

TRUST IN GOD.

I know not what the future hath
Of marvel or surprise,
Assured alone that life and death
His mercy underlies.

And if my heart and flesh are weak
To bear an untried pain,
The bruised reed he will not break,
But strengthen and sustain.

No offering of my own I have,
Nor works my faith to prove;
I can but give the gift he gave,
And plead his love for love.

And so beside the silent sea
I wait the muffled oar;
No harm from him can come to me
On ocean or on shore.

I know not where His islands lift,
Their fronded palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
Beyond his love and care.

I. G. Whittier.

President Grant, Clagett and Merritt on Utah.

A few days since President Grant went down to the Capitol and called out certain prominent members of the Judiciary Committees of the two houses. He told them that he desired some practical legislation before adjournment with regard to Utah matters. He intimated pretty clearly that he was tired of the contest out there between the federal officials and those claiming to be acting under the Territorial laws; that what he wished was such laws enacted as would at once quiet the disturbance by making the federal authority supreme. It had been going on since the organization of the Territory by the indifference of Congress, and it was quite time it was put a stop to. It is understood that in accordance with the views then expressed, he will send to-morrow a special message to Congress calling the attention of the Senate and House of Representatives to Utah affairs, recommending, among other matters, more especially the selection of jurors in the federal courts in such manner as will take that power out of the hands of the Mormon authorities, who, it is claimed, render the laws entirely inoperative by so constituting the juries as to make it impossible to obtain a conviction where it may be against the interests of the Mormon leaders or the teachings of the Church authorities; also advising that the United States Attorney be made the prosecuting officer in all Territorial cases as well as those of the United States; the United States marshal in the same manner to be the officer serving processes as well in Territorial cases; the probate courts to be prohibited from exercising either common law or chancery jurisdiction and confined to their legitimate duties. If these suggestions are carried out it places in the Courts held by federal judges the settlement of all the civil and criminal suits of the Territory, as is the case in all the other Territories but Utah. In the latter the probate courts of each county have been invested by the Mormon Legislature with all the powers of the district courts, and they have exercised it to the fullest extent, even at times in defiance of the mandates of the superior courts, as was shown recently when a probate judge liberated on a habeas corpus a person remanded to jail by order of Chief Justice McKean.

It is rumored that should the required legislation be obtained the President will appoint Delegate Clagett of Montana, Governor of the Territory, in place of Woods, the present occupant, with the assurance that if needed he shall have the whole power of the government to sustain him. Those here conversant with Utah affairs appear to be much gratified with the action of the President, and say that so far from causing trouble it will end it. There will, of course, be bluster on the part of the Mormon leaders and papers; but there is much greater dissatisfaction among Brigham's followers than is generally known, and as soon as the mass of the people see the workings of the courts free from the interference of Church leaders, and feel sure of protection there will be a very general revolt.

Delegates Merritt of Idaho, and Clagett of Montana, accompanied by a *Herald* correspondent, had another interview yesterday with the President in regard to the state of affairs in Utah. The President was not in a communicative mood, but listened with great attention to the remarks of Messrs. Merritt and Clagett now and then replying in his laconic manner. Utah is now evidently uppermost in the mind

of the President, and he intends to send a special message to Congress on that subject in a few days, as may be seen by the following conversation:—

MR. MERRITT—Mr. President, I have come again to speak about the vexed question as to whether Mormon despotism or the law of the land shall have supremacy in Utah. Owing to the shortness of the present session and the impracticability of their being an extra session it is absolutely necessary that there should be some Congressional legislation for Utah, and very speedily.

The PRESIDENT—I fully appreciate the situation of affairs, and have given the subject much consideration.

MR. CLAGETT—It is very evident, from the appearance of things, that the Mormons are fighting for delay, in order to defeat action by Congress this session. I therefore respectfully suggest to you, sir, that you send a special message to Congress requesting that body to devise measures to remedy the dangerous and anomalous condition of things in one of the fairest parts of our great country, which is disgraced by constant criminal practices too revolting to mention.

