

# DESERT NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY  
THE DESERT NEWS COMPANY.

CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, - APRIL 12, 1882.

## THE REAL OBJECT OF ATTACK.

THE Philadelphia *American* commenting on the Edmunds bill, says:

"A compact community, bound together by a religious enthusiasm, is by no means an easy subject for punishment, as has been shown again and again, in the history of religions. The story of the proscription of the Raskolniks by the Russian Government, and the final defeat of that great despotism in its efforts to suppress them, is a case in point. The law against polygamy will be a success just in proportion to the success of the authorities in making the people of Utah feel that we are waging no war upon the Mormon Church, but are laboring merely for the suppression of an illegal practice which may be detached from the general body of its beliefs and practices."

But it is evident to those who have watched the progress of the bill through Congress, that its supporters are waging "a war upon the Mormon Church," just that very thing. Read the speeches of Messrs. Townsend of Illinois, Haskell of Kansas, Shallenberger of Pennsylvania, Cassidy, of Nevada, and others who have been afflicted with the virulent epidemic, Mormophobia. Mr. Townsend asked, referring to the "Mormon" Church, which he declared governed this Territory:

"Will you, the representatives of the people, charged by the Constitution with the duty of seeing that none but republican forms of government shall be established or permitted to exist in this free land, will you refuse to strike down this enemy of our institutions, this enemy of our civilization?"

Mr. Shallenberger said:

"When the Mormon Church relinquishes all claim to temporal power, and its members yield a ready obedience to the laws of the land, it will have the full protection of our flag, and hold its vagaries, if such they be, unmolested and unchallenged."

Mr. Cassidy entertained the House with a supposed history of the Mormon Church, ridiculing its belief in revelation as "its chief corner stone," repeating old stories about the Book of Mormon, "Joe" Smith, "copper plates," etc., calling the "Mormons" plotting leaders, "ignorant dupes," and making similar dignified parliamentary and suitable remarks in a legislative assembly, and said:

"Such is the Mormon Church and such is Mormonism, as we find them to-day entrenched almost beyond the legislative power of the Government to dislodge in the mountains of Utah. And their doctrines and methods are still reaching out. \* \* \* I submit that it is time the mailed hand was applied; time that this vile monster was checked and placed in course of ultimate extinction. We cannot do this by kid-glove legislation. It requires harder blows. Somebody must be hurt."

Mr. Haskell, attacking the "Mormon Church," exclaimed:

"I wish it was within my power in four minutes to lay before this House that magnificent organization, infamous in its objects, infamous in its purposes, infamous in its past accomplishments, but magnificent in its priestly organization, and unrivaled by any similar institution in the world. I wish I could place properly before this House this Mormon hierarchy of Utah that is struck at by the provisions of this bill."

These extracts are sufficient to show what is aimed at in the legislation which has been rushed through Congress. In the agitation that preceded it the clergy of the

various denominations took the most active part, doing all in their power to foster the general misunderstanding of Utah affairs and "Mormon" doctrine, and many of their effusions, in the shape of resolutions, were read in Congress to keep up the heat of bigotry and intolerance against the "Mormon" Church which Mr. Haskell, who had charge of the bill in the House, openly avowed was the chief object it was designed to attack. Rational people and papers like the *American*, repudiate the idea of assailing a Church, of legislating against a religion, of striking a congressional blow against a creed. But this is without doubt the purpose of the priests, and the real design of the demagogues who think to gain popularity by pandering to them.

## THE BALLOT IN UTAH.

THE Boston *Woman's Journal* of March 18th, contains the following letter, which was not written with the expectation that it would be published. But it ought to be widely copied, being a woman's defense of woman's political status in Utah. The statements it contains are strictly accurate. The ballot in Utah is absolutely free, and is so of necessity because it is strictly secret. If anyone wishes to vote differently from his neighbor, there is nothing to prevent him. If a woman desires to vote an opposite ticket to that supported by her husband or brother, nothing stands in the way of her freedom of choice. There is no means of determining how any individual votes.

The enemies of Utah falsely state that the people are compelled to vote under dictation, and the opponents of woman suffrage falsely assert that the women in Utah vote simply as they are directed by their husbands or church leaders. The facts are that everybody here has perfect liberty in voting matters, and all the assertions to the contrary are erroneous, and often wilfully untrue. And there is no part of the Union where the masses of the people, male and female, exercise more thorough independence of choice and freedom of action in voting than in Utah. The union of the people at the polls is union promoted by principle, and all the trouble that arises is because they will vote for their friends, and will not vote for their enemies. Here is the letter written by the editor of the *Woman's Exponent*:

Editor *Journal*:

In the issue of your paper of Feb. 25, I see mention made of "a marked and numbered ballot" in Utah. Allow me to inform you that the statement is not true. The ballot in Utah is neither marked nor numbered, nor has it ever been since the new election law which requires registration. The ballot is in the strictest sense of the word a secret one. I have seen reference made to this matter before in the *Journal*, and felt as though it was my duty to write to the person who made the assertion, James K. H. Wilcox, but could not learn his address.

