

## EDITORIALS.

STREET SCENES IN PIOUS  
BROOKLYN.

BROOKLYN is a very pious city. It contains a number of "Christian" churches of the very first class, if money, which is the God of this age, is to be considered as giving tone to them. Some of the most famous preachers in the most noted congregations in the country proclaim their kind of religious doctrines and sentiments from Brooklyn pulpits. That sanctified city also boasts an anti-polygamic society composed of women with plenty of spare time on their hands, and who are therefore ready to undertake the management of other people's affairs, and so waste a large amount of sympathy over their sisters in Utah, none of whom would change places with them for a moment, and a great quantity of indignation over "Mormon" men, who would die before they would stoop to the secret villainies of the Brooklyn women's husbands.

Well, Brooklyn ought to have nice society and a pure moral atmosphere. Perhaps it has—in spots. But the following from an eastern paper does not favor the idea that Brooklyn is the moral paradise which it ought to be with its pretensions and its mote-picking from other people's eyes:

"The increase of petty crimes and of drunkenness among women in the large cities is a deplorable fact. It has become so patent that it can no longer be ignored. In Brooklyn, one of the papers of that city states: 'women are often carried to station houses so intoxicated that common decency is outraged in their appearance, with clothing torn from their bodies, and besmeared with the filth they have gathered in their revelry with drink.' Many women are daily arrested for stealing, and these women are placed in the charge of policemen to be searched and afterward guarded in police stations until acquitted or convicted of crime."

Just suppose that such scenes were enacted in Salt Lake City! Would not the news be published throughout the continent and be cited as proof of the tendencies of "Mormonism"? When will the kid-gloved, silk-clothed and scented reformers who are so scandalized over fancied evils in Utah turn their attention to the heinous disorders of their own sin-stained cities and the beams that lie across their own visual organs?

## A PLEA FOR THE MORMONS.

UNDER the above heading the St. Louis *Globe Democrat* of February 5th has the following excellent letter from Elder Matthias F. Cowley, a young man of this city, now on a mission to the Southern States. We reproduce it with pleasure and congratulate our young friend on the able manner in which he has defended the Church and people with whom he is closely connected:

"St. Louis, Mo., February 2, 1882. —Will you permit me, through the columns of your valuable paper, to offer a few items on the much agitated 'Mormon Question?' Relating to the 'Anti-polygamy' meeting held in this city Monday evening, 30th ult., for the purpose of deliberating upon the subject in question and adopting resolutions to be acted upon by the National Congress, it must be evident to all lovers of truth that such deliberations and resolutions should be founded on truth, and truth only. And, further, that if falsehoods are resorted to in any form, the fact forever stands as a witness against those who use them, and in favor of those against whom they are used.

As a specimen of the remarks made on the occasion referred to, I introduce the following quotations from your issue of the 31st ult.:

"Its numbers are daily recruited by cunning appeals to the ignorance and base passions of men."

"The vote of Idaho for Congress was carried at a late election by a brief order of Geo. Q. Cannon, directing the Mormons in that Territory to vote for a certain man."

"That the number of polygamous

felons in that Territory is strongly increased by the importation from abroad of thousands who are ignorantly seduced or licentiously attracted to this shameful institution."

"A large proportion of the whole number of polygamists are unnaturalized foreigners, who own no allegiance to our country or its laws."

"Which openly derides the authority of the national government, preaches treason publicly, and makes polygamous rebellion a religious duty."

"Degrading women, blotting out of their speech the very notion of home and all the sacred associations which it calls up, making a parody of religion."

"It foolishly assumes to be defiant to and stronger than the government."

