

EDITORIALS.

A NOISY DEMONSTRATION.

THE dispatches have brought us news to the effect that several persons have become insane over the Presidential election. That is to say, they have become confirmed lunatics. There is no room for wonder at such a result. It is somewhat remarkable, considering the multitudes of cases of temporary insanity resulting from the same cause; that the number of instances where the permanent effect was produced were so few.

Transient lunacy seemed to be rampant in our usually quiet city on Saturday night, its central part being transformed for the time being into what had the appearance of an asylum for the demented of the frantic type. The chief object of those who prepared and managed the demonstration appeared to be the largest amount of noise and flare at the smallest practicable expense. Herds of boys of various ages, and men supposed to have judgment, being old enough to possess that quality, were supplied with flaming torches and tin horns, the noise produced by the latter being an appropriate imitation of the braying of a certain long-eared quadruped, not specially noted for sagacity. Shouting and raving were the order of the night, yet the ratification demonstration as a whole, has been described as a grand affair, and an indication that Salt Lake City is becoming "Americanized." We deny the charge; otherwise, may we be saved from such Americanism, which is the substitution of sound for sense.

Enthusiasm is good in its place, because it makes the world move, but some other form and shape than that exhibited on Saturday night would be much more commendable and appropriate. It was not enthusiasm; it was wild, noisy, riotous rant, signifying nothing but the subjugation of judgment to a rampant explosion of sensation. Such scenes indicate that the distance between civilization and barbarism is as short as that which is said to separate the sublime from the ridiculous. The paper which lauded the demonstration should have capped the climax of absurdity by calling it an intellectual treat; "a feast of reason and a flow of soul."

We can now sympathize to some degree with hotel boarders and residents in that part of Indianapolis where similar noisy ebullitions were given vent. It is stated that many of them became so bewildered and disgusted with the din and turbulence that they temporarily vacated the premises they occupied. A few exhibitions of the same kind as that given on Saturday night in this city would cause the quieter class of people to feel a desire to rise in a body and establish a temporary encampment on Cottonwood.

THE KANSAS HOLOCAUST.

ONE of the most appalling pictures of suffering and helplessness which human beings are ever compelled to gaze upon, may be and often is the result of a disastrous explosion in a coal mine, containing a large number of miners. Frequently the latter are as helpless to aid or rescue themselves, or to avert or postpone the horrible death which stares them in the face, as though all their limbs were paralyzed. The Kansas holocaust described in the dispatches contained in this issue, is an illustration of the horrors which may at any time overwhelm the coal miner employed in mines where natural causes give rise to dangers which are not properly guarded against. The experience of Burcas, the miner rescued after having lain so long unconscious, is more terrible than is often described in the boldest and most graphic fiction, and the anguish of the poor women whose husbands and sons were imprisoned in the mine, baffles adequate portrayal. That one of them should have been conveyed from the scene of horror a raving maniac is not surprising.

The cause of the explosion in this mine seems to be wrapped in mystery. The theory that coal dust by being ignited could produce such a powerful explosion, that being the suggestion of the superintendent of the mine, seems hardly plausible enough for credence. The other theory, the dispatches say has been suggested, that a pocket of natural gas was struck and ignited, would account for the mechanical effects produced. If the coroner's inquest shall result in fixing upon the owners of the mine the responsibility for any kind of neglect as the cause of the disaster, they should be dealt with as severely as the law will permit, for to place a large force of men in a position as helpless as is that of a coal miner, and fail to take necessary precautions for their safety is aggravatedly criminal.

Five young men were arrested in Ogden Valley Saturday, by Sheriff Belpap, for snaring fish. They were taken to Ogden and brought before Justice Dee where they pleaded guilty. The court fined them \$2 each which they refused to pay and were committed to the county jail.

A EUROPEAN WAR CLOUD.

AMONG the dispatches which came over the wires yesterday was one which may be regarded as ominous, not to say sensational, conveying as it does, a definite prognostication that a European war is inevitable, and stating tersely the cause which must produce that calamity. Such a prediction, and explanation of the causes which must lead to its fulfillment, made by so high an authority as the organ of the Italian war office over the signature of its editor, may well be received as being deeply portentous.

The self-evident plausibility of the announcement adds to its weight. It is indeed true that the formation of the Triple Alliance has bound France in bands of iron, and it is also evident that she must burst those bands or lose her standing as a great power. A number of signs occurring during the last year or two, have indicated that France is yearning for a great leader whom her forces can follow to a successful encounter with their foes, who are so rapidly encircling her and her interests.

Such news from Europe as the telegram referred to may be expected to raise the price of bread in this country. A deliberate survey of the bread markets of the world, and their sources of supply, in connection with a like scrutiny of European politics, justifies the opinion that the staff of life will not be lower in price for some years to come than it is now, and that it may at any time jump to a much higher figure.

