

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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INCONSISTENT AND ABUSIVE AS USUAL.

The other day we noted the fact that the editor of the *Tribune* was given to indulgence in extraordinary flights. We gave as an example his aerial journey after a comet which appeared over France two or three hundred years ago, his darting downward to that country, floating down the current of time, and bringing up at his usual stopping place—among Utah and the "Mormons."

He indulged in another float yesterday morning, under the head of "Crimes in religion's name." He started out with this:

"Within the past month a great soldier and a garrison of two thousand men have been slaughtered in a far-off city in mid-Africa."

After wading through the atrocities of the Sudan, winding up the narrative with the massacre of Col. Stewart, he throws his burned cotton thread halter-strap over his favorite hitching post. He settles down on the Saints as a fitting people upon whom to fasten an application of the recent troubles in Africa. Such a method of treating a local subject is not simply incongruous—it is laughable, and indicates a striking poverty of material.

But while the head and body of the article are wonderfully slender the tail is of more straw-like proportion still. Read this:

"The dullest mind can see how many points in common there are between that thing called religion in Africa, and this thing called religion in Utah. The sensual and the mercenary rule."

In order to show with what grace the *Tribune* can speak in relation to sensuousness, it is now in order to quote from an editorial in that paper of March 6th, 1881, under the head of "What Utah Wants." It incorporated what purported to be some remarks made by an acquaintance of the *Tribune* editor, one of his own kind—made to him personally:

"At all events I rejoice to see the young Mormon hoodlums playing billiards, getting drunk, running with bad women, anything to break the shackles they were born in, and that every so-called virtuous or religious influence only makes the stronger."

In the same article was given the editor's own endorsement of these elevated means of drawing young "Mormons" away from the morally restraining influence of their religion—the method by which they were to be freed. We quote:

"Freedom is the first requisite of manhood, and if it can be won without excesses, so much the better. If it can't, never mind the excesses, win the freedom."

Thus was sensuousness advocated by that sheet as a means of drawing the young people away from a religious institution whose genius and practice is opposed to it. If sensuality were within the reach of the Church member while he remained connected with it, the bait with which he was to be lured from the influences of the body religious would have no effect. Logically the temptation to indulgence in sensuous practices was to lead him away from an institution which condemns them.

The charge of venality is ridiculous, as applied to a people like the Latter-day Saints, who, as a rule, are so self-sacrificing that they consider earthly possessions as nothing compared to their religious convictions. This characteristic has been exemplified throughout their entire career.

Now listen to this:

"The press of this city which does the bidding of the rulers of this creed demand that the courts of justice shall cease their work; that judges and attorneys shall by inaction, violate their oaths and so low is their estimate of human nature and real principle in men that they openly propose to boycott in business such men as shall not join in their cry. And still, clinging to their sordid beliefs, they ascribe to those who are seeking to enforce the laws, and to those who oppose their work, no motive except to obtain the property of the law-breakers. A moment's reasoning would make it clear to them that if the polygamists were to leave Utah to-morrow, and take with them the exclusive right of permitting others to enter that state, the property values in Utah, especially in this city, would be enhanced fifty per cent. within thirty days.

The press without any bidding from any quarter has called upon judges

and attorneys to stop violating their oaths, and administer the law humanely and impartially. To stop pursuing one class of alleged offenders—"Mormons"—for unlawful cohabitation and making no effort to bring non-"Mormon" offenders to justice because of their unlawful practices are carried on outside of the "marriage relation." They are called upon to stop the packed jury system, specially applied to convict "Mormons," and requested to keep proceedings within the rules of law. They are asked to stop the inhuman and brutal insults to which lady witnesses have been subjected.

The motives of those who actively participate in the present crusade—it cannot be consistently called by any other name—are too transparent to be mistaken. They bear a plain imprint, easily perceived by people whose eyes are open to the truth.

So far as the boycotting business is concerned, if the Latter-day Saints wish to put a financial weapon in the hands of those who are constantly seeking their injury, then they will manifest much less judgment than they ought to possess. To withhold would be a proper policy of safety and much more excusable than the course now pursued in England toward the unfortunate Irish people. The objective point of the crusaders is as sacred to the Saints as life. We are aware, however, that there are many anti-"Mormons," who are cursing the present raid, and if present indications hold good some of their mutterings against it will break out into a demonstration. It is only the fear of the lash of a bitter anti-"Mormon" press that prevents such an exhibition now.

The driving out of the community of a certain class of citizens would have the directly opposite effect to that presaged by the paper whose bitter bias we have been exposing. The result already from the limited existence for the cause is sufficient to prove that point.

