

EDITORIALS.

THE METHODISTS MAD AND THE METHODISTS MOL-LIFIED.

A FEW days ago the New England Methodists, in conference assembled, roundly lectured President Hayes and the administration on their southern policy. Our dispatches of yesterday (9th) announced that the same body of religionists had adopted a resolution expressing gratitude towards President Hayes and lady (meaning we presume his wife) for excluding liquor from public and private receptions.

I may be that the New England Methodists, in common with other Republicans, having recovered from their alarm and indignation at the order of the President taking those troops out of the South Carolina State House, and regretting their hasty denunciation of him on that account, thought that a resolution of gratitude would soothe his lacerated feelings. Moreover, the N. E. Methodists may have been reassured by Packard's continuously stiff backbone, and the return of stiffness to Chamberlain's weakened spinal column, and brought to consider that their hectoring the President was at least premature, and not altogether consistent with their professions of godliness.

The New England Methodists did certainly, in those first resolutions, reprimand and coach the President as if he were the State and they were the superincumbent and supreme church, and church and state, with the church as the higher power, were the acknowledged law of the land. But it is not so. Church and state conjoined is not the law of the United States, and consequently the New England Methodists might restrain their holy indignation, assign politics a back place, if any place at all, in their conference deliberations, and modestly consider that before the law the Methodists have no more rights nor power than the members of any other religious society.

By the by, a later dispatch announces that those troops have left the State House, and that Governor Chamberlain's vertebrae have again become flabby. Now will the New England Methodists, in conference assembled, let their indignation rise again to the boiling point over the southern situation and the southern policy of the President?

THE USE OF TROOPS.

WM. H. SEWARD is represented as expressing himself as follows, in 1856—

"The army of the United States is not a mere institution of domestic police, nor is it a true or proper function of the army to execute the domestic laws of the several States and Territories. Its legitimate and proper functions are to repel foreign invasion and suppress insurrection of the native Indian tribes."

The very next year, the largest and best appointed army assembled in the United States since the Mexican war, and perhaps since the Revolution of 1776, was concentrated upon the Plains and in the Rocky Mountains, arrayed against a mere handful of citizens who, without assistance, had heroically settled and reclaimed the valleys of Utah. That costly and futile expedition was set on foot through the base misrepresentations and seditious conspiracies of a few malignant enemies of the people of this region.

The results, direct or indirect, of that unnecessary expedition have been anything but favorable. Some of the chief officers of that army went over to the Confederate cause, the commander lost his life therein, the bulk of the troops were ordered back eastward to fight in the civil war in the South, and federal troops have been used since in the South to overawe the people to this very day. Hence dual governments have been tormenting the public mind in two of those States, one supported by federal troops and the other by the people of those respective States, and although, under the new administration, this use of troops has begun to be repented of,

discountenanced, and relaxed from, yet to most minds the future is by no means clear, nor is the absolute relegation of the troops to their legitimate functions in this republic altogether assured.

Within eight years of the sending of a federal army to Utah, the Federal Government had more than a million of men in arms, and the Confederate Government perhaps half as many, making a million and a half of men in arms and in warlike array against each other in the domain of the United States.

In 1857 the public debt of the United States was only a trifle more than \$29,000,000. The next year it had nearly doubled, and it increased every year afterward until it culminated in 1866, when it reached nearly \$3,000,000,000.

Previous to the sending of the army to Utah the annual expenses of the federal government exceeded \$70,000,000 only three years, which were in 1854, 1856, and 1857, they being a little more than \$71,000,000 in the last named year. That expedition is said to have cost about half that sum, and it was furthermore the beginning of increased public expenditure that swelled to nearly half a thousand millions a year for several years, amounting to more than twelve hundred millions in 1865, and nearly as much in 1866. The annual federal expenditures have never yet declined to anything near those modest figures of ante-bellum times, and in all probability never will again.

These are some of the unpleasant results of the ill-advised use of troops, beginning with the Utah expedition of 1857. To which may be added the largely increased taxation under which the people groan, and will continue to groan for years, the increased State, county, and municipal debts throughout the country, and the present financial distress, business depression and general poverty of the masses in nearly every State and Territory in the Union, Utah perhaps being the best off, notwithstanding the ill usage to which her people have been subjected.

NOT ENOUGH TO GO AROUND.

THE *Arcadian* talks in this sensible way—

"Girls! listen to this, and with virtuous resolve demand, as your right, a pure love—

"Young men of bad habits and fast tendencies never like to marry a girl of their own sort, but demand a wife above suspicion. So, pure, sweet women, kept from the touch of evil through girlhood, give themselves with all their costly dower of womanhood into the keeping of men who, in base association, have learned to undervalue all that belongs to them and then find no repentance in the sad after years.

"There is but one way out of this, and that is for you to require in associations and marriages, purity for purity, sobriety for sobriety, honor for honor.

"There is no reason why the young men of this land should not be just as virtuous as the young women, and if the loss of your society be the price they are forced to pay for vice, they will not pay it."

The *Arcadian* is probably too hopeful of the young men of bad habits and fast tendencies. Few of them will reform for the sake of their individual sweethearts, and of girls in the aggregate there will always be some who will accept the advances of that class of men, at least until society is very differently constituted to what it is now.