ANARCHIST CELEBRATION.

SATURDAY was the first anniversary of the execution of the Chicago anarchists. The event was celebrated in New York, Chicago, Pittsburg and other centres, by those who are impregnated with the anarchist theory and spirit. The gatherings were large, but not conspicuously demonstrative. These occasions indicate that the terrible fate of the Haymarket men has caused the outward exhibitions of anarchism to be less violent, but also show that the sinister evil is not yet dead. The action of the police in preventing a parade in Chicago was a wise measure of precaution, as a manifestation of that kind might have fanned the slumbering embers into a blaze. It will doubtless break out sooner or later, but the evil day should be warded off as long as possible.

DESERVING OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

THERE ought to be some determined prosecutions of officials in Idaho. No other proceedings would meet the situation. It is certain beyond a doubt that American citizens who were qualified electors under the territorial statutes, were peremptorily refused the right of suffrage and were not allowed to deposit their ballots on the day of election. The officers referred to not only neglected but absolutely refused to perform a duty enjoined upon them by law and by their official oaths. They ought to be punished for their crimes.

In the provisions concerning elections the following appears:

"Any Registrar who corruptly registers any person whom he knows is not entitled thereto, or refuses to register anyone, complying with the provisions of this act and whom he knows to be a qualified elector; also any officer connected with the administration of this law who wilfully does any act in violation of the provisions hereof which defeats an election, or renders an election unfair, or deprives electors of their votes, upon conviction thereof before any court of competent jurisdiction, must be punished as provided for felony."—Revised Statutes of Idaho, Sec. 509.

"Every person charged with the performance of any duty under the provisions of any laws of this Territory relating to elections who wilfully neglects or refuses to perform it, is punishable by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the Territorial prison not exceeding five years or by both." Sec. 6354.

The Registration officers are authorized to register all qualified electors who apply to them at certain times mentioned in the law. They may examine applicants as to their qualifications, and are required to administer to them the oath which is popularly known as the "test oath." These qualifications are distinctly named in the statute. When an applicant is shown to possess them, by his answering the questions allowed by law and by his subscribing to the elector's oath, he must be registered. The only clause in the law authorizing a rejection is this:

"If any applicant refuses to answer all questions, give all information under his control, take all oaths, and do all other acts and things required of him by law, his application must be rejected by the Registrar."

persons who had belonged to the "Mormon" Church withdrew, and dissolved their membership in that organization, for the purpose of making an effort to deliver themselves from the political bondage which they suffered, solely because they belonged to that Church. The burden of that bondage, under the heels of scoundrelly and utterly unprincipled scoundrel officials in some of the precincts and counties of Idaho, is indeed grievous to be borne, and those of our friends who are disposed to severely censure the men who seceded will have to know something of the condition of affairs there before they can justly judge the acts of the seceders.

By the decision of Judge Berry in the Helm case, these seceding "Mormons" were adjudged legally entitled to vote. Yet registrars in some precincts refused to administer to them the elector's oath. In other places they administered the oath and then arbitrarily placed their names on the "rejected list." When the law was cited to them they stated they had received their instructions and would follow them, law or no law. Those instructions were given by a reckless anti-"Mormon" attorney, a candidate on the anti-"Mormon" ticket, who impudently framed a list of questions unknown to the law, and even when they were answered, instructed Registrars, and Judges of Election, as they claim, to reject the applicants anyhow, and to "pay no attention to ex-Mormons."

The law authorizes the Judges of Election on election day to register applicants under certain conditions at the polls. One of these is that the applicant has taken the elector's oath before some person qualified by law to administer oaths; but in case he has not, then the Judges of Election may administer it, when no qualified elector is engaged in depositing his ballot. A County Commissioner, who was a candidate for re-election, positively refused to administer the oath to applicants. Yet one of his duties under the law is to administer oaths. A Justice of the Peace when applied to, stepped from his precinct and did not return for three days nor until just as the polls closed, so that he had time to vote. Judges of Election positively refused to swear voters, or permit those who had taken the oath to deposit their ballots.

At one precinct the Judges of Election, who were all of foreign birth, one unable to speak plain English, and another a tramp who had been in the Territory barely long enough to vote himself, refused votes in this wise. The leading Judge, self constituted as such, after either administering the oath or receiving proof that it had been legally taken would say: "I move we reject this vote." This was seconded and carried by the other two, in every instance where the elector was an ex-"Mormon" of recent withdrawal. One young man said to them, respectfully: "Gentlemen, I am an American born citizen; my father fought in the war of 1812; my grandfather fought in the war of the revolution; I am a qualified elector; I have taken the test oath; I am not a member of the 'Mormon' Church; I demand the right to cast my ballot." It was moved and carried by these three foreign-born ignoramuses that his vote be rejected and it was, with the other ex-"Mormon" votes. None were received but the ballots of anti-"Mormons."

