

City, that more than 600 murders, of which legal evidence could be produced if it were worth anything before the Mormon courts, have been committed within ten years for religious reasons upon persons endeavoring to leave the circle of Mormon tyranny."

We commend this paragraph to the perusal of all classes right here, and after they consider it we doubt not that even the most foolish, extreme and bitter anti-"Mormon" would endorse a statement to the effect that as a slanderous falsifier this alleged follower of the Savior takes the premium. There are no "Mormon" courts here, and the assertion to the contrary is as silly as it is wicked, following close on the heels of an alleged quotation from proceedings had before Associate Justice Anderson, a United States judge, when the only "Mormon" murder that could be found was that in which William Green was the victim in 1862, and he, fortunately for truth and justice, was discovered alive and in good health, not having been assassinated to the best of his recollection.

The lecture of this reverend calumniator wound up with eight recommendations to Congress, which would, in his opinion, constitute an excellent recipe for the extirpation of "Mormonism." They are, in brief (1.) A school law including compulsory attendance. (2) "It is a duty to assist the schools, the Protestant churches, and other educational institutions of all denominations now in Utah. I would make no discrimination between them." (3) Disfranchisement of all polygamists. (He is evidently ignorant of the fact that that class were disfranchised in March, 1882, and have been in that condition ever since.) (4) Keep "Mormons" out of America because of their religious belief. (5) Debarment of polygamists from entering and settling upon the public lands. (6) An anti-polygamy amendment to the Constitution. (7) Idaho should be admitted as a State, but New Mexico should not. (8) Utah should be excluded from the Union till she mends her ways.

The eight sections of the Rev. Cook's pulp-it-plaster to cover the imaginary "Mormon" sore, should be duly considered by Congress, lest the bigoted blusterer take umbrage at the national Legislature.

BERLIN, March 14.—It is stated Bismarck has asked Windthorst, clerical leader, to give support to startling financial and military proposals which the government will soon lay before the Reichstag.

### NEEDED LEGISLATION.

THE Legislative Council has passed some amendments to the Reform School law, and they have gone to the House.

In the statute, as it stands, children only who have been convicted of an offense against the law can be admitted to the reformatory. The amendments provide for the admission of incorrigible youths who have not been convicted.

The Council in passing this addition to the statute has done a good and necessary thing. A law that excludes from the benefits of an institution established for the purpose of reforming refractory and evil-disposed young people all of that class who have not been convicted of crime is contracted legislation. It would be better for the institution to take hold of the youth before he reaches the advanced stage of criminality. The amendments referred to provide that in a case where a youth is incorrigible and uncontrollable, a competent court, on proper examination, can order him or her sent to the Reform School.

Such a law on the subject as that of Utah, as it now stands, has been tried in several of the States and in the District of Columbia. It was found to be insufficient; additions similar to those passed by the Council were made, and the ground was thus covered. We hope there will be no hitch on the road to the amendments becoming effective law.

### DEBATE ON THE SCHOOL BILL.

By far the liveliest session of the present Assembly was that held on Saturday, March 8. The ruling of the Speaker, that consideration of the school bill was the pending business at the opening of the session, was a bar to the purposes of the "Liberal" members, who wanted to take action on the revenue bill, and to defer consideration of the other measure so late as to kill it if possible. There were two provisions in the school bill which were, ostensibly at least, very objectionable to the "Liberal" members. These were the revenue section and the provision prescribing the qualifications of voters at school elections. The former is as follows, and appears as Section 1 of Article XI:

"Sec. 1. There is hereby levied and directed to be assessed and collected annually, beginning with the year 1890, an ad valorem tax on all the taxable property in the Territory of Utah, as follows: Two mills on the dollar for

territorial purposes, three mills on the dollar for district school purposes, such sums as the county court of the several counties may designate for district school purposes in such counties not to exceed two mills on the dollar, and such sums as the county courts of the several counties may designate for county purposes, not to exceed three mills on the dollar.

The territorial treasurer shall receive and hold, as a special fund, all public school moneys paid into the territorial treasury, and pay them over on the warrant of the territorial auditor issued upon the order of the territorial commissioner of schools in favor of the county treasurer of each county for the amount due said county."

The reasons for introducing a Territorial and county revenue provision in the school bill are given as follows: Taxes for schools and for other purposes are inseparably connected, and the provisions respecting them can, therefore, with perfect consistency, be embodied in one section. This was done and the section was made a point of the school bill because there were grave doubts respecting the passage of the revenue bill, members of both parties being so divided upon it that it was deemed to be in great danger. The above section, if made law, would, it was believed, obviate the most important objections to the present revenue law, and it was thought that it would meet with less opposition than any revenue measure yet proposed.

The provision prescribing the qualifications of voters at school meetings is part of section 1, Article V, and, as amended, reads as follows:

"Every male person of the age of twenty-one years and over, who has been a resident of the school district for ninety days immediately preceding the day of election, and who is the parent of a child of school age residing in the district, or who paid a territorial or county school tax in any such district during the preceding year, or who has been assessed for any territorial or county school tax in any such district for the year in which any such election is held, shall be entitled to vote at any district school election."

Messrs. Allen and Ferry both hail from Michigan, and during the discussions that have been had upon the school bill they have both made repeated references of a laudatory nature to the schools and laws of that State. In fact, the impression has obtained that these gentlemen regard the Wolverine school system as the pink of perfection. On Saturday night, in reply to a speech by Mr. Ferry, in which he denounced the above provision in unmeasured terms, Mr. Hammond exploded a petard which completely shattered the bulwarks of his position, by reading the fol-