In Utah one goes to the polls on election day, takes up a ticket, folds it, puts it in an envelope, (all envelopes being exactly alike, as the law expressly provides), the clerk at the desk looks up the name on the registration list, and calls out (repeating the full name) "voted." The person voting drops the ticket into the locked box, which cannot be opened, until by the proper authority, at the proper time, and place. Therefore you will perceive it is impossible to tell which ticket, if there be two or more kinds, any person may have voted.

The women of Utah appreciate the franchise, and vote as intelligently as citizens elsewhere, and there is no good reason why those who are advocating the cause of Woman Suffrage should be ashamed of their co-workers in Utah, although one can easily discover how differently Utah and Wyoming are mentioned in the newspapers in this connection.

Women have voted in Utah twelve years on all questions; women have been elected as delegates to county and territorial conventions, and there are women members of the central committees.

Ex-Governor Emery stated to a committee of ladies, of whom I was one, that Woman Suffrage had worked no evil whatever here, but that he was opposed to it on general principles.

Our Legislative Assembly at its

session in 1879-1880, passed a bill making women eligible to office, but Governor Emery refused his signature.

The women citizens of this Territory have no occasion to blush for their record on the subject of the ballot; they vote for men who have built up the country and who labor for the good of humanity, and who are loyal to the principles of freedom and justice bequeathed by the Constitution of the United States of America. Many of the Mormon women, and a very large proportion of the early settlers are New England women, or the daughters of New England parents, notwithstanding, they are exiles for their religion and despised by the world. My forefathers settled in dear old Boston in 1630, and owned large tracts of land in that vicinity, and a portion of the land on which Boston stands to-day. My mother, for no offense, never having even heard of the doctrine of plural marriage, which is the one plea used against us now, was exiled from Nauvoo, and died of fatigue and hardship in the very prime of life, leaving three little children of tender years. It is false to say the foreign element rules in Utah. To be sure we have many among us gathered from other countries, but they become naturalized as soon as the law permits, in most instances, and they are as honest and industrious and make as good citizens as those who are born in America.

Excuse the liberty I have taken, and believe me a faithful worker in the cause of woman's advancement.

Respectfully, etc.,

EMMELINE B. WELLS.

## THE COMMISSIONERS.

It appears from a telegram received to-day, that President Arthur conceded the point that the Commissioners provided for in the Edmunds bill must draw their salaries from the Treasury of the United States, as was claimed by the Democrats in the House who endeavored to have the bill considered as in Committee of the Whole, on the ground that it required expenditure from the national treasury.

The President also perceives the impossibility of obtaining the kind of men desirable for the position—men of ability and standing—on so meagre a stipend as \$3,000 per annum. He desires legislation providing for the payment of these officers, and thinks that their salaries should not be less than \$5,000 a year.

This we consider good common sense on the part of the President, and we hope that his suggestions in these respects will be acted upon favorably, and that he will show as much judgment in the selection of men to fill the positions created, as he has in relation to their emoluments.

## "OIL UPON THE TROUBLED WATERS."

"POURING oil on the troubled waters" is a saying that has been long in common use as a figure of speech, but it is not generally known that it has a literal, practical signification. Yet old sailors have stoutly maintained that oil poured upon the angry waves in dangerous storms, has had the effect of calming the seas sufficiently to prevent damage and to enable a vessel to ride upon the billows in comparative safety. But this has been considered only the fanciful imagining of old "salts," or one of those yarns which "tars" are supposed to be in the habit of spinning.

Recently, however, there have been several trials of the oleaginous method upon the roaring waters, with alleged complete success. Whalers in the Northern Pacific claim that they have frequently saved themselves from the violence of the waves in a tempest, by emptying oil upon the sea. Ship owners are advised to place on board their vessels a few barrels of whale oil or lard oil, as an adjunct to life-saving apparatus.

All this may seem ridiculous to those who have not inquired into the probable causes of the alleged effects of oil on the troubled waters. But there seems to be some reason in the rule. It is a known fact that in storms at sea, the most furious blasts sometimes have a contrary effect to that expected, the force of the wind being so great as to smooth the surface of the waves, the pres-

sure keeping down the billows from foaming up and breaking over the vessel. Oil is said to have a similar effect. The violence of the lofty foam-capped waves that beat against a boat or break over a ship, is caused by air-bubbles which heave up the waters. The application of oil serves to press down the surface, and reduce the foam, and, floating to a distance, preserve the vessel surrounded with the oily diffusion from the violence of the dashing breakers.

The plan of pouring oil on the troubled waters, then, is efficacious in a double sense. And those who do not "go down to the sea in ships," and thus have no occasion to test the virtue of the plan upon the waves of the tempestuous ocean, will find it of much more advantage in a domestic, political or other storm in which temper plays the part of the hurricane, than any attempt to quell the waters of passion by adding breaker to breaker, or blast to blast.

## A MAGNIFICENT HOME IN- STITUTION.

At two o'clock this afternoon the 26th semi-annual meeting of the stock-holders of Z. C. M. I. took place in the Council House in this city. The attendance was quite numerous, which shows a growing interest on the part of the people in the great co-operative movement of which Z. C. M. I. in this city with its branches at Ogden and Logan is the tangible embodiment.