Is not this a shameful condition of affairs? Ought not such law-defying officials to be prosecuted? There was a wide-spread conspiracy to prevent qualified electors under the laws from voting because it was suspected they would vote against Dubois and the anti-"Mormon" rings in the lower counties. Such voters were arrested by the score, for the purposes of obstruction and intimidation. If they had promised not to vote on the tickets it was learned they would support, they could have been released without further trouble. This was promised them and the proofs of it are beyond question.

Now, will the officers who are charged with the enforcement of the laws of Idaho take steps to punish the perpetrators of these outrages upon American citizens? Or will they confine their official efforts to the work of hunting down "Mormons", suspected of living with their plural wives? It is a crime against the moral law, as it is against the statutes of the Territory, to conspire against the rights of citizens and to defraud voters of the exercise of the franchise. It is far worse in fact, in principle and in law than the constructive offences for which so many "Mormons" have been thrust into the Penitentiary.

What are the authorities of Idaho going to do about it? We warn them that this iniquity, if suffered to go on unchecked, will work evil to others than the class of voters who have been thus defrauded. If unwhipped of justice now, the same or similar tactics will be resorted to by these criminal officials in other instances when the tide of votes threatens to turn against them. Something should be done in this matter and it should be done vigorously and with determined perseverance. The most conclusive evidence of these facts will be forthcoming when wanted, from competent witnesses stationed on the spots where these outrages were committed.

Candidates on the Oneida County "Taxpayers' Ticket" have been cheated out of their election by this means. They are not "Mormons." There were no "Mormons" or persons who recently been "Mor-

mons," on either ticket. The seceders were not seeking for office. They were only struggling for their political rights. They were striving for the common privileges of free men. In their rejection, fair men who would have been elected to office were defeated and it appears to us that they ought to have manhood and courage enough to contest the election, if they have not force enough to institute criminal proceedings against the offending officials who rendered the election unfair.

We call the attention of the leading authorities of Idaho to the crimes against the election laws that were perpetrated in the southern counties during the recent political contest, and express the unqualified opinion that if candidates who have been defeated through conspiracy and fraud do not step forward and take action in these matters they deserve defeat and ought never more to receive the suffrages or support of respectable and fair-minded American citizens in Idaho or elsewhere.

LIFE OF HEBER C. KIMBALL.

On Saturday we briefly announced the fact that "The Life of Heber C. Kimball," by Orson F. Whitney, had been issued from the press. We have glanced cursorily over his pages, and hesitatingly pronounce it a most interesting and high class work. It would not be in place here to attempt to give a sketch of the contents. The character of the subject will give a fair idea of what they consist of.

The preface informs the reader regarding some of the details of how the book came to be written and published, but this is of minor interest. The author proceeds from the beginning of the body of the book, to deal directly with his subject, and has been successful in constructing a story of striking parts, the facts giving a clear insight into the character of Brother Kimball, a prominent figure in the rise and progress of the Church of Christ in this last dispensation.

The description of such a career admits of the blending of pathetic and occasionally humorous incident, with pure theology, making a variety that holds the interest of the reader, there being a constant relief from that sameness which too often mars the effect of books that would otherwise be deeply instructive. A striking and attractive feature is the prophetic vein that permeates the entirety of the story, the fulfillment of many of Heber's predictions being very aptly portrayed. The prophetic spirit in him was often exhibited in the ordinary affairs of life, thus bringing it to an application where it was often of immediate utility. In these incidents the power of seeing into the future, near as well as remote, was strikingly illustrated. The author has given many illustrations of this peculiar gift of the subject of his narrative.

Not only is the body of the work of an attractive quality, but this peculiarly fascinating ingredient enters into a chapter devoted to the relation of anecdotes of Brother Heber, supplied by his personal friends and acquaintances.

The style in which the book is written is the author's best, being conspicuous for purity and intensity. It is a work of over 500 pages, illustrated with engraved portraits of Heber C. Kimball and his wife Vilate, Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith and Brigham Young, and also a picture of Vauxhall Chapel, in which Brother Kimball first preached when he opened the British Mission in Preston, England.

The volume will doubtless find a ready and extensive sale among the Latter-day Saints.

"A VAST INJURY TO SOCIETY."