The only hope for virtuous girls generally to obtain virtuous men for husbands is to double on the virtuous men when found. They are not very numerous, in comparison with the total of men, and the good girls, if they are determined not to have bad men for husbands, will find that they have to accept one or other horn of the dilemma—either for several girls to be married to one man, or many will remain single. Otherwise there are not enough good men to go around. The bad ones can hardly be held to be fairly entitled to either good sweethearts, wives or children.

An eastern contemporary says, "A frothy-mouthed Spitz dog will frighten more women than fifty wicked men."

INDEPENDENT PEOPLE.

THERE is a great noise made sometimes concerning independence in men, moral courage, the courage that pursues the course that conscience dictates as right, without fear or favor. But there is not half so much of this independence, this moral courage, in the world as is professed, perhaps not a tenth part.

It is a favorite pretence with some people that they are wonderfully independent, they do just the thing that they think is right, and fear nothing and nobody in consequence. It is also a favorite charge with some people, some of the above-mentioned people, that the "Mormons" are not in the least independent, that they are destitute of moral courage, and are the servants of human masters, of whose tyrannical actions they dare not complain.

It is enough to make a body laugh heartily to hear some people assert their independence and moral courage. To believe them would be to conclude that they monopolized those sturdy qualities. But such is far from the case. Let the bread be taken from their mouths, let public opinion go against them, let their party cast them off, and then where are their boasted independence and moral courage, where is their adamant backbone? They weaken like a bruised reed, or a column of water when the propelling force is withdrawn.

Look at the grand army of office-seekers, throughout the Union? An amazing amount of independence and moral courage they have, to be sure! They have the moral courage to live on taxes and fees, if they can get at them, and get at them they will if it is possible.

Look also at the grand army of officeholders in this republic. What independence and moral courage they manifest in their endeavors to obtain their offices, and to what resorts they are incited in order to retain them. How fearful they are at every breath of opposition from quarters that might hurt them! How they tremble in their togas and shake in their shoes at the faintest whisper of unpopularity with the party or power that made them what they are and keeps them in their office! It is really pitiable to behold these wonderful evidences of official independence and moral courage.

Turn we then to the "Mormons," and there we see genuine exhibitions of independence and moral courage and true conviction, and of an unflinching abiding by the consequences of that conviction. In the first place, when a man becomes convinced that "Mormonism" is true, is the Gospel of Jesus, and accepts it, his name, no matter how well respected previously, is immediately cast out as evil, his acquaintances, friends, and relatives revile him and in most instances turn their backs upon him, and become his bitter and determined enemies. From that time forth, ill-will, prejudice, opposition, misrepresentation, and slander are his portion. All manner of evil is spoken against him. It is all frown, and no favor. This treatment he continues to meet with, as a rule, all the time, and if it is relaxed it is generally by those who hope to make pecuniary profit out of him, and for the time that sordid hope lives.

Here, then, can be seen an indubitable instance of independence, of moral courage, of acting upon the dictates of conscience without regard to the good will or ill will, the frowns or favors of others. Here, then, can be seen a noble instance of the possession of the highest quality of which human nature is capable—doing that which is believed to be right, irrespective of what others may think of it, and without hope of corresponding earthly advantage, but with the absolute certainty of meeting with every discouragement and opposition from previous friend and present foe. Here, then, is a living instance of human excellence which should compel universal admiration and emulation.

Toronto, Canada, has a revival in progress, under the preaching of the Rev. Mr. Rainsford, of the Church of England. He is not eloquent, but very earnest and very handsome, and was stroke-oar, champion cricketer and boxer at Cambridge, England. The girls are crazy after him.

GASOLINE VS. GAS.

SOME of the people of New York and the gas company heretofore supplying them with light have a quarrel, and the result is that a portion of that city, aggregating about 2,000 lamps, is under contract to be lighted with gasoline, instead of gas, the former being agreed for at a cheaper rate than that demanded for the latter. The yearly price was \$36 per lamp for gas. The gasoline contract is at considerably lower figures. The New York *Herald* thus describes the new lamps, the light thereof, their manipulation, etc.—

"The new lamps are very similar in appearance to the old ones, the only noticeable difference being that around the top of the new ones there extends a tube of painted metal which contains the gasoline. From this there leads a pipe to the burner, which is similar to an ordinary gas burner, except that it has underneath a small cup and on the side a receptacle for the gasoline. The lighter fills this little cup with alcohol and lights it with a match. This heats the burner. Then, opening the cock, the gasoline comes down to the burner, and, coming in contact with the heated receptacle, is instantly converted into gas and is lighted from the burning alcohol, each lamp being a little gas machine in itself. The light given is equally brilliant as gas, but not so steady. The greatest drawback is the time required in lighting. In lighting the old lamps a man goes along carrying a torch in his hand, and, walking on the sidewalk, pushes the torch up through the bottom of the lamp. This action at once opens the cock, and the gas, coming in contact with the flame of the torch, is instantly lighted. In lighting the new lamps the man carries a ladder, which he has to climb at every lamp. Then from a can very similar to an oil can he fills the cup under the burner with alcohol, lights it with a match, and then opens the cock with his fingers. It takes just about twice as long to light a hundred of the new lamps as a hundred of the old. One of the lamp-lighters told the writer that he could light a hundred of the old lamps in about an hour, but to light a hundred of the new ones it took over two hours. It therefore is necessary to begin the lighting considerably earlier than has been customary."

