

DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - MAR. 27, 1878.

THE LUTTRELL BILL.

A Washington dispatch to-day announces the agreement of the Committee on Territories to report the Luttrell Bill. It appears to have been changed somewhat from its original provisions, disfranchises women voters and requires no registration. It is a loose, impolitic measure and although backed by the recommendation of the committee is not likely to become a law.

THE GIRLS.

THE NEWS of last evening in a local solves the question "What shall we do with our girls?" and relieves the lecturers of the trouble of studying the subject and telling us any more about it. It says "Marry them to the boys." That's all very well, as far as it goes; but as it takes two to make a bargain, and as the boys are not always ready, what's to be done with them till they are?

We clip the above from the Salt Lake Herald of this morning. The point is well taken; we acknowledge it, freely. The question is pertinent; we will endeavor to answer it. Let the men take them.

It is a lamentable fact that a great many of the boys are not ready to marry the girls. It may be that in some instances they are not to blame. It takes considerable means now-a-days to support a wife in anything like the style of the period, and quite a number of the girls think style is the one thing needful. Still, there is a host of marriageable girls in this city, and most of them would be willing to help fight the battle of life with a congenial companion, and show themselves really "help-meets" to loving husbands, but the young men shrink from the responsibilities and expenses of married life, and therefore neglect a very important duty to society, one of the commandments of God and a rule of the Church to which they belong.

Every healthy young man who can earn a living should take a wife. It may be objected, "but it takes two to make a bargain. Exactly. And the other party to the contract can easily be found provided 'the party of the first part' is not too exacting and particular in his choice. There is no need to wait until a large amount of money is saved. With sufficient means to furnish a room and employment remunerative enough to provide necessities, a young couple united in heart, and faith, and determination to make their way in the world can marry, be happy and make headway through life together.

Girls should be educated in household duties, and with the prospect in view of managing a home of their own. The accomplishments of the housewife are far more useful and productive of comfort and happiness than the ornaments of education, such as piano playing, fancy needle work, outward adornment and graceful deportment, now considered essential. If all these can be acquired with that knowledge which is necessary to a true wife who wishes to assist her husband instead of being a weight upon his energies, so much the better.

The desire for expensive pleasures and to live in alternate idleness and amusement, which is growing upon young people in American society, is taking hold of our girls and boys too, in the larger cities of Utah. It is working evil everywhere. Luxury tends to weakness of body and of mind. A purposeless life is a wretched existence. A useless life is criminal. Let mothers train their daughters for the true sphere of womanhood, which they can only reach fully in the family relation and honorable maternity, and those mothers will confer upon their children a far richer heritage than can be represented by any figures of dollars and cents. And

the boys will be encouraged to wed the girls, when they can see that in taking a wife they obtain a helpmeet instead of a fancy and expensive article to feed, clothe and support.

A great number of marriages have taken place since the re-opening of the Endowment House in this city. It has been reported and circulated very industriously that these marriages are polygamous. It is amusing to note how men who lie by telegraph contradict themselves. They commence by stating that such marriages are performed with the utmost secrecy. In the next sentence they announce a certain number of polygamous unions. Thinking people enquire how these eager telegraphists find out full particulars of that which is so secret that the officers of the law can obtain no clue to it. The fact is, that these marriages have been principally of young people from the country. The luxuries and extravagancies of city life have not yet extended to the rural districts to such an extent as to make marriage formidable to the boys. (It seldom is very formidable to the girls.) A young man in the country can find without difficulty a partner for life who is not afraid to work with him for mutual sustenance, nor to commence the partnership with the bare necessities for comfort.

But with all the marriages that have taken place there are still large numbers of marriageable girls and women who remain unmarried. What is to be done with them, asks the Herald, if the boys are not ready to wed them? We answer, the men will have to take them. And if they do, fulfilling a revealed law of God, performing a duty to society, but infringing upon an unconstitutional statute, framed against an establishment of religion and for the purpose of prohibiting the free exercise thereof, what is going to be done about it and who is going to be injured, if all parties immediately interested are in perfect accord concerning the arrangement? The best thing to be done with the girls is to marry them to the boys. But if the boys won't and the men will, we are not going to raise any objections, and if we should, we doubt if it would make much difference.

NOT A "SQUARE DEALER."

THE editor of the Beaver Square-Dealer is ambitious, but not wise. He aims to distinguish himself, but if he continues his present style will only succeed in his own extinguishment. His great "forte" is finding fault. But the faults he assails are frequently imaginary, and he is usually found butting violently against the wind.

