiece said further in his lying letter:

"One of the excuses given in one of the Mormon papers, for this peculiar and contradictory way of swearing, is that Congress has disincorporated the Mormon Church, and hence they are no longer members of it, and so do not aid and abet the crime of polygamy."

This is another wilful and intentional untruth, without foundation and without excuse. McNiece can easily absolve himself from the odium of the charge that he has purposely lied, by quoting the article or naming the "Mormon paper" in which the words or anything resembling them occur. He dare not attempt it. He knows he never read them in a "Mormon" paper or heard them come from a "Mormon" mouth. It is not a "Mormon" sentiment. There is not a "Mormon" in Utah who thinks Congress can destroy the Church to which he belongs or render him not a member of it. We do not think there is anybody or any sect, class or race in this Territory who is so stupid as to think the disincorporation of a Church effects its actual existence. Be that as it may, McNiece never saw the rubbish which was read to a "culchawed" audience in Boston as "Mormon" reasoning in any "Mormon" publication or "Mormon" argument. The Reverend perverter simply lied.

Is this language too blunt or too severe? Wait a moment before deciding. This pious defamer, speaking of the "Mormon" cause at Washington, talks of their "crocodile tears" which, he says, "we have a right to expect the President will not allow himself to be imposed upon by," and adds:

"They act their part by presenting lying but pathetic appeals when some of them are well known here to be of the most disreputable and immoral character."

When a professed preacher of the gospel wilfully tells untruths to deceive the public, and then accuses ladies of unblemished reputation of "lying" and of being of "the most disreputable and immoral character," should words be used mincingly in reference to his conduct? It is not the first time by many that R. G. McNiece, sheltered under the cloth of the ministry, has spoken and published atrocious falsehoods about the "Mormons." He now adds defamation of women to his other offences against truth and decency, and we think he should be known for what he is—a disgrace to his profession, a parody on the title of man, a cowardly slanderer, a sniffling sham and a stench in the nostrils of Jehovah.

Let R. G. McNiece prove that the falsehoods he wrote for Joseph Cook to read to a Boston audience are true, and we will cheerfully do him justice. But no amount of sophistry and prevarication will avail, and whatever success he may achieve in poisoning the public mind on earth, he cannot escape the vengeance of heaven nor avoid the glare of everlasting light and the voice of eternal judgment, which in the great day will expose his turpitude before a gazing and indignant universe.

PRESERVE HARMONY.

THE People's party is undoubtedly the most thoroughly fraternal and harmonious political organization in the world, the number and diverse nationalities of its members being considered. But by the manner in which the Territory has been redistricted, incentives to jealousy and disunion have been created. This is, of course, in accordance with a design to harass and weaken the People's party, when it is known that to defeat it will be impossible.

Men of influence in the party, and especially its precinct and county committees, should take such steps as may be necessary to secure harmonious action in the nominating conventions. Some difficulty may be experienced in selecting candidates to represent districts constructed in the incongruous manner in which the Board has done its work, but the knowledge that such construction is in furtherance of a plan to introduce division into the party, should have the effect of infusing each of its voters with a determination to frustrate that little scheme, at whatever cost to his own predilections.

If the organizations of the party will take a wise course, harmony of action can easily be secured. Doubtless the Territorial Central Committee will take the necessary steps with a view to attaining that condition.

A CLUMSY SLANDER.

THERE is on the staff of the chief anti-"Mormon" organ of this city one of the most asinine falsifiers that ever dipped a pen in concentrated lye. He prefaces his reports of alleged facts with slanderous flings at the Latter-day Saints, and gives them the flattest possible contradictions in the course of the subsequent narratives.

An instance in point is the case of

Alexander Brown, of the 16th Ward, whose case is before the Commissioner's court under examination. The first charge against him was unlawful cohabitation.

It appeared from the evidence that the defendant had but one wife, and another complaint was introduced, charging adultery.

The organ of defamation, in its issue of this morning, speaks of Mrs. Brown as the first wife, and having the usual "careworn" and distressed appearance of women occupying that position. This insinuation is false and vile in general terms, and the statement given in the same paper of the proceedings of the case exhibits the fact that it is in this instance a ridiculous falsification, the evidence showing Mrs. Brown to be the only wife of the defendant.

Another clumsy slander is that "Brown is a good Latter-day Saint." In the same article, quoting the sheet's own words, the following occurs:

"Mrs. Brown was recalled by the defense, and testified that she had given evidence against the defendant in the Bishop's court. No questions upon the most delicate points were asked there."

This means that some time ago Brown was tried before an ecclesiastical court of the Church of which he was a member—the Bishop's Court, of the 16th Ward, of this city. The charge was based on the conduct now being adduced against him in evidence in the course of his examination before the Commissioner. It was for immoral conduct and improper treatment of his wife. The result of the trial was the extreme penalty by which the Church shows that it has no use for characters against whom such charges are sustained by proper evidence—excommunication.

It appears that, in the Bishop's court, indelicate questions calculated to elicit the more disgusting details of the case, were not propounded. This is proper. It is the aim of the Church in all such cases, in its courts, to avoid unsavory details in any cases of immorality brought before them. The object is simply to make the guilt or innocence of the parties accused sufficiently clear to warrant an action.

The action of the ecclesiastical court expresses the sentiment of the Church in relation to impure conduct in general, the efforts of the scandalous Salt Lake Tribune to the contrary notwithstanding. That infamous sheet, in the same article in which it designated Mrs. Brown as a careworn and neglected first wife, proved its own falsity by showing in the report of the evidence that Brown is a monogamist; also that its assertion to the effect that the same person is a good Latter-day Saint is equally untrue, he having been severed from the Church, because it appeared to one of its local courts that he had been acting after the manner of many non-"Mormons"—casting his wife adrift and consorting immorally with another woman. Because "Mormons" have refused to turn their wives away they have been herded into the penitentiary by scores.