In another part of the same issue the editor of the *Tribune* resumes his favorite role of school-boy bully and calls us disgraceful names. This amuses us, and shows every sensible reader that this mode of answering is resorted to in the absence of power to make a sensible reply. It also manifests the kind of a "gentleman" such a mixture of childishness and brutality could emanate from. The writer pretends to quote from the *News* in saying, "He—meaning us—"is sure that

The proposition he advanced, to boycott the merchants who will not join in the cry to make the courts close their doors against offenders, is something we cannot answer."

We never used any such expression. We did say this, and still hold to it:

"If the anti-"Mormon" raid continues, it will reduce business to a paralytic state, and instead of solving any "Mormon" problem, it will solve the "Gentile" problem by rendering a non-"Mormon" exodus inevitable. An absence of business means an ultimate absence of "Gentiles." The "Mormons" will stay."

The *Tribune* all the time tries to make it appear that the crusade is against polygamy cases, when everybody here knows that the burden of the assault is directed against persons supposed to be guilty of unlawful cohabitation. The fact is that there is a sparse field for operation in polygamy cases, and "Mormons" are hunted for living with their families, while the conduct of non-"Mormons" who break the law under which the Saints are prosecuted is never inquired into by the extra-officious officials.

THE ALTA CATASTROPHE.

Of all the snowslide disasters that have occurred at Alta that of Friday was the most appalling. This fearful catastrophe has caused a renewal of the comments in relation to the foolhardy conduct of people who undertake to winter in so dangerous a locality living almost in the jaws of death. But such warnings and homilies are of no avail. It is not the lack of sense, nor perhaps a want of appreciation of the presence of a great danger that cause people to dwell in that mountain fastness, which has probably brought untimely death to a hundred persons within a comparatively few years. It is necessity that takes them there. So long as there is work to be obtained at Alta, and the means of subsistence is procurable by performing it, people will be found who will accept the situation with all its dangers, rather than remain without employment. Existence with them is not worth having without work as a means of sustaining it in some sort of independence. For the present there seems to be no preventive for the calamities, the accounts of which almost take away one's breath for a time. No means now known to science is adequate to hold the mammoth bulks of snow in their places on the sides of the huge and precipitous mountains until they are reduced to liquid by the action of the solar rays and dash down the deep gulleys to the smiling plains below. The tremendous masses accumulated in localities like Alta are sure, under certain conditions of the atmosphere, to cut loose from their moorings and descend with a roar and rush, carrying death and destruction in their course, culminating in a living tomb for numbers of human victims.

Whatever excuse may exist for adult people exposing their lives and limbs to the terrible danger from snowslides in the mountain mining district, where so many have suffered death from that cause does not appear to apply to the taking into the same dangerous locality of little children. These at least could be placed where they would be safe during the snowslide season.

TROUBLE AT BOISE.

INTELLIGENCE from Boise City informs us that the ridiculous doings of the late Legislature of Idaho Territory have culminated in a destructive row of considerable dimensions. The political factionists have taken to sack-ing one newspaper office and attempting to fire another, and conduct of that kind is more likely than not to culminate in deeds of blood. "The political ring which has carried matters with such a high hand," is described as "still active." We should rather think the clique who have been working at the political bellows in Idaho have been carrying things with a high hand, and with a decidedly outstretched arm. And now the conflicting elements are lashed into a veritable fury. A row of this character is a fitting culmination to the outrageous frauds perpetrated at the last election, and the insane doings of the Legislature, the majority of whose members passed anti-"Mormon" acts that could not be excused or palliated from any sensible standpoint. The test oath and election bills were, from a legislative point of view, much more incendiary, inexcusable and destructive in spirit than the acts of violence perpetrated at Boise on Friday night. There can be little doubt that the riotous scenes were caused by a quarrel over the spoils of office, an agreement between a couple of conspirators against the public weal—Governor Bunn and U. S. Marshal Dubois—having been broken by one or the other or both. Both are a disgrace to the government which appointed them to their positions, from which they should be unceremoniously removed.

REGARD FOR THE SANCTITY OF HOME.

The promoters of the present raid upon the "Mormons" affect great regard for the sanctity of the home. The word HOME has a sound that goes to the Anglo-Saxon heart. It touches a chord that vibrates with sweet music. It is resonant with pleasant memories and tuneless with notes of pure affection. It comprehends the joys of the family relation and is suggestive of hallowed unity. The tenderest ties that bind human hearts together are centered in that which the word denotes, and to preserve it with all that it properly implies, is the duty of every enlightened individual. That is why the charge that the "Mormon" system is aimed against home and the family stirs up so much anger among those who do not stop to hear the other side.