Having resided in Utah for nearly twenty-four years, and being acquainted with the religion we have embraced, and also with the public discourses and acts of those who officiate in a church capacity, I declare that the statements in the above quotations, with all other like statements, to be base falsehoods, and when the parties who uttered them are brought before the judgment seat of Christ to render an account of their earthly deeds, there will be no lack of witnesses to testify against them. All who have ever attended the meetings appointed by "Mormon" Elders and listened to their instructions know very well that no "cunning appeal to the ignorance and base passions of men" is ever made, but that the principles of purity are taught and the sacred Scriptures used as a text-book in their teachings in public and private while those who adhere to their teachings are well aware that when they embrace what the world calls "Mormonism," their names will be cast out as evil in the midst of the human family, while at them is pointed the finger of scorn from every side—can there be any worldly inducement in being vilified and traduced by your fellow-men? If so, then the Savior and all the Prophets have held out worldly inducements to allure men into the plan of salvation. Our mission is to preach repentance and remission of sins to all people, whether they be religious or infidel, learned or unlearned; our meetings are open to all—priest and people.

Referring to the election in Idaho, the statement made that a Congressman was elected through the votes directed by a "brief order of Geo. Q. Cannon" is only one of many erroneous statements made by Judge Goodwin, in his attacks upon the people of Utah. The lengthy article from his pen on the situation of "Mormon" affairs, was promptly replied to by Hon. Chas. W. Penrose, of Salt Lake City, in which he exposed the falsehoods of the author, but the editor of the journal in which the Judge's article appeared, being afraid of unpopular truths, refused to publish the reply, while the erroneous statements of the Judge are swallowed by ministers as a sweet morsel, and meted out to the uninformed to be received as truths.

The great majority of the people of Utah, whether married or unmarried, are either native born or lawful American citizens according to the strict requirements of the law, and all statements to the contrary are untrue, and who, instead of "openly deriding the authority of the National Government and preaching treason," are sober, virtuous, industrious citizens, believing and teaching others to believe that the Constitution of the United States was framed by noble men under the inspiration of the Almighty, and which we propose to maintain, let others do as they may.

Relating to the "sacred associations of home" referred to by one of the speakers, uninformed people might think that there were but few homes in Utah. But there are no names on earth that answer to the graces of home in the strictest sense of the term, better than those in Utah, for there around the family bow in humble prayer night and morning seeking to the fountain of all truth to guide them in the ways of righteousness. There the youth are taught to respect true principle and virtue above all things, and where the man is taught that a violation of chastity is just as flagrant in the man as in the woman, and where home is so sacred and pure, that divorces are few, and houses of infamy there were none—until the withering hand of what is falsely called Christianity introduc-

ed itself into the vales of the mountains—with it came the drinking saloons, the gambling hall, the den of infamy. These were established by refined (?) people as adjuncts to civilize (?) the "Mormons." "We seek no change and least of all such change as this would bring us."

In 1830 the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized in New York with six members. From that date to the present the doctrines thereof have been misrepresented, and its adherents vilified and traduced by the wicked. For nearly fourteen years subsequent to the inception of the church the plea offered as an excuse for opposing Joseph Smith and his co-religionists was—that they believed in modern revelation; that they believed in the ministration of holy angels, according to the New Testament doctrine, and in Apostles, Prophets, healings, divers kinds of tongues, visions, etc., after the ancient pattern.

In after years, however, this excuse of our enemies was laid aside, and another grappled as if a drowning man were reaching after a straw. The excuse now is made: "The Mormons believe in plural marriage."