His latest exploit is an assault against all the Delegates who have represented Utah in Congress, whom he charges by implication with never accomplishing any substantial good for their constituency, because they have never made an effort to secure the people of Utah in their homestead rights. Here is the situation of our Utah farmers as he describes it:

"Almost every 160 acres surveyed by the government covering land in cultivation found more than one occupant. In many cases a half-dozen farmers are accommodated by the same quarter section. A glance at the situation reveals the impossibility of these settlers availing themselves of the homestead or pre-emption act. Although this is the situation of the hardy pioneers of Utah, Congress has refused from year to year to pass any law for their relief. A very little legislation would have sufficed. It was only necessary to recognize the surveys which the legislature had caused to be made in the distribution of the land among the people and authorize one man to homestead and deed over to his adjacent neighbors such portions as the county records showed them to be entitled to."

"It would certainly be in good taste and withal show a little good sense for the press of the territory to unite in an effort to secure a modification of the homestead law that will allow the farmers to obtain a title to their lands without running the risk of being sent to the penitentiary for false swearing."

Now let us quote from the Revised Statutes of the United States in regard to "The Public Lands."

Sec. 2,274. When settlements have been made upon agricultural public lands of the United States prior to the survey thereof, and it has been or shall be ascertained, after the public surveys have been extended over such lands, that two or more settlers have improvements upon the same legal subdivision, it shall be lawful for such settlers to make joint entry of their lands at the local land office, or for either of said settlers to enter into contract with his co-settlers to convey to them their portion of said land after a patent is issued to him, and, after making said contract, to file a declaratory statement in his own name, and prove up and pay for said land, and proof of joint occupation by himself and others, and of such contract with them made, shall be equivalent to proof of sole occupation and pre-emption by the applicant. Provided, That in no case shall the amount patented under this section exceed one hundred and sixty acres, nor shall this section apply to lands not subject to homestead or pre-emption entry.

This section became a law March 3rd, 1873, and was enacted through the labors of our Delegate. It is only one of the many benefits obtained for the people of Utah by the gentlemen who have faithfully represented them in Congress, who have been noted at the capital for devoted attention to the interests of their constituents, and who are libelled by the person now ruining the Square Dealer. We think "it would certainly be in good taste and withal show a little good sense," if that exceedingly inept individual would inform himself on the subjects upon which he undertakes to expatiate, cultivate caution when he essays personal criticism, or retire from a position to which he is evidently unsuited. The farmers in Southern Utah need be under no apprehension of "being sent to the penitentiary" for obtaining title to lands jointly occupied; they are in far less danger than their unsafe would-be adviser, who is liable to the penalty prepared for those who bear false witness against their neighbor. He is the very antipodes of a "square dealer."

DEATH TO THE DESTROYER.

SALT Lake fruit of all kinds until the past two or three years was a luxury. It cannot be excelled for fineness and flavor. With the exception of grapes, the California fruit, ripened in a climate almost tropical, does not reach the rich and exquisite taste of our Utah products. But latterly an enemy has invaded our orchards, whose insidious and unchecked attacks have increased to such a degree that ruin has overtaken our apple crop, and other fruits are spoiled and partially destroyed.

The codling moth has settled down here apparently for a permanent home, other devourers are taking up their abode in congenial quarters in the Territory, and this city, which seems to be the centre of the armies of the destroyer, will soon lose its fruit reputation unless some combined effort is made to conquer the rapidly multiplying pests.

A correspondent sends us some suggestions on this subject which we think worthy the attention of every person in this city and other places infested with the codling moth. He recommends that the ground be loosened for a foot or so around the trees and a good coat of lime applied. Now is the time for this to be done. When the trees are in blossom dust them thoroughly at night when there is no wind, with a mixture of three parts wood ashes and one part sulphur. Also place around the trunk, and particularly in the crotch where the branches fork, pieces of woolen rag or burlaps, which will act as traps for the worms, the cloths to be removed and restored after the worms are destroyed, the operation to be repeated until all the apples are gathered.

The apple worm, it is generally admitted, goes into the ground near the roots of the tree in the Fall, coming up in the Spring as a miller and depositing its eggs in the blossom. The lime will kill many

of them, the ashes and sulphur will dispose of most of the rest, and the clothes will catch what worms escape till the fruit season.

Now if every orchard in the city is treated in this way during the present year, the probability is that next year the codling moth will be a lonely stranger in Zion, instead of a winged host spreading devastation and poverty. We think the effort worth making. Our apple crop should be of immense value. At present it is a delusion and a vexation. The fruit looks fair to the eye but inwardly it is tunneled with filthiness. Most of it is unfit for the table and the markets reject it. The Territory may be cleared of the grey little interloper by a united effort. The attack must be general. Single assaults will avail but little. Let every person owning or in charge of an orchard, whether large or small, commence the campaign at once. Give 'em lime. When the blossoms come forth in their pure white loveliness dust them with wood ashes and sulphur. Next set the cloth traps and keep up the fight until the fall. The labor will not be great, the cost is the merest trifle, the results will be of immense value to every victor and the whole community. Let the motto be "Death to the destroyer."

THE BLESSING OF CHILDREN.