For upwards of thirty years this Institution has stood the test of panics and dull times as well as the more trying ordeal of prosperity. But its foundation was laid so broad and deep that it has remained unshaken by every trial, and to-day its credit is not surpassed, while it stands without a rival on this continent.

The meeting having been called to order by Vice-President Jennings who presided, the Secretary proceeded to read the President's report to the stockholders, from which we gather the following: The merchandise purchased by the Institution during the past six months has amounted to the large sum of \$1,541,510.02, upon which freight to railroad and express companies was paid to the amount of \$214,968.80.

The Institution's sales have steadily grown from year to year, until for the past half year they amount to the large sum of \$2,000,897.27. The average cost to the Institution for selling goods in the home departments has been less than 4 1/2 per cent. on the total amount of goods sold.

The cash receipts for the half year have been \$2,095,885.07.

The reserve fund accumulated amounts to \$43,732.99.

The dividend declared for the half year is 5 per cent., in addition to which a sum of \$24,347.55 will be carried to the surplus fund.

Time and space will not permit our giving a full statement of this interesting report, but we think the figures we have quoted are sufficient to show that the Institution, under its present management, is in a prosperous and flourishing condition.

The value of the stock in the home departments of the house alone amounts to upwards of a million dollars. It has been selected with the utmost care, and buying in such immense quantities as the Institution is enabled to handle, first hands are invariably reached.

Those who are not familiar with the conducting of so large a business as that of Z. C. M. I. would be greatly surprised could they investigate and see how perfect a commercial machine this mammoth institution really is. Every department, from that of purchasing to that which delivers and distributes the goods that have been bought by customers, is so perfectly arranged, that each works with the smoothness of a piece of finely constructed machinery, and all have their duties strictly defined, so that when a rush of business comes along, as frequently occurs at Conference and holiday times, there is no confusion or delay.

Tourists and strangers visiting this city are invariably struck by the magnitude of this institution and its mammoth and varied stock. Our home people do not realize this so fully as visitors. It has grown up before them from small beginnings, and as parents scarcely notice the growth of their children, seeing them continuously, so it has been in regard to this Institution. The people should be proud of Z. C. M.

I. as a home production; its officers, its managers, its salesmen are home men, well known in the community, and who for business tact, ability and courtesy, are probably nowhere excelled. The people should be proud of it because it has worked in their interests, it has never taken advantage of any scarcity of goods to increase the value, nor has it ever made a "corner" in any thing to force its patrons to give an extra price. The people should be proud of it because they have made it what it is. It is their own patronage which has caused its success; it has not depended on the stranger, or sought a catch-customer trade, or attempted spasmodic sales by uncertain figures on goods, but its well-selected stock, and one-price system without rebating, have established its good character and sound reputation.

The people should be proud of it, because it has been the great break-water against extortion; it has been a steadiest of prices, and, as now, the gauge which regulates and keeps down values everywhere in the Territory, so far as imported merchandise is concerned. The people should be proud of it because it has given the community unsurpassed commercial and financial standing all over this great country, its promise to pay being considered as good as cash in hand. It has honored all its obligations, and its credit is unquestioned and without limit in the best markets of the world. The people should be proud of it because it is an institution in which they hold a personal interest, the Church of which they are members owning a large amount of its capital stock, and it is thus a "Mormon" institution, backed by the influence and resources of leading and reliable men among the "Mormon" people. They should be proud of it, because it is and has been the patron of home industry and home manufacture. While always giving full value to the purchasers of its goods, it has aimed, by turning its surplus funds into buildings, and machinery, and banks, to be in every possible direction the friend of the people, and to create employment to the extent of its ability. Its future policy will run still more in this direction; not speculating wildly in enterprises uncertain in their character, but making judicious selections and devoting its experience, ability and means to secure to its collateral business concerns as great success as has been achieved by the parent institution.

The report given to-day with the account of its annual sale, its increasing dividend, its reserve for possible contingencies, and other financial items of interest, is such as to inspire continued confidence in its management, and to warrant the expectation of increased sales and increased prosperity. The people will, no doubt, sustain and deal with their friends; and their negative or passive, as well as their active enemies, will notice, we believe, that commercial, in addition to social and religious unity, is becoming more decided under uncalculated and unjustifiable opposition.

We understand that it is the full intention of the directors and officers to so continue their revision of prices from time to time as to make impossible anything but legitimate competition. They will not be undersold anywhere in this Territory, nor by any other firm, under any circumstances whatever. And they intend that this shall be so fully understood by their patrons and friends that there will be less and less desire to listen to or attempt the professions so glibly and speciously made by competing or hostile establishments. We heartily and cordially commend this great home institution to the patronage and support of the public in general and, in particular of all true Latter-day Saints.

## A GOOD VETO.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR has shown his good judgment once more, in his action on the Chinese bill. The veto power, we consider, has been wisely exercised. The outcry against the Chinese has been raised in one section of the country and has been caught up for political effect and used by demagogues to gain popularity. Indeed this seems to be the motive that prompts much of the legislation that obtains in the Congress of the United States.

This is supposed to be a government of the people by and for the people. The popular sentiment