What, then, may we learn from the history of the past? That if "polygamy" was not the excuse, it would be something else. Anti-Mormon fanatics are jumping from one excuse to another, in order to justify their unrighteous conduct. Indeed, the cry is already raised that the "Mormons" are united even in the election of civil officers. Terrible! isn't it? that we should fail to see anything in the Constitution of our country that requires us to split up into political factions and quarrel about politics. We have something else to do. Thus it is evident that the plea of excuse made by our enemies are manufactured to answer the ends of hatred, bigotry and prejudice. "A house divided against itself cannot stand," religious or otherwise. The action of mobocrats in driving the "Mormon" people from Missouri in 1838 was referred to in the meeting of the other night, as if it were a deed of heroism and deserving of merit, but what are the facts of the case? In writing of the attempts of newspaper editors to cover the deeds of violence perpetrated against the Latter-day Saints an eye witness and personal sufferer, says: "But can they hide the Governor's cruel order for banishment or extermination? Can they conceal the facts of the disgraceful treaty of the generals with their own officers and men at Far West? Can they conceal the fact that twelve or fifteen thousand men, women and children have been banished from the State without trial or condemnation? And this at the expense of \$200,000, and this sum appropriated by the State Legislature in order to pay the troops for this act of lawless outrage? Can they conceal the fact that we have been imprisoned for many months, while our families, friends and witnesses have been driven away? Can they conceal the blood of the murdered husbands and fathers, or the stifled cries of the widow and the fatherless? Nay. The rocks and the mountains may cover them in unknown depths, the awful abyss of fathomless deep may swallow them up, and still their horrid deeds stand forth in the broad light of day for the wondering gaze of angels and men. They can not be hid! The Latter-day Saints have been driven from their homes, as a body of people, five times at the hands of mobocrats, often headed by sectarian preachers, their goods despoiled, and their property taken from them, while the soil of Missouri, Illinois and Georgia is stained with the blood of innocence, which cries from the ground for vengeance, and ere long the wicked will be judged and consigned to that punishment which the Scriptures declare. Those who thus suffered for their religion violated no laws of the country, infringed upon the rights of none, and were true to their country. Yet with all these facts before us, it stands as a disgrace to our country that the perpetrators of these bloody deeds were never brought to justice by the Government; nor was any remuneration made to the Latter-day Saints for the lands they had purchased from the Government and received titles according to the law, and of which they were cruelly robbed by wicked men. Our people appealed to the Judge, then to the Governor, and then to the President of the United States, for a redress of grievances, but failed to obtain it. The President replied to these appeals, 'Gentlemen, your cause is just, but we can

do nothing for you.' In like manner said Pontius Pilate of old, doubtless being afraid of public clamor. Our case is now in the courts of Heaven, before the tribunal of the Great Jehovah, from whose decision there is no appeal. Would it not be well for men to consider these facts and act wisely, rather than holding up the deeds of darkness perpetrated by anti-Mormon fanatics as acts of righteous indignation, and thereby partaking of their evil works. Men professing to be ministers will exert their mental strength in trying to prove that a murderer can be saved. Swung from the gallows, when unworthy to remain among mortal men to the presence of the Lord, while a man who believes as the Scriptures teach, that marriage is divine, and under his honest conviction that God has revealed anew the patriarchal order of marriage, and receives like the prophets of old more wives than one, would, if sectarian priestcraft held the destinies of men, be sent to perdition. Let men introduce measures against prostitution, infanticide and their kindred evils, which prevail to an alarming extent in their own cities, and not disgrace themselves and their country by oppressing a people who do not practice these abominations. It has been said that the "Mormons" were an ignorant people, opposed to education, and constantly recruited by the importation of ignorant people from abroad. We do not wish to boast of intelligence, but we are not afraid to be put to the test, and for an example we will compare Utah and Missouri. The following statistics were compiled by United States officers, and appeared in print in St. Louis about two years ago:

	Per cent.
Utah's pauperage,	61
Missouri's pauperage,	14
Utah's insane and idiotic,	52
Missouri's insane and idiotic,	11 2-3
Utah's convicts,	3 1-9
Missouri's convicts,	83
Utah's illiteracy,	11
Missouri's illiteracy,	21 2-3
Utah's printing and publishing,	133
Missouri's printing and publishing,	61

This favorable condition of Utah is the result of "Mormonism," to which we are indebted for all our success. Through all the trying scenes which our people have passed it is a noticeable fact that the watch-care of Providence has been and is now extended in their behalf. They flourish in the mountains and increase like Israel of old. The desert rejoices and blossoms as the rose, and in the habitations of the Saints; from Idaho to Arizona, is heard the voice of melody and thanksgiving, while those who oppress them shall wither away, and ere long their names will rot in oblivion. What is the matter, then? Why do the people "rage and imagine a vain thing"? It is because God has spoken from the heavens, and restored the keys of salvation to men upon the earth. Satan knows this, and therefore inspires the wicked to fight against the truth. When Cain and Abel offered sacrifice to the Lord, the former being corrupt at heart, was moved with envy when he beheld the favor of heaven resting upon the younger brother and his own offering rejected, and therefore slew him. The offering and sacrifice of the Latter-day Saints has been so acceptable to our Heavenly Father that the care, protection and blessings of the Lord have ever attended them. Their enemies, moved with envy and hatred, would like to see them obliterated from the face of the earth.