The PRESIDENT—I have already had under consideration the preparing of a special message, and will have it delivered to both Houses of Congress in a day or two. I am much pressed in my official duties, but I shall give the matter immediate attention.

MR. MERRITT—In view of the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court in the case of Engelbrecht vs. Clinton, it is totally impossible for the United States courts in Utah to obtain a jury without the action of the Mormon authorities, and they have determined not to summon any more juries to serve in the United States courts.

The PRESIDENT—I am fully aware of that decision and of the necessity of Congressional legislation for Utah to obviate that difficulty, and I will submit to Congress as soon as possible a special message upon the subject of the necessity of legislation in Utah to compel obedience to the laws and bring that Territory into harmonious relations with the federal government.—*New York Herald*.

Grant and Brigham.

All Mormonism is again in a turmoil, anticipating the blood-thirsty Sheridan and his troopers, or perhaps the entire available force of the United States army outside the brigades required to watch Captain Jack and his four-score braves. For it is with the military arm says the *Boston Post*, that the President now purposes to move against the contemptuous polygamists, satisfied of the ill-success of all administration "policies" unsupported by bayonets. * * * It is only too evident that the evil cannot be removed or destroyed by efforts themselves illegal and subversive of Constitutional rights. The President and his friends endeavored to suppress Brigham Young in a semi-judicial manner last year. Federal officers arrested the Prophet and half a dozen Elders and the federal courts undertook the business of trying their cases, until a definite stop was put to the proceeding by the decision of the Supreme Bench of the United States that the interference was an illegal aggression. Judge McKean failed as utterly to overthrow Mormonism by the authority of the general government, as did Dr. Newman in confuting the wickedly shrewd Elder Orson Pratt in debate. Having vainly sent out representatives of the ecclesiastical and judicial departments of the Federal Government, the President is represented as anxious to test the military.

It is evident, in all this business, that the Administration proceeds under the impression that the central power is omnipotent; and this mistake, although perfectly consistent with the President's conduct elsewhere, has caused our failure in Utah. * * * The laws of the Territory, which Grant would "enforce" in the only way he knows by direct orders from headquarters at the White House, are so many bulwarks against his assaults. He came off discomfited in the attack through the Federal courts, and the same result will follow any attempt to solve the Mormon problem without reference to Constitutional rights. It requires a different method from that to which the President is accustomed. The enforce-

ment of the laws of the Territory is already provided for through local courts, and if these laws permit wrong in any way the evil is not to be overcome after the manner in which the Louisiana Legislature was coerced, or by the interference of any of the Executive departments of the Federal Government, but by legislation. Anxious as the whole nation is to see this * * * polygamy removed, there are few willing to have it done through a further usurpation of central power.—*Rutland, Vt., Courier, Feb. 14*.

President Grant and the Last of the Twin Relics.

President Grant has taken a short and soldier-like road out of the Utah troubles and complications. He is tired of the constant and annoying conflict between the federal Courts and the Territorial Probate Courts inseparable from the state of semi-revolt against the laws and authority of the United States in which the Mormon leaders exist. It is evident to him, as to every practical man, that the present condition of affairs cannot long continue without leading to deplorable results, and he is anxious that the matter shall be brought promptly to an issue. It is worth while testing whether or no we are living under a government which can be made the sport of every set of crazy fanatics or designing adventurers that may choose to settle in the Territories of the Union.

A few days ago, as our Washington advices inform us, the President went to the Capitol and sought an interview with the members of the Judiciary Committees of the two houses, placing before them his views on this subject and asking for some practical legislation to settle the difficulties in Utah before the adjournment of Congress. He wanted such laws enacted as would define the powers of the federal Courts and make them supreme, and he requested that there might be an end to that indifference on the part of Congress to the affairs of Utah to which all the trouble may be traced. * * * At present the Probate Courts, under the color of authority from the Legislature of the Territory, are exercising jurisdiction to which they are not entitled, and through the packing of jurors the authority of the United States Courts is practically destroyed in any cases in which the Mormon Church is interested.