It has been intimated to us that some of the Elders have been teaching ideas concerning the blessing of children that we deem to be incorrect. If we are not misinformed it has been taught that there was no need of parents bringing their infants before the Church to be blessed by the Elders, but that it were better for the father to attend to this rite at home, for if he did not he lost a very great privilege as well as a right to, and power over his children that he might otherwise retain. This is not so. We have nothing to say against a father blessing his children, the genius of the Priesthood being primarily patriarchal, with God himself the great Father of us all at the head. Indeed we claim that every man holding the Melchisedec priesthood is a patriarch in his own home, with the right to bless all his children and grand children, even all the fruits of his loins. Nor do we object to the father taking his babe on the eighth day and giving it a father's blessing. But we do not think that this privilege whether exercised or unimproved, should interfere with our obedience to that law of the Lord wherein it is stated (New Edition Doctrine and Covenants Sec. 20, verse 70, page 117) "Every member of the Church of Christ having children, is to bring them unto the Elders before the Church, who are to lay their hands upon them in the name of Jesus Christ and bless them in his name."

Outside of the all-important fact that this is a direct command of Jehovah, and as such should be studiously complied with without hesitancy or objection, we think quite a number of excellent reasons can be adduced to prove that this command is attended with beneficial results, to babe and to parents. In the first place the parents by bringing their child before the Church manifest their faith in the sight of their brethren and sisters in God's word and in His promises, as well as their thankfulness to Him for increasing their posterity and for the safe delivery of His handmaiden. The child is also benefited by the united faith and responsive prayers of the assembled Saints, which faith seals the "more sure word of prophecy" pronounced upon the head of the child, as it also gives more abundant power to the officiating High Priest or Elder to manifest the good pleasure of the Lord with regard to it. And again the blessing is thus given in the presence of the Church recorder, and there is much less likelihood of the record being omitted or errors entering therein, than there would be should the rite be attended to at home. In this, as in all other things the path of revelation is the path of safety. The nature of the work of the Lord, the spirit and genius of His Church, founded upon the rock of His revealed word, compels us to ad-

monish the brethren to have great care, lest in giving expression to their private opinions they advance theories opposed to the revealed word and will of the Lord. In this is no man justified. No man is authorized to teach to the Church new or advanced doctrines except the presidency thereof. Light comes from the head, and to that point must the members of the Church look for knowledge and wisdom and doctrine and principle. Did every man holding a portion of the Priesthood have the right to advance doctrines for the acceptance of the Church, it would bring chaos, our name would be Babylon, and it could no longer be said that God's house is a house of order; we should be like the rest of the world, one man's opinion would be as good as that of another; there would be no rallying point, no recognized authority, no head; on the contrary we should be weak indeed.

Then let us not stray from well-defined landmarks. If, in the providence of God and the growth, increase and development of His kingdom, we need further light and intelligence on doctrine, it will be given to us, and it will come through the proper and duly appointed authority.

JOHN TAYLOR,

In behalf of the Council of the Apostles.

ENGLAND AND THE WAR.

THE prospects for peace in Europe are exceedingly gloomy. Distrust among all the Powers seems to be mutual. There is a strong suspicion that Turkey has formed an alliance with Russia. Such an arrangement cannot fail to be obnoxious to England, as her eastern interests would thereby be seriously threatened. Austria appears to be indifferent to Britain's proposals and advances, and it is not improbable that a secret understanding exists between Andrassy and Gortschakoff. Germany, to all appearance, stands entirely neutral. But in the event of a rupture between England and Russia, it is not at all likely that Germany will remain uninterested, particularly if France should join Great Britain in an attempt to curb the ambition of the Czar and place bounds to the extension of his empire.

A great deal has been said, both during the progress of the war and since it has ceased, concerning the decadence of the power of England. But we do not think the facts warrant such depreciation of the strength of the "mistress of the seas," or of her disposition to assert it when wisdom and her material interests suggest that the time has come to strike.

It cannot be denied that it is to the determined attitude of England, after the fall of Plevna, that Turkey owes the freedom of her capital from the presence of the invading hosts, and those modified terms of peace which have been agreed to by the belligerents. And even now the close proximity of British men-of-war, and the certainty that British troops would be landed at once near the line of her armies if the necessity should arise, makes Russia act with extreme caution in the settlement of her disputes with Turkey.

England has been greatly blamed by the impetuous for not taking a hand in the fight and defending her old ally as soon as the Russian troops had crossed the Balkans. But it is evident that England did not consider herself justified in attempting any interference at that time, particularly in view of the important consequences likely to ensue, for such a step on her part would have set all Europe in a blaze, and a general rush to arms would have been the result. Caution is not cowardice, and no nation is justified in plunging into war until its safety, honor or vital interests are imperilled.

But we think those who imagine that England held back from fear will find themselves greatly mistaken. Her present attitude indicates determination and ability to stand alone if needful, in preventing any improper or unfair settlement of the questions at issue. Russia will have to submit every point of the treaty of peace to the congress or England will fight, allies or no allies. Russia has no disposition to measure swords again with Great Britain, neither is she in the