It is not true that there is anything in the marriage system of the Latter-day Saints that either is intended to disrupt the family and destroy the home circle, or has that effect in practice. Carried out according to its true meaning and intent, celestial marriage extends the home influence, increases family connections, cements the union of kindred, and makes conjugal relations and their offspring solid and perpetual. It lays the foundation upon which the family, under Divine favor, may build eternal and ever-widening homes.

But suppose that the "Mormon" idea of marriage is erroneous, and that its advocates are mistaken; that the ancient worthies who were the friends of God and are held up in holy writ as the examples for men of later times, as well as their followers in these days are mistaken. Are the aiders, abettors and promoters of this legal violence taking a course either to prove the system wrong or rectify the alleged evil? Is anything of that kind that is now being attempted likely to promote the sanctity of home, or establish that family union that is claimed to be so essential to the public welfare?

Will not thoughtful "Gentiles" consider this matter a little, apart from the sensation and excitement occasioned by the onslaught that has been made upon "Mormon" households? Look at the work of the "Christian" crusaders! Families that have been building up for scores of years thrown into disorder and dismay. Husbands seized and placed in legal jeopardy or forced to leave their homes to avoid it. Wives dragged before courts and secret inquisitions and plied with illegal questions concerning their lawful husbands. Plural wives seized, and under threats of fine and imprisonment forced to answer prurient interrogations, and disclose their most intimate relations with the men to whom they have been united by, to them, the holiest of ordinances. Little children of tender years dragged before grand juries and badgered and scared into telling all they know, or imagine, or is suggested to them by their inquisitors, about the private relations of their fathers and mothers. Lady witnesses compelled, under the terrors of the law, to testify as to the pregnancy of their female friends. Spies and informers sent to sneak around people's kitchens and

bed-chambers, to intrude into houses under various guises, to nose out the private and domestic doings of the inhabitants. What for? Why, to preserve the sanctity of home! To maintain the purity of the family! To exhibit burning zeal for "Christian" virtue.

Ministers of religious sects, are you not ashamed of the work you have urged and are encouraging? If these people so assailed were not "Mormons," impregnable to your sectarian influences, would you not cry out aloud in valiant protest against such infamous proceedings? Out upon you for a set of hypocrites, whom Christ will despise when you stand before the great, white throne!

And you, minions of the courts, who pretend that it is duty you are after, and the law that you wish to magnify. Do you not think that your pretences are seen through by decent men who view your dirty work? Why is it that your zeal for "the law" only bursts out in one direction? Why are happy and contented families disrupted, and the haunts of the vile left riotous, untouched, in hellish license? Why are men who have formed family relations that effect no one but the parties, who are satisfied with their status, hunted and hounded by scamps and renegades, and the debauchee and the strumpet, the whoremonger and the piap, left free and unassailed? Why are grand juries kept busy in forcing evidence out of wives and children against their husbands and fathers, while vice and crime are allowed to flourish without restraint of yours, and no organized effort is made to vindicate the law except in one direction, and that to destroy, not build up or protect the home and the family?

It may be said that indictments have been found against persons accused of various crimes. Quite true. But who has been the occasion of the inquiries? Have any special efforts been made by the Prosecuting Attorney, his horde of sneaks, his herd of spotters, his band of deputies or the grand jury, to ferret out crime or inquire into anything that has not come up in the ordinary way and through the complaints of the injured parties? If so, tell us a case. It is a matter of notoriety that houses of prostitution and gambling dens have been established as "civilizing" institutions here. Are any spotters sent by the vigilant champions of the law to find out the male and female prostitutes and gamblers who are violating the law! and yet there are statutes of this Territory against them, just as binding and as much within the purview of District Attorneys and grand juries as any law of the United States.

And why do you sticklers for the law seek to violate the law? Why do you try to force legal wives who are exempt by law from your damnable and prurient inquisitions, into doing that which you have no right to request? Why do you compel little children who have no proper comprehension of the importance of an oath or understanding of what is lawful evidence, into admissions about their fathers which no decent mind would desire to elicit? And why do you torture the law and twist it out of all recognizable shape, in order to fasten your fangs upon men who are exempted by law from your clutches?

There is more disgusting hypocrisy and smug-faced pretence among officials who prate about the majesty of the law and preachers who snuffle about the sanctity of home, when assaulting the Latter-day Saints because of their religion, than has ever stirred the contempt of the heavens, not excepting the times of the noted scribes and Pharisees.

Preserve the home influence by all means. Maintain the family relation at any cost. But will this be done by breaking up homes, forcing wives to disclose the private doings of husbands, putting ideas into the heads of little children about their parents that are not proper for their tender years, making a common scandal of the inner lives of quiet and respected citizens of both sexes, agitating society to the discussion of things that are ordinarily unmentioned, and exposing to the jibe and the scoff of the libertine and the bawd the social secrets of loving husbands and faithful wives? If there is no shame in you, who take the course now pursued under the vain pretence of guarding the family principle, for consistency's sake throw off the mask and say, in truth, "we cannot convert the 'Mormons' and therefore we want to stamp them out and that is all we are after, except the fees that are the price of our perfidy!"

