

them and they most practically demonstrate their belief and are staunch and faithful supporters of the rum-sellers. As for their veracity and obasity, they are well known and need no comment."

"The Mormon religion is a human religion, and is most admirably adapted to man in his corrupt natural state. (1) It takes for granted that man by nature is a religious animal. (2) It takes for granted that he is an irreligious animal. (3) That these two characteristics of the natural heart must be fully satisfied; and nothing but an absolute Priestcraft could complete the harmony of such a religion."

There are "wolves in sheep's clothing" among all religious flocks. If the Rev. Jas. Thomson, of Smithfield, is not one of them the saying is without meaning. If the Father of Lies had set himself to the task of completely mistating and perverting the beliefs and endeavors of the Latter-day Saints he could not have succeeded any better than has this professed preacher of the gospel. What object he could have in making statements that every well-informed person knows to be utterly false, is a question that at once presents itself. Here is his own explanation for writing such stuff:

"I want to impress the Board that the missionaries of Utah have something to contend with."

We "want to impress the Board" with the fact that this particular missionary is unworthy of credence and totally unfit to occupy any position under its auspices. There is not a word of truth in all his assertions which we have quoted. There is no excuse for them except that which he has given and the rancor that springs up in a scoured and chagrined soul. He says:

"I have attempted special services twice but am unable to report any definite result."

"I had hoped to secure a hearing from the leading Mormons, but they would not enter our chapel."

He goes on to state that he has been teaching a commercial class and obtained thirty pupils, but he says:

"While I gained their respect and confidence I did not secure their attendance at public worship."

"They are not unlike the Indians lying in ambush. They will sail forth as by magic until they fill the house and yard and then again scarcely one can be seen anywhere."

The probability is that one preaching from this person was sufficient. The people sized him up. If they had discernment they perceived his insincerity and beheld the blackness of his false heart. The Rev. Jas. Thompson with a p is not likely to prove a success in Utah or anywhere else where truth is valued and slander is despised. His proper place is described in Rev. xxii v. 15.

We are pleased to turn from this disagreeable reference, to a letter we have received from one of the Reverend gentlemen who visited this city with the Presbyterian delegation and who with many others have spoken favorably of our services and our people. He has since been reading the works of the Church. We do not know that he would like us to use his name, as he is the pastor of a Presbyterian church in Ohio, therefore we

merely quote one passage in his letter without designating the writer:

"My whole idea as regards the Latter-day Saints, or 'Mormons' as they are called, have undergone a complete revolution. I had been led to look upon them as ignorant, bigoted, narrow, selfish, sensual, devilish. But I found them intelligent, cultivated, devout, generous, charitable, consecrated, worthy of both place and position among the other religious denominations of the world. I base my conclusions upon what I saw and heard while sojourning in your far-famed and beautiful city."

Such just appreciation from cultured and Christian gentlemen more than compensate for the perversions of the small-souled, ill-bred and disappointed pulpsters who seek to spread scandal and foster prejudice among the uninformed. We hope that many more of the religious teachers of the sects will come to Utah and see the "Mormons" as they are, and that they will look into our doctrines, and find out what we believe not from our enemies but from the authorized expositions of our Church. Those who do this will find that good can "come out of Nazareth."

THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO.

In the *New England Magazine* for July there is an instructive article on "The Republic of Mexico," by Don Cayetano Romero, first secretary of the Mexican legation at Washington. As he shows, to the student and historian Mexico affords varied and wonderful points of interest.

History throws but little light on the primitive settlers of Mexico. It is supposed that the Toltecs and the tribes which succeeded them came from the north. Scholars who have investigated the habits and institutions of the Aztecs claim that they came originally from some Asiatic country, but no similarity can be found between the Mexican languages and those of the Oriental nations. The Toltecs were learned in the arts, in agriculture and in computing time. Owing to internal strife they were expelled from the country by other tribes, it is said, about the fifth century of the Christian era.

The Chichimecs followed the Toltecs. They were followed by other tribes, and finally the Aztecs, who are the progenitors of the present Mexicans, obtained control of the country. It was during the reign of Montezuma the Second, eighth king of the Aztecs that the Spanish expeditions of Velazquez, Hernandez, Grijalva and Cortes took place. The latter landed at Vera Cruz April 21, 1519, marched through Mexico and entered its capital November following, escorted by Montezuma.

The conquest of the country was not complete until 1525, when Cortez was made the first governor under Spanish rule. After Cortez Mexico was governed by Royal councils, technically called Audiencias. Later on that form of government was abolished and a system of viceroys adopted, which prevailed until 1821, when after some desperate fighting the country was organized under a regency, and later on an empire under Iturbide. Santa Anna next appeared on the scene and inaugurated a revolu-

tion. This resulted in the establishment of a republic in 1824, Guadalupe being the first President.

From 1828 to 1846 Mexico was the theatre of a series of sanguinary revolutions. During the latter year "the United States of America declared an unjust war on Mexico, and succeeded in wresting a large extent of territory." From 1862 to 1867 the Mexicans fought nobly against European dictation, and finally executed Maximilian at Queretaro.

Porfirio Diaz was inaugurated President in May, 1877. He was succeeded by Gonzalez in December, 1880. In December, 1884, Diaz was inaugurated a second time, and a third time in December, 1888. He is a candidate for re-election this year, and his inauguration next December is wished for by the vast majority of progressive Mexicans. Under his administration progress in that country has been marvelous. Agriculture, mining, railroad building and manufacturing have made wonderful strides. The relations between that country and the United States have grown closer and more amicable.

The gold, silver and copper produced in Mexico from 1821 to 1884 is estimated at nearly \$4,000,000,000. The annual production of silver is now over \$30,000,000; that of other minerals \$5,000,000.

Public lands open for settlement are found in Chihuahua, Coahuila, Durango, Sinaloa, Sonora and other States. The Diaz administration offers liberal inducements to bona fide settlers. So far it is not being rapidly populated. The number of colonists introduced during 1890 amounted to only 6500.

THE "HOME RULE" BILL.

THE "Home Rule" bill passed the House of Representatives on Friday evening, by a vote of 166 to 41, after much filibustering on the part of the Republicans, and considerable misrepresentation of its provisions and the purpose for which it was framed. Whatever may be urged against the bill—and we have pointed out what appeared to be its defects—the statements that it is a "Mormon" measure and that it was intended to throw the Territory into the control of the "Mormon" Church, are both untruthful and absurd. Equally false is the assertion that it takes away from the Federal authority power to punish offences under the anti-polygamy acts and to regulate legislation in the Territory.

When men resort to such misrepresentations as those, it argues badly for their cause and is tantamount to a confession that they have nothing very strong that is truthful to argue against that which they fight.

The "Mormons" had nothing to do with the framing of this bill, nor with its presentation to Congress. The Delegate from Utah introduced it in the House when Senator Faulkner presented it in the Senate. But he did so as a Democrat with a measure framed by his party, and also because he believed it as good a measure as could be obtained at present. Its projectors were of the same opinion. They proclaim themselves ready to work for statehood complete, as soon as there is any prospect for its attainment. They