

the Territory of Utah, though they were fully aware of the changes that have been brought about there within the past few years. The Mormons still maintain missionary stations in England as well as in other parts of the world, but there are few converts to their faith now, and the body of them that arrived at this port on Wednesday is the largest that has come here within recent times."

The foregoing is clipped from the columns of the New York *Sun*. It contrasts favorably with the comments made by other papers on the same subject. We seldom have cause to complain of the *Sun* in its treatment of the "Mormon" question. Like other journals, it is misled sometimes by the vile falsehoods which are frequently sent over the wires from this city to deceive the press and the country, but, as a rule, aims to be fair and to state facts briefly and to the point. This is where the New York *Sun* excels and by which it maintains its high position as a newspaper.

In the leading editorial of the same paper from which we make this extract, the policy of the *Sun* is declared in regard to its reporters. The inquiry is not made as to whether they are college bred; their fitness to chronicle facts as they occur is the needed qualification. Their opinions are not wanted, but actual occurrences on which the editor may base his own conclusions. Some reporters, the *Sun* explains, are anxious to surprise and dazzle folks with their learning and their genius. To curb their ambition, assistant editors are employed to cut out, remorselessly, their fine writing and keep the exuberant young fellows down to reality. If the *Sun's* example in that respect were followed in this neighborhood, the public would appreciate the change.

The *Sun's* report of the latest company of "Mormon" immigrants will be endorsed by those who know the facts and are applicable to other companies that come across the Atlantic. But the funny and foolish reporters, who imagine that anything concerning the "Mormons" must be burlesqued or exaggerated, usually draw upon their imagination, and make up items about the immigrants which are as void of truth as they are of wit and merit. This remark applies to educated idiots nearer home than New York City.

If the press of this country would confine their statements and comments on "Mormon" matters to facts and legitimate deductions therefrom, we would have no cause of complaint however severe they

might appear. What we object to are the vile falsehoods and unfair conclusions which continually appear in otherwise respectable journals in the United States.

A FALSEHOOD REVIVED.

THE San Francisco *Chronicle* is a live paper for news. But it is very rabid and unreliable on the "Mormon" question. It is a sort of echo of a much meaner paper nearer home. It will aid in the spread of any scandal, however false and ridiculous, that trenches on "Mormon" ground. Here is an editorial paragraph from its columns that shows how it will copy and endorse foolish and groundless anti-"Mormon" stories:

"A party of Mormon missionaries in Illinois appears to be carrying on what they regard as a good work in that State. This is nothing less than the breaking up of families and the enticing of young girls to follow them to Utah. It is notorious that even an institution so thoroughly exposed as the Mormon Church finds many converts if it sends out persuasive preachers, and the worst feature of the success of the Mormon Elders is that they capture the very class that through ignorance and want of means is unable to get free when once brought under Mormon control."

The San Francisco *Chronicle* is not able to point to a single instance of the "enticing of young girls" to Utah by "Mormon" missionaries, nor indeed the "enticing" of anybody "to follow them" or accompany them "to Utah." No missionaries are engaged in any such work either in Illinois or elsewhere. Neither is there any difficulty in getting away from Utah when people wish to leave. Such stories as these are too stale for the times. They smell of the mouldiness of a quarter of a century ago, or more, before railroads crossed the continent and tourists visited and learned the truth about this defamed Territory.

If the design of "Mormon" missionary work was to "entice" people to come to Utah, all they would need as means for the purpose would be money to pay the passage of those who would flock to this city. Men and women could be gathered by the thousands from all parts of the world with very little "enticing." They could be had by hundreds from the city where the *Chronicle* is published. "Mormon" missionaries are not engaged in any such business. They preach the Gospel and sometimes aid in gather-

ing the Saints who are anxious to join their co-religionists and worship God in these mountains; that is all.

The *Chronicle* may think it fun to publish such stories, but they have led to murder and outrages of the blackest kind. People are incited by them to deeds of violence, and the blood of innocent men bespatters the skirts of libellous journals that have invented and copied such foul falsehoods as that we have quoted. And that blood will not out, but will be a swift witness against the libellers in the great day of account.

THE AFFLICTED TOWNS.

THERE will be a general, not to say universal, endorsement, aside from the unanimous vote of the mammoth audience in the Tabernacle at the concert, of the motion made by Governor Thomas to make a proportionate division of the proceeds of the great concert between the survivors of the Johnstown flood and the sufferers by the Seattle fire.

A question may be raised by some on the equitableness of the allotment. It may be considered that one-fourth to Seattle and three-fourths to the Pennsylvania unfortunates is too favorable to the former when the character and extent of the disasters are compared.

As a matter of course the Johnstown affair pushes that of Seattle into the realm of comparative insignificance, but the relative magnitude of the two calamities is not the base of Governor Thomas' motion nor of the sustaining action upon it of the audience of last evening. Popular attention regarding the Washington Territory disaster is drowned under the flood of national sentiment bestowed upon the sufferers by the Pennsylvania affair. This concentration of feeling is necessarily followed by a flow of substantial benevolence for the relief of the people who have been driven into sudden misfortune by the breaking of the Johnstown dam, while comparatively nothing is being done for the ruined unfortunates of Seattle.

It should be remembered also that the latter city is a portion of the particular section of the country to which this Territory belongs. And while benevolence and sympathy should not be confined to narrow limits, they necessarily, in