A PROPER STAND.

ELSEWHERE will be found a card regarding McKee Rankin, who, with his company, is about to enter upon an engagement at the Salt Lake Theatre. Perhaps it is needless to state that a man who has moved by mercenary motives, been the means of creating bitter animosity, by a scandalous drama, against the Latter-day Saints, is not entitled to the slightest consideration from them. They are constantly maligned and maltreated, and appear to have but few friends outside of their own lines. They have been imposed upon with impunity times without number, and have frequently not even made an attempt at defence. We hope the era of comparative inaction in that regard is banished forever, and that whatever available legitimate defensive means is within their reach will be, from this time on, used for all it is worth. In the present instance the disapproval of the people who

have been scandalized by Mr. Rankin's instrumentality can, if they so elect, be expressed by withholding what he is anxious to obtain—their patronage. Empty benches is the just desert of such a person under the circumstances?

THE BOISE EMBROILMENT.

THE *Shoshone Journal* of Saturday contains this reference to the mobocratic operations of the Idaho political conspirators at Boise:

"A report received as the *Journal* goes to press says, the *Democrat* office was set on fire, and the *Republican* office gutted and destroyed this morning by a mob of Fride's and Governor Bunn's minions, in order to suppress public opinion and cover up disclosures which criminate public officials in connection with the capital steal, and other corrupt jobberies. Boise is in a state of ferment. The people will stand by and protect the press, if necessary, and will consign to infamy the instigators of mob law, and the bribers and corruptors of legislation. A real danger menaces our institutions if such officials go unpunished."

HOME INDUSTRIES.

THE subject of establishing home industries in our midst by which the community may be rendered more self-supporting should not be lost sight of. It is one that demands the immediate attention of the best minds among us and determined and intelligent action on the part of some as well as a willingness on the part of the balance to second the efforts made by their liberal patronage.

We have an idea that the time will, come when certain parts of our Territory will be devoted to special industries, such as the natural facilities render them best adapted for. As Iron County is at some time in the future bound to become the centre of the iron trade of this region, owing to the facilities that exist there for this branch of business, so the Sandridge, over Jordan, or other localities throughout the Territory, which will be found to be specially adapted for the raising of sorghum, will become the seat of the sugar manufacture in this region. So, too, those localities in which the mulberry trees flourish and the silkworms thrive the best, will be devoted to the cultivation and manufacture of silk; and whatever part of our Territory is found to be best suited to the raising of flax, will be chiefly devoted to that.

We need not expect any of these industries mentioned, or the scores of others that might be mentioned, to succeed until there is union of action. For one man to undertake to raise sorghum and hope to succeed in manufacturing sugar from it on a small scale, profitably, is folly. But if the whole people of a ward located in a region which is well adapted to the culture of cane were to unite and have a factory established right in their midst, there is no reason why they should not succeed here as they have in other places. It has already been demonstrated that sugar can be manufactured from sorghum raised in this Territory, and that too, at an immense profit.

As a means towards attaining the most advantageous results by classifying crops, and laboring unitedly, we would recommend our agricultural friends to establish farmers' and gardeners' clubs or other organizations to hold regular meetings for the purpose of comparing notes, discussing methods and disseminating information. Such organizations might exist with advantage in every ward and settlement, and libraries be established in connection therewith, so that the members could profit by the intelligence and experience of others in other parts of the world, as they could not by their individual and separate efforts. If such organizations existed, the members would be able to obtain, through the Delegate to Congress, favors from the National Department of Agriculture in the shape of samples of seeds and published reports, that would prove of public advantage.

If immediate steps be taken in this matter, much can be accomplished even this year towards developing the natural resources of our Territory and checking the constant drain upon the finances of the people, which is entailed by the importation of articles that can just as well be raised or manufactured here at home.

The culture of broom corn and the manufacture of brooms might very profitably occupy the attention of some of the people of this region.

According to the most reliable information obtainable it seems that the people of Utah spend from \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually for brooms, two-thirds of which are imported ready-made and the balance nearly all manufactured from imported material. And yet many parts of Utah are well adapted to the raising of broom corn; and if properly cultivated a crop of it will yield a clear profit of from \$30 to \$40 per acre. Indeed, as high as \$60 per acre has been realized, as profit, in this Territory when corn brought a higher price than it does now.

There is really no reason why all the brooms required in this Territory and a good share of those required in the surrounding region should not be made right here at home, and that too from home-raised material. It simply wants a united and determined effort on the part of a few to accomplish this.