In the same district private houses, stores, etc., are lighted with kerosene, gasoline, or by gas from house gas machines. The latter, however, not being admired by insurance companies.

UPS AND DOWNS OF CALIFORNIA LIFE.

CALIFORNIA is not in very high feather just now. The drouthy season, lessening coming crops and reducing the worth of live stock, the shrinkage in the value of stocks, the army of unemployed in her largest cities, the many emigrants pouring in to swell the number, the Chinese immigration question, and the Chico massacre business—all these contribute to make unpleasant times in the Golden State.

As an individual specimen of misfortune comes the somewhat noted Laura D. Fair, who files her petition in bankruptcy in San Francisco. The fair Laura alleges that her entire liabilities amount to \$21,333.66, of this \$7,600 is secured by twenty shares of Mexican and twenty-five of Ophir stocks, made over two years ago, worth then probably \$10,000, now estimated worth \$550. This \$7,600 was borrowed for speculation in stocks, with the result now seen. The remaining nearly \$14,000 of her liabilities is due to all sorts of creditors, from lawyers to grocers, and is unsecured. To offset this amount she offers a town lot in Yreka, value uncertain if anything, and a lot in Alameda, valued at \$400. She has also household furniture valued at \$808, which she asks to be left for her personal use.

Now it is in order for sermonizing upon the ruinous and demoralizing effects of stock gambling, upon the folly of becoming infatuated with the stock dealing business, in which individuals indulge, as shown in

this actual shrinkage to an eighteenth now of the value two years ago. It is about as great as the swelling of expenses and debt and taxation by a foolish war, in which nations indulge.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

New, the Lee confessionists are quarrelling, and it is intimated that some things were inserted therein not in the most honorable manner and for ulterior purposes. The longer one lives, the more he may learn.

The New England *Journal of Education* says, "In Memoriam! The Kansas State legislature has adjourned. The cause of normal schools received not one cent at the hands of these Solons, while the State Penitentiary was remembered in an appropriation of \$243,881.97 Grave-diggers, not immigrants, wanted that way."

The Iowa *Register* says, "Rev. Mr. See, in the eyes of his accusers, has been guilty of a great sin. If he had, liked Glendenning, debauched a young woman and then denied it, he might have escaped the law and punishment; but he allowed a female—a regular, unadulterated female, to encroach upon the duties of the ministerial profession, and he must suffer."

The New York *Tribune* gives the following instance of red tape—"On the books of the United States circuit court clerk, who keeps the accounts of deserting and deceased seamen, is a credit to a deserter of two cents. The entry is duly transcribed once a quarter and returned to the judge, who approves the account, and the same routine is observed four times a year for six years, when the money reverts to the government."

The Chicago *Times* says, "A sad case of a little boy being frightened to death occurred at Astoria, Fulton county, Ill., a few days ago. About 9 o'clock in the evening a son of Mr. Rowland, six years of age, was passing along the street of that town, alone, when another boy, son of Dr. Wm. Toler, who was dressed in a hideous costume, and playing in the front yard at home, seeing the little fellow passing, played the part of a ghost, and jumping out suddenly upon the little fellow, at the same time making a strange noise, so frightened him that he fell prostrate on the pavement. He jumped up quickly and ran a few rods, when he again fell, this time a corpse."

There is a good deal of respectable rascality in New York, as the following goes to show—"New York, April 7.—The Commissioner of Accounts, who has been endeavoring to investigate the financial affairs of St. John's Guild, reports that no books have been kept for three years and the moneys received been deposited to the private bank account of one of the managers. Children's Fold scandal has been revived by an attempt of deposed manager Cowler to force himself back into the institution by a coup. The State Board of Charities report the management of the New York Juvenile Guardian Society to be utterly untrustworthy."

A. E. Dickenson tells the *Woman's Journal* that if there are superfluous women there are also superfluous men, and the two classes have nothing in common but the name. A. E. D. ranges the following under the term superfluous men—loafers, from the tramp to the genteel club loafer, who are all lazy and without visible means of support; habitual drinkers and confirmed drunkards; the licentious, the debauchees, the moral lepers of the community, whose touch is pollution and whose breath is pestilential, the drags and dregs of "our civilization;" the blatant pot-house politicians, demagogues, office-seekers, filibusters, and the like.

The San Francisco *Chronicle* of April 9 says, "The cactus plant, which abounds in such profusion in the desert regions of southern California and elsewhere, is finally to be utilized in a most practical form. It is found to yield an excellent material for paper-making, both white and colored. George D. Walker has erected a paper mill in Los Angeles county for manufacturing paper from the cactus, and sends to this office most excellent samples of different varieties. As the material at hand is inexhaustible and the process easy, the new enterprise promises to become an important one at the outset."