

reducing the quantity the quality is improved is known so well to be untrue, that the Medical Times's justification for lessening the birthrate, by the means commonly known to be employed for reaching that end, will be readily recognized in its real heinousness. The fact is that reduction in quantity is a concomitant of the inferiority in quality that such immoral teachings produce.

A LAMENTABLE CONDITION.

Word comes that the people of Nephi, Juab county, are highly incensed over a proceeding that lately occurred there and is related in our local columns. And well they might be; for a community that could look with complacency upon the way justice is made a farce and honor is betrayed in such cases, would have to be in a depraved condition morally. Any court whose action in effect shields one party by a sentence patently under the circumstances, and throws the burden of shame upon a young girl and innocent babe, may be within the letter of the law, but decent people will find nothing in its honor or integrity to admire or even to bear with patience; while the man who would deliberately brand with shame his progeny, be he parent or grandparent, is deserving of the utmost contempt. The "ruin" of a young man "socially" may be a good objection to a marriage in contemplation, but when that young man has betrayed a young girl and does not do his utmost to right his wrong, he ought to be socially ostracized in any community that pretends to morality.

It is a painful thing to refer in public prints to such occurrences; and it is doubly so where insult and injury are added to a grievous wrong by a refusal to do all that is possible to repair the evil. But the reference sometimes becomes a public duty, as in this case. And this occurrence ought to awaken parents and guardians of the young to a sense of the dangers that menace the youth in the common tendency of the age to look lightly upon virtue.

In connection with this subject it may be pointed out that there is a condition of affairs here now, which, while not very extensive, indicates that many parents are not as careful and emphatic in their instructions as to virtue as they ought to be. Fathers and mothers ought to do vastly more than they now do in this regard. They ought themselves to feel a horror of the loss of virtue, and to impress their children with the same feeling. Frequently parents are too backward in instructing their children in regard to this. But every girl ought to be taught to value her honor higher than her life, and to look upon a man who would betray virtue as unworthy to trust even with a friendly acquaintance; and a mother's duty to her daughter never is well performed till this lesson is conveyed. And every boy should be taught to place upon the purity of himself and of others a higher value than on his life. The disregard of virtue is the most damning sin of the age; and a people who value the welfare of themselves and their children here and hereafter ought to maintain a

most determined attitude in preserving personal purity, and hold in supreme contempt those whose course is in any way an encouragement of unvirtuous conduct. It is a lamentable condition when such a result as that developed in the case referred to is possible either to a civilized court or family which lays claim to respectability.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH.

The following letter comes from southern Utah:

SPRINGDALE, March 17, 1897.

We are given to understand that there were but six members at the organization of the Church, but in the Brief History of the Church it is said that on the day of the organization the baptized members, about forty in all, assembled at the house of Peter Whitmer Sr., for the purpose of organizing, etc. Now, in view of the fact that there were so many present, why were there but six members, as all the baptized members were confirmed and some of the brethren were ordained to the different offices in the Priesthood at that same meeting? This subject was brought up in our Improvement Association, and we thought we would like an explanation purely for information's sake.

We have had an abundance of storms the past two months and upwards, and snow is reported as being deeper in the mountains than for many years, which promises a bounteous supply of water in the small streams of southern Utah.

The prospects for fruit this year are very promising, as the buds are hardly swelling a bit as yet.

'DIXIE.

The Church was organized with six members to conform to the legal requirements of the state of New York. The six selected for this work were Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, Hyrum Smith, Peter Whitmer Jr., Samuel H. Smith and David Whitmer. There were other persons present but these six were sufficient to conform to the law.

A GOOD REPORT.

HYRUM, March 22, 1897.—On Sunday, March 21, the Hyrum ward in the Cache Valley Stake of Zion held a conference at 10 a. m. and continued during afternoon and evening. This is the largest ward in Cache valley, having a Church membership of one thousand seven hundred and odd souls, and officered by three hundred and two ward officers, all of whom were unanimously sustained, as were also the general Church and Stake authorities. Not a dissenting vote was offered, and when all these authorities were put, no wonder High Councilor George O. Pitkin said it looked as though there were 2,000 officers. The meetings were crowded and the instructions were such as were calculated to make people wiser and better. High Councilors G. O. Pitkin, W. W. Maughan, John H. Andersen and Elder Israel Barlow of Bountiful were present.

The reports were full and complete, and showed that the ward was in good order and all trying to live the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ. The music and singing was very creditable. Bishop John F. Wright and counselors are to be congratulated, for the people are one in faith and it would be hard to find a better people than those in the Hyrum ward.

Besides the large Church building there is the Church academy, a large and handsome structure, also five commodious school buildings most of which are occupied every Sunday morning and week day evening. In this large ward the various organizations from the Church service to the Primary are legion.

The winter is still with us in Cache valley—about two feet of snow on the level; and the canyons are filled with more snow than for many years past. Should the thaw become sudden people living on the low lands and river bottoms would suffer from floods.

March has been the worst month of the winter. More snow has fallen than we have had all winter. The weather also has been universally cold. Sunday and Monday nights were among the coldest of the winter. At 7 a. m. Monday the thermometer was 6 degrees below zero, and the end is not yet.

There is every prospect that an abundant crop of fruits and all grains will be raised, as these long winters with plenty of snow mean large hay stacks and full bins.

SALOP.

In a private letter received by a party in this city from Scipio, Millard county, that of late much afflicted little town is said to be nearly rid of diphtheria. It is now confined to only one family, that of Mr. John Peterson. Their little twin girl died on the morning of the 22nd inst., aged five and a half years, and two or three more are afflicted with the disease, but hopes are entertained that they will soon get well and thus end the long siege of the "dreadful." There are some cases of la grippe in the town and through the winter measles has been going among the children. They are having the most unpleasant weather ever experienced for the time of the year; it is snowing every day, the nights are cold and frosty. The correspondent says it does not look like spring, but more like January weather. The board of health of the town has been constantly visiting the sick and afflicted, and has done what it could to aid and help them.

The cold snap in November last apparently did considerable damage to the stone fruit crop of the present season in some localities. Mr. Thomas H. Woodbury, the veteran horticulturist and nurseryman of this city, has five acres of stone fruit, including peaches, plums, prunes, apricots, cherries, etc., on the Mill Creek bench, southeast of Salt Lake City, from which he estimates that he will get no fruit to speak of. He says that the buds are nearly all dead, and attributes their destruction to the cold November weather, which came before the sap had left the tree and gone into the roots. He has feared for some time that his crop was damaged, but not until a recent examination did he anticipate its total destruction. The trees also are damaged, but not enough to prevent their revival. The damage was not so great lower in the valley, but appeared to be worst near the mountains. How many other orchards have been affected similarly is not known, but it is to be hoped that they are few, as the destruction of the fruit in this region would be a serious loss.