The suggestions of the President do not come too soon, and Congress should act upon them at once. Independent of the pledge of the republican party to destroy the "twin relics" the impudent encroachments of Mormonism are a scandal and reproach to the nation. Such laws should be passed as will compel the Mormon leaders to act as loyal citizens of the Republic or to avow themselves its open enemies; such laws as will oblige them to cease their semi-insurrectionary conduct or punish them if they do not. There is no doubt that the rule of Brigham Young and his Church has been a rule of the most cruel tyranny, and the deluded victims of the oppression will only too gladly hail the power that will effectually disenthral them. We have had temporizing enough over this disgraceful matter. Now let the sensible recommendations of President Grant be promptly acted upon, and let us put an end to the ridiculous and mischievous farce.—*N. Y. Herald, Feb. 14*.

The Mormon Question.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.

The President's visits to the Capitol, and the consultations which he and his Cabinet officers have had with the members of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, have been definitely ascertained to have reference to legislation upon the Mormon question.

The President is represented as very much interested in the subject, and the movements of Chaplain Newman, Delegate Clagett of Montana, and Delegate Merritt of Idaho, are such as to induce the belief that a determined fight against the Mormons will soon be made. The first proposition is to obtain the removal of Governor Woods, whose hatred of the Mormons is not up to the Newman-Clagett standard, but it is found that this will be difficult to do, because Gov. Woods was appointed through the influence of Attorney-General Williams, who is much

less radical than the President. The bill which the enemies of the Mormons have prepared has been introduced by Mr. Merritt, who, after March 4, will remove to Salt Lake City and make it his future home. The bill is a mixture of the Cullom and Voorhees bills and will be urged before the Judiciary Committee by Messrs. Clagett and Merritt at the earliest day possible.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

The Administration and the Mormons.

General Grant has evidently made up his mind against that "twin relic of barbarism," Mormon polygamy. Our special despatches from Washington and Salt Lake City indicate a revival of the "irrepressible conflict," with the fixed resolution on his part of a decisive settlement with Brigham Young and his hierarchy. In a conversation on Saturday last with a republican Senator it appears that the President expressed himself strongly in favor of an enforcement of the laws in Utah if it takes the whole available military force of the country to sustain the civil authorities. It further appears that General Sheridan has been summoned to Washington to give his advice, from personal observation, touching the best localities within a day's railroad distance from Salt Lake City for temporary encampments of troops; from which it is apparent that the existing conflicts of jurisdiction between the civil authorities of the United States and of the Territory of Utah are of such a character that in order to enforce the sovereign authority of the general government in said Territory the President is prepared for that last alternative which he thinks he may be required to adopt—of making war upon the intractable Mormons.—*N. Y. Herald, Feb. 10*.

The Frelinghuysen Bill.

WASHINGTON, 17.

The Utah bill was reported to the Senate from the judiciary committee yesterday, with amendments. It authorizes the appointment of deputy United States marshals and assistant district attorneys, for each of the judicial districts of the Territories. The United States marshal is required to make a list of 100 male citizens of the United States residing in the Territory, and from these, grand and petit jurors are to be drawn. Each party, either in civil or criminal cases, to be allowed six peremptory challenges, but no challenges to be allowed on ground that the jury has served at a previous term of court. These jurors are to act in all cases arising under the laws of the United States or of the Territory. All probate judges and notaries public to be appointed by the Governor, and subject to removal by him. The probate courts will be allowed to try civil cases involving not more than \$100, but not to exercise any criminal jurisdiction, that being exclusively lodged in the district courts, which have also exclusive original jurisdiction in all actions for divorce, alimony, etc. The district courts are also declared to be Territorial courts in all cases arising under the Territorial laws. The provisions of the bill will be seen to give the United States marshal the election of all jurors in the Territory, as there is no restriction upon his choice of names which he sends to the clerk of the court, and it also allows him to use the same jurymen in different districts, and term after term in the same district. The bill also proposes to take away from the probate courts the power to issue writs of habeas corpus. The bill repeals all Territorial election laws, including the woman suffrage act, and forbids the naturalization of persons living in or practicing bigamy or polygamy, and this last provision is not limited to Utah in its operation, so that persons who hereafter apply for naturalization in New York or elsewhere must neither live in or practice bigamy or polygamy. It also provides for the discharge from a Mormon marriage in the same way as from lawful marriage; that is, on proof of bigamy, adultery, or polygamy. Among the Territorial acts which it is proposed to annul by bill, are in ordinance incorporating the Church of Latter-day Saints, the judiciary act, the act for the organization and government of the militia, the act concerning property rights of married persons, all acts