In the anti-"Mormon" official career of Mr. W. H. Dickson, lately United States District Attorney for Utah, he ennobled, in the conduct of a cohabitation case, one particularly clean-cut fact—that the sexual relations of the "Mormons" were confined within the marriage circle, they being forcibly opposed to immoral practices. Yet heinous attempts are made to have it appear that they look upon sexual immorality with complacency, while the fact is patent, that no one can remain in fellowship within the ranks of the community whose guilt in that regard is made clear. The scribblers who defame the character of the people are familiar with this truth, but they will make any sacrifice of fact or principle for the sake of outside anti-"Mormon" effect.

STILL AT THE BELLOWS.

THE ball of material progress was the recipient of a tremendous kick last evening. It was administered by the chamber of commerce, and it is to be presumed it will now roll with terrific velocity.

The chamber met and spoke; that is to say ten of its members turned loose on the wind-work, by which it is proposed to send this city forward on a bound over the road of substantial progress.

The first man to seize the bellows-handle was the Governor and the last, Col. Hollister, and they pumped with commendable vigor.

It was but Thursday we quoted the Colonel in his sensible assertion in a boom communication, in which he dilated on the necessity for solid improvements. Rising to the full height of his subject he exclaimed: "Talking and writing will never do them."

When he thus exploded he was "writing," and last night he was "speaking." On both occasions, according to his own logic, he was doing something sure to be barren of substantial results and so also were nine other men last evening.

The way in which the question presents itself to us, at what point does flatulence end and work begin? With such men as "O. J. H." the wind department is given a full and continuous sweep, while work is compelled to take a back seat in a remote and shady corner. We close, with prospective calls for another speech from Hollister.

THE RAILWAY INVESTIGATION.

THE long-winded investigation being held by the Inter-State Commerce Commission assumes the appearance to the casual reader at a distance of being a means of affording pastime for the members by asking questions simply to have them answered, with no objective point in view. It does look a little that way so far, particularly in view of the fact that no changes have resulted nor any startling or unlooked-for developments occurred; yet there is more of it than appears upon the surface, and the reason it unfolds before the public so slowly is simply because there is such an immense field to be covered and so many volumes to be written. The highways of traffic have been going along in the even tenor of their way with no molestation that amounts to anything more than a temporary brushing up now and then, leaving the aggressiveness of what the public sentiment of the east is rapidly believing to be a continental octopus undiminished and its ravages unchecked. To start at the beginning and fish out, piece by piece, all the crookedness, duplicity, cunning, strategy, circumvention of law, bribery and even thefts which some of the trunk lines of this country have not only committed but systematized, is a proceeding requiring time, patience, perseverance, industry and ability, and the Commission so far exhibit all these qualities in a marked degree.

In a nation where the domain is so vast that the taking or obtaining of great areas in places is hardly noticed, no matter by what means the taking has been accomplished, there is bound to be a mile taken now and then where permission for but a rod was given; but like murder, they will out, and the remote encroachments of monopolies cease to be remote when civilization draws its folds nearer and nearer about them, and the clamor of those who realize that they are being deprived of inherent rights and their children threatened with peonage go up to the nation's headquarters; it was such constriction and such clamors that made a commission whose duty it is to give the railroads their rights and nothing more, the people their rights and nothing less, an existing, acting institution at the present time.

POINTING TO A FORGERY.

A SHORT time ago we gave an account of a visit of a deputy U. S. marshal named Ether to Holden, Millard County, and his exploits at that place.

One particular feature of the affair was that he palmed himself upon different people as a good Latter-day Saint, on the strength of a certificate of standing in the Church, purporting to have been issued by Bishop Nephi Packard, of Springville. He exhibited this paper to Judge Thomas C. Callister, of Fillmore, and J. S. Giles, of Holden, and—in a spirit of bravado—a companion while riding in a street car in this city, asserting boastfully, "That is what I caught the Badger outfit with." It was stated by one who saw the certificate, that it had upon it the name of Strigum and not Ether.

Bishop Packard states that he never at any time issued a certificate of standing in the Church to any person of either name. His conclusion is therefore inevitable—that an illegal use has been made of his (the Bishop's) name, and that the document is a forgery.

He does not propose to let the matter rest, but to gather all the evidence he can find and place it where it will do the most good.

If appearances go for anything, the etherial deputy is not only a forger, and therefore a law-breaker, but a fellow who boasts of his unlawful exploit. An executor of the law who is a breaker of it is not an inviting spectacle.

DEATH IN THE DESERT.

J. E. DIXON DIES OF THIRST ON THE PLAINS OF ARIZONA.

J. E. Dixon, who was proprietor of the Crescent City Hotel in Sacramento seven or eight years ago, but who of late years has been running the Russ House at Tucson, A. T., died of thirst on the Arizona desert a few days ago. Mrs. Dickson and daughter were visiting friends in Sacramento, and they expected to leave for San Francisco Saturday morning, the 14th, where Mr. Dixon was to have met them. Yesterday, however, she received a dispatch announcing her husband's sad fate. It appears that he left Tucson with a team to visit a mine in which he was interested, but lost the road and wandered about for days. A dispatch from Tucson, dated the 11th, says:

"After several days continuous search the missing J. E. Dixon has at length been found. He was found at sunset last night, about one and a half miles west of the Sabuaria, where he died about midnight. The body was brought to this city, where it now awaits the disposition of his wife, who has been wired to in Sacramento. There is every evidence that he passed the greater portion of Friday, Friday night and all day Saturday driving to and fro between the Sabuaria and the cañon and then abandoned his team."