But allow me the privilege of offering my testimony upon the strength of what God has revealed, that whosoever will raise his puny arm or influence in any way against the Latter-day Saints or their religion will meet with adversity and suffer the curses of God in time and in eternity, except he speedily repents of his sins. This is true, whether applied to individuals, states or nations. Therefore I would warn all men, as a servant of God and a friend of man, to refrain from persecuting the "Mormons" or any one else, and from joining any combination of men for the purpose of oppressing their fellowman. "For with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

The Elders of Israel have been for years, and are now in the nations of the earth, calling upon the human family, by the authority of Heaven, to repent of their sins and obey the everlasting gospel. After the testimony of these Elders will follow in quick succession the judgments of God—such as universal

strife and bloodshed in the nations of the earth, with numerous calamities, as predicted by the Savior and His Prophets, ancient and modern, until the "consumption decreed shall make a full end of all nations," to be succeeded by the kingdom of God and His Christ," to reign in power and great glory.

Very respectfully,  
M. F. COWLEY,  
"Mormon" Elder.

THE BOOK OF MORMON AGAIN  
SUSTAINED.

ONE of the objections raised to the Book of Mormon many years ago was the statement that with the plates from which it was transcribed was found a breastplate, also that the Book speaks of armor worn by the Nephites. It was claimed by opponents that the aborigines of this country knew nothing about armor or its manufacture, and therefore these statements were proof of imposture.

In a very nice little work recently published by Estes & Lauriat, of Boston, entitled "Young Folks' History of America," is an account of a stone covered with hieroglyphics, at Dighton, Massachusetts, and also of a skeleton in armor, of a kind dissimilar from any armor of historical date. Following is the description taken from the book, which gives also cuts of the stone and the skeleton.

"The celebrated Writing Rock at Dighton is situated on the Taunton River, a stream associated with many Indian traditions and events of colonial history. It is often visited by antiquaries, and its inscriptions are well preserved. It consists of a solitary mass of fine-grained granite, lying on the sands of the river, a few feet above low-water mark, but covered with water at each rising of the tide. On the water side it presents an inclined plane, the face of which, eleven feet by five feet, seems to have been originally covered with sculptures and hieroglyphic inscriptions. The face of the rock is extremely hard, and, however old the inscriptions may be, those that rise above the low-water mark can have undergone but little change from the action of the elements.

The rock was noticed by the Pilgrims, but received little attention from historians and antiquaries until the years 1834-35, when a most extraordinary relic was found a few miles distant, in the town of Fall River. In digging down a hill near the town, a mass of earth slid off, uncovering a human skull, which was found to belong to a skeleton buried in a sitting posture, enveloped in a covering of bark. This envelope was removed, when the astonished workman saw that the trunk of this skeleton was encased in a breastplate of brass. The breastplate which was similar to that which Homer describes as having been worn by Hector, was thirteen inches long, six inches broad at the upper end and about five inches at the lower. It was about one-eighth of an inch in thickness.

But what is most remarkable about this armor is, that it seems to have no association with the armorial customs of Northern or Eastern Europe, nor with any recent historical date. Below the breastplate, and entirely encircling the body, was a belt composed of brass tubes, each four and a half inches in length and three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter. The tubes were cast upon hollow rods, and were so prepared as to protect the vulnerable parts of the body below the breastplates."

The Book of Mormon gives an account of engravings on a stone, and the discovery related above is evidence that the ancient dwellers on this land did write in hieroglyphics in that manner:

"And it came to pass that in the days of Mosiah there was a large stone brought unto him with engravings on it, and he did interpret the engravings by the gift and power of God." Book of Mormon, p. 156.

In regard to the armor worn by the Nephites, in their wars with the Lamanites, we have the following:

"37. And the work of death commenced on both sides, but it was more dreadful on the part of the Lamanites, for their nakedness was exposed to the heavy blows of the Nephites, with their swords and their cimeters, which brought death almost at every stroke.

"38. While on the other hand