THE Newburyport, Massachusetts, Herald, commenting on the suit entered by Mrs. James G. Blaine, Jr., against her husband's parents for alienating her husband's affections from her, states that she is a Roman Catholic and therefore is forbidden by her faith to institute proceedings for divorce, and raises the question whether or not the divorce laws of this country are a failure. The Herald, in the course of a discussion of this question makes the following pertinent remarks:

"We talk virtuously about the wicked Mormons and their polygamy, but they at least are bound to, and support the first wife, after they have taken the second, whereas we allow a man to have several wives living at one time, or a woman to have several husbands with no obligations whatever except to the last. Everybody who has looked into the matter at all knows that in a majority of cases the application for divorce is for the purpose of allowing the petitioner to marry again, some one whom he or she prefers to the wife or husband they are bound to, and that in very many cases the case is gained by collusion or fraud, either because the respondent does not care to appear, or it is so arranged that he or she cannot appear, because of ignorance that any suit is to be brought. The person

who does not know of such cases within his own experience has a very limited knowledge of what is going on about him. They are very common, as every lawyer at least knows. Now this is much more corrupting than polygamy, which is an advance upon the beastial promiscuity which prevailed before the institution of marriage, and which is brought back by the great facility of divorce. This was one of the most corrupting things in Rome in the corrupt days of the last of the republic, and it is a danger which threatens America. If there were no children, or the socialist dream should be realized even, then the permanency of the marriage relation would be to the advantage of the individual, and of society. But in the present constitution of things the freedom of divorce is most corrupting. Marriage is not merely for pleasure and the gratification of an appetite, but it is a public institution, which demands self-sacrifice on the part of those who enter upon it. This is true where there is the most love, and compatibility of temper, and the most favorable circumstances. But these cannot be looked for in the majority of marriages, and that these should be dissolved whenever one of the pair desires another partner, is degrading to them, and a vast injury to society. The evils of making marriage indissoluble for any cause are not so great as those by which a divorce is granted whenever one of the parties want it, and that is the practical state of the case in the United States at the present, and is a beam in the eye in comparison to the mote of polygamy in the Mormon eye.

THE CRY ABOUT A "HIERARCHY."

THE issue on the "Mormon" question, except among people who live on the past and are oblivious to present movements, is shifted from the ground of an assault upon polygamy, to that of an attack upon the "hierarchy." The cry of "Church and State" is expected to stir the public mind as effectually as the noise about "many wives." The latter served its purpose, with the aid of exaggeration and falsehood, and the former will be similarly worked for all it is worth. It is the burden of the Governor's report and figures in all the anti-"Mormon" effusions of recent date. The purpose is to make it appear that political unity among the "Mormons" is perfect and is the result of coercion by theocratic power.

Of course this is deceptive, and the utter ignorance in the public mind of the true theory and spirit of "Mormonism" is counted on by those who use it. In the first place "Mormon" unity is not nearly so perfect as it ought to be, and in the second place anything in the shape of coercion could not possibly bring about that measure of union which exists among the "Mormons." Political union, when there is a free and secret ballot, must of necessity be the result of similar opinions—a union of views. It is this that the enemies of the majority of the people of Utah are unable to destroy and that is the real object of their opposition and their wrath. Whatever division may take place among the "Mormon" people, it is not at all likely that it will add to the ranks of the foe. A small split occurred during the recent delegate election, but it did not swell the numbers of the adversary; it only helped them indirectly as it lessened the number of votes somewhat for the regular candidate.

The opposition here use a great deal more coercion, if that is a proper term, than is even attempted among the majority. There is more whipping, threatening, cajolery, entreaty and intimidation a thousand fold to solidify the "Liberal" elements, than is used or thought of in the People's Party. It is utterly false to say that any priestly force is exercised over "Mormon" voters. The people are exhorted to union. When the ticket is decided upon in convention they are advised to stick individual preferences and vote the straight ticket without scratching. But this is done by the votaries of all parties in reference to the regular nominees. And any departure from this is denounced by Democrats and Republicans alike. The scratching of Cleveland for Harrison by Tammany voters is proclaimed as treachery.

The truth is, the union that prevails as a fact among the "Mormons" is just what other parties hold in theory and vainly try to bring into practice. It has been copied by their local enemies, who, after many years of denunciation of it, have managed to establish it for the time being among themselves, and they openly admit that while they shout for division among the "Mormons," there must be nothing but union in their own ranks. The argument that the union of the majority here is tantamount to political disfranchisement of the minority, is one of the most childish of pleas. The Democrats might make the same plea in Iowa or Kansas. If the "Mormons" ought to be deprived of the suffrage or hindered in the attainment of any political right, because they largely vote one way, then the Republicans of those States which are overwhelmingly Republican should also be disfranchised for the same reason.

But it will be claimed, these "Mormons" are directed politically by a Church, and that is what is objectionable. This is not true, but suppose it