

"It is now stated by President Woodruff that polygamous marriages do not take place. The President of the United States rightly says that the Mormon people should not be permitted an opportunity to contract plural marriages even if they would."

The answer to this is, the President of the United States has too much good sense to utter any such nonsense. The opportunity to violate any law of Congress or of God cannot be taken away, except temporarily, by putting the lawbreaker where he is deprived of his freedom. All that legislation can do is to forbid certain acts and provide a penalty for lawbreakers. A law against larceny does not take away the "opportunity" to steal. The fiat of the Almighty, "Thou shalt not lie" does not deprive the *Illustrated American* of the opportunity to publish a batch of anti-"Mormon" slander as the writings of an "old Mormon."

There is no dispute between the two eminent gentlemen whom the *Illustrated American* has meanly endeavored to bring into collision—on paper. As to the "fight" which that paper insists upon as imminent, the statement of the Federal and municipal officials and the leading commercial men of this city disposes of that nonsense.

Shifting its position again, the *American* next informs the "Mormons" that "all hands" should "pray devoutly" for a revelation setting aside polygamy. Without arguing as to the non-necessity for any such revelation under existing circumstances, we merely draw attention to the impudence of the men who, after slandering the "Mormons," not only wish to take away their personal liberty by denying them the "opportunity" to exercise their freeagency, but wants to dictate how they shall pray!

We advise these editors to act a manly part. Frankly acknowledge that they have been deceived, and there will be some respect left for them in the minds of those whom they have misled as well as those whom they have maligned. But continue in their present course of editorial rejoinder, and while they may sell a few more papers, they will set a brand of unreliability upon their magazine which will ultimately bring it far more harm than the present spurt can do it good. The publication of President Woodruff's communication is all right, but the attempt to bolster up the original deception which called forth that letter is all wrong. Correct the error, that is all we ask.

General Booth, of salvation army fame, will visit Sweden this month. The Salvationists of Stockholm are preparing themselves for a grand reception.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY IN OGDEN.

THE People's Party of Ogden City have resolved to support the "Citizens'" ticket for the municipal election to take place Monday, Feb. 9. We think they have determined wisely. They are in the voting minority. They could not elect a ticket of their own. Two leading men of their party have places on the "Citizens'" ticket. The "Liberals" who compose the rest of the ticket are conservative men opposed to the rule of the ring. The whole ticket is a protest against the course pursued by the Council which was elected by fraud, and the immorality and extravagance which have followed that fraud as its natural consequence. We believe that with the support of the People's Party and the great body of the labor element the "Citizens'" ticket will win. The People's Party in Ogden have taken the best course open to them and we believe it to be not only prudent but right.

A LUCID JUDICIAL DECISION.

THAT was a very clear and convincing opinion which we published on Wednesday, February 4, as delivered by Judge Miner the same day, for the Supreme Court of Utah in the Hancock case. Every point was so well taken and so sharply presented that it left no cause for cavil and no room for doubt. The errors of the court below were really astonishing, and the verdict against the defendant caused a shudder among the thoughtful people of the community. If an accused person could be condemned to death on such slight and doubtful testimony, and a jury be charged with such mistaken instructions without a remedy, it seemed as though the guaranties of protection given by the law and the rules of jurisprudence were without value. Happily there is a remedy, and it lies in appeal to a higher court which, under the Poland law, can be carried up to the court of last resort in cases like that of George W. Hancock. We do not believe there are a hundred persons in Utah who believe him guilty of murder, and thousands will rejoice at the decision which has been so justly and ably rendered by the Supreme Court of the Territory.

ENRAGED AT ITS OWN EXPOSURE.

THE exposures of Salt Lake *Tribune* methods, and the parallel drawn between them and the *Illustrated American* deceptions, have enraged the bully of the first mentioned sheet beyond measure. He assails the News and

the *Herald* with impotent rage and shows in every sentence how badly he is rattled.

Wednesday's tirade is very amusing, if the disgust one naturally feels at the venomous froth from a madman's lips is temporarily overcome. If we had the space to spare, we would reproduce the screed to show our readers a specimen of the childish petulance mingled with vulgar fury which the blackguard of the *Tribune* mistakes for argument. The reproduction of former articles from the *Tribune* have shown forth its shameless falsehood so prominently that there is scarcely any need for comment. And no amount of vituperation from its principal mud-slinger will blot out its own vile record or daub up the eyes of the public.

Like a snivelling juvenile that has been properly punished, he yells, "Let them go on!" The *Tribune* asks no quarter of them." "Let them go ahead." "The *Tribune* asks no odds." "Let them go ahead we tell them." "Let them go ahead, the *Tribune* is independent of them all." "The *Tribune* asks no odds of that kind of Canaille and bids them do their utmost," etc., etc. These are a few of his vain repetitions in one article.

As is common with that person when in a rage, he asks a great number of questions which are utterly irrelevant to the matter under discussion. Among them is this: "Why is Utah still a Territory?" Here is the reason: Because the *Tribune* gang, associated with Federal officials who wish to retain their offices and salaries, and scheming adventurers and hungry office-seekers who see no chance for success under the rule of the majority, have lied untiringly, and deceived the American public and the American Congress, and raised a mountain of prejudice that will take years and years to melt. The same combination is still in the way of Utah's progress, financially as well as politically.

One of the funny things in the article is this: "Let them go ahead, let them harp on that old string they have been thumbing at for thirty years." That, from a paper that has made this old anti-"Mormon" tune its daily monotone ever since it was born! The string we have had to touch was only in response to its continual twanging. Without the defamation of the "Mormons" to fall back upon, its columns would have been destitute of interest and generally unworthy of notice. And this is what is the matter now.

Its principal topic through all these years is falling. The "Mormon" question and the silver question comprise the range of its intellect. Both these