incorporating cities or towns, all acts providing for the election by the legislature of the Territorial marshal, attorney general, auditor, treasurer, surveyor general, and wardens and directors of penitentiary. All these officers are to be appointed by the Governor. This bill is one of those favored by the Republican Senatorial caucus, and therefore is likely to come up in that body this session.

The majority of Congress are opposed to an extra session. The President will not call an extra session unless some extraordinary and now unforeseen necessity renders it necessary.—*Ogden Junction*.

General Grant's Hobby Horses.

The *New York Sun* covers the Mormon case wholly in the following statement of it. It involves a very excellent description of one of several of General Grant's hobby horses:

"On the whole, it is a good time to begin a crusade against the peculiar institution of Utah. Nothing could be more shrewdly devised than the President's proposition to go for the twin relic of barbarism. The party of moral ideas has pretty much exhausted its great Indian philanthropy. Its Christian statesmen have been falling away in public estimation and its capital as a great moral engine is pretty much exhausted. With Congress occupied entirely with investigations into the moral obliquities of Senators and representatives, and the whole country aghast at the astounding disclosures of infamies the like of which had not been suspected or dreamed of, and with the general belief growing in the public mind that the whole Congress and party are rotten to the core, it seems a very shrewd and cunning device to distract the attention of the public by stirring up excitement in regard to the Mormons, an inoffensive people who, if their peculiar institution is a blot upon civilization, are at least working their way out of it under the pressure of public opinion and the increase of light thrown upon it by the opening of communication with the East." [Are they?]

This is exactly our own view of the Mormon question. It is by no means new. As long ago as three years this paper denounced the institution of Polygamy in Utah, and pointed the way of its certain overthrow. But all this would not do. Political gamblers at Washington, "political convicts and superannuated cripples," as Mr. Taffe calls them, from other parts of the country, desired to speculate upon this "twin relic," and the result is what has been seen. General Grant wanted Polygamy as one of several hobby horses. Unhorsed by the foolishness of Judge McKean in the first raid, he now essays another. He rides it now to divert attention from the leading attraction at Washington.

Another of Mr. Grant's hobby-horses is the Cuban pony, and another is the Mexican nag. But the Mormon is the leading horse for the time, and Mr. Grant will perform a full circus upon it, if possible, Parson Newman acting as ring-master.—*Omaha Herald*.

May go through the Mill.

Our Mormon neighbors are anticipating troublesome times. We shouldn't wonder if they were put through the mill awhile, since it is reported that Grant intends "to let up" on the South. It would be impossible for him to get along without something for his troops to do, or some one for him to exercise his authority over. If the South is to go free, Brigham had better get out of the way.—*Colorado People*.

The Mormon Crisis.

There are increasing indications of an approaching Mormon crisis. The assertion of President Grant that the laws must be enforced in Utah if it takes the whole available force of the country to do it, indicates that his mind is pretty well made up about the "twin relic of barbarism." The recent movement of troops in the direction of Utah, and the presence of General Sheridan in Washington indicate that trouble is anticipated, and stirring times in Mormonism may be looked for soon.—*Indianapolis Journal*.