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ATTACK ON PRESIDENT CANNON.

The Washington correspondent of the Salt Lake Tribune has sent to his paper a brief synopsis of a sensational news article which appeared in the New York Press of the 10th inst., charging President George Q. Cannon with the political sale of Utah Territory to the Republican party, and with various corrupt and criminal transactions in connection with the expenditure of time being his employment of stock in the Bullion-Beck mining property, and this followed by the general charge that he has "made a powerful effort to help his business enterprises."

In the absence of the full text of the publication any attempt to reply explicitly to its accusations would be necessarily premature. But enough of the spirit of the article is at hand to show its utter baseness and infamy. President Cannon in a short interview obtained by a Tribune reporter, brands the telegraphed statements as false in every particular—a declaration which is surely not necessary among a people with whom he has lived in unshaken esteem and unquestioned honor for upwards of forty years.

Nevertheless, he enters a categorical and emphatic denial to each statement made. Alluding to the charge that Republican success in the Territory of Utah was due to his efforts and his ecclesiastical influence, President Cannon says: "I took absolutely no part in Frank J. Cannon's election, directly or otherwise, and, in fact, I was very careful to refrain from so doing because of my position in the Church. I wish to be understood and quoted as stating most emphatically that during the campaign I approached no one, indirectly or otherwise, with reference to Frank J. Cannon's interests, and did not contribute a single dollar to his campaign fund. Neither did I have any dealings with J. H. Clarkson or Joe. Manley relating to Frank J. Cannon's election, and for that matter, it is a well known fact that neither Clarkson nor Manley had anything to do with his election."

Referring to the statement that his family has lived from the profits of his Church position, President Cannon answers: "I do not draw a single dollar from the Church for my services, but instead, I pay my tithing from an income which I derive from legitimate business enterprises. I wish to state, further, that I have never made any money out of the Church in any form."

Coming to the statement that his stock in the Bullion-Beck and Champion mining company was secured by fraud, President Cannon says: "My holdings in the company have been acquired only by direct purchase, and whoever says to the contrary tells an unqualified falsehood." And on this subject Mr. John Beck, who according to the Times' writer was swindled out of his mining stock, very promptly comes out in a published statement in both the Salt Lake morning papers of this date to the effect that Mr. Cannon paid the cash for the stock he purchased, that the transaction has never been questioned, that it was perfectly straight, and that any charge of fraud is ridiculous. There is no doubt that such cities slander in the whole vile screed which it shall be received in its fulness can be refuted with equal ease, and without President Cannon's being put to the trouble of further refuting it at all.

Meanwhile the motive for the malevolence of the Times' writer (the article is said to bear a Salt Lake date line) naturally excites comment, and he identify gives rise to speculation. But whatever he is, and whatever his motive, his false and cowardly nature is shown in his handiwork. Since almost the beginning of time there have been wretches vile enough to glory in the assassination of honest men's reputations—foul beasts whose pleasure was attempted the destruction of character and the doing of evil. Such infernal beings are generally found out at last and their infamy shown in the light of day. In the present instance the intention doubtless was to assign more than one man or family—it was to defame and injure your interests and a whole community. It will fail, as falsehood must ever fail, to strike will have his congrs for his pains, and even now, unknown though he is, his portrait is every decent man's scorn.

PLAND AND SILVER.

Congressman B. F. Bland has announced his intention of making a vigorous personal campaign the coming summer in behalf of silver. He will storm the gold strongholds of the Eastern and Middle states (not omitting, propriately to the meeting of Congress, already having made engagements to that end). Previous to that time he has stated his intention to weigh invitations from various western localities so as to practicable, to choose the silver issue and to become thoroughly in touch with the views of the lot West on the subject. He has accepted the first invitation extended to him in his line, that of Colorado, which was extended by leaders of all political parties. His addresses in the Centennial state will commence at Denver on Monday, April 8, following in other cities for a period of about two weeks. The local boards of trade have assumed the care and risk of securing halls and audiences.

Mr. Bland's subject in a general way is indicated by "The battle in Congress since 1873 for the free coinage of silver, and the fight yet to come." There is no question of the honest convictions on the silver question with which he will make his speeches. Equally it is reasonably certain that he will make matters lively for those of opposing views in his campaign. His proposal to go into the work with all his might and thoroughness as he would into a personal campaign for re-election has suggested to other congressmen the idea that a general movement of that kind would give the East and the gold advocates a much better idea of what the West thinks and demands than exists at present. It would cause the masses who reside in the Eastern and Middle states to a stronger sense of the vigor, determination, advancement and strength of the West than they now possess, and if the eastern gold men should be induced to participate by a similar western campaign they would find other issues than would pick to a side for their present tactics.

It might be a good thing if the western trip of Mr. Bland were extended to Utah and elsewhere in the West. Perhaps he might not produce any more earnest supporters of silver than there are here now, or make them more numerous. But his financial speeches certainly would find enthusiastic listeners, and further still, there would be an acquaintance formed which should be beneficial both to the people and to himself. Discussing a subject which will not arouse local partisanship, he also would obtain a fair idea of the people and country and of their needs, that would better fit him for the duties of any legislative position he may in future be called to fill. In this case, every congressman should have some general personal knowledge of the entire country, so that he could legislate more intelligently than is always the case now; and where one is in harmony with the West on such a vital subject as the silver issue, he should be all the more interested in a favorable view on other topics that might be of equally great importance to particular localities or individual states.

THE MISSIONARY'S WORK.

Elders who return from mission fields often are advised to write to old acquaintances so far as practicable, on a religious duty in continuing the work in which they were specially engaged as messengers of salvation. Sometimes the returned missionaries have not found it convenient to do much letter writing, owing to the pressing calls upon their time. There are many, however, who have performed valuable service in spreading the Gospel almost even since they returned home, by cultivating friendships formed. As an illustration of work of this kind we give herewith a copy of a letter received from a gentleman in Tennessee, by Elder George S. McAllister, of this city, who labored as a missionary in the state mentioned. The letter was received a few days ago. The name of the writer is withheld, as he did not write for publication. He is not a member of the Church, and was a strong opponent of the Mormons before he became acquainted with some of the missionaries. The effect of that acquaintance may be judged by his present utterances. He says:

Dear Friend—Your letter of the 23rd inst. was received and read with much pleasure. We were glad to hear from you and to know that you still remembered us. A letter from a Mormon Elder always finds a warm reception in our home.

I was reading your letter from second of the Elders, and I think we all discover the sentiment from any letters received from our absent sons. I have been very much strengthened in the Gospel by you sermons, by reading your letters. It seems to me that they are made up of divine things, things that have a tendency to strengthen my faith and cause me to exclaim, "Surely you have the true Gospel of Jesus Christ."

I have been reading all the Elders and find them all to be highbred gentlemen, and full of good sense. To me their lives seem to be more Christ-like and more in harmony with the divine teachings of God's word than anybody else. I very often recall to memory the happy very pleasant hours I have spent in company with the Elders.

Father Elder, of the time when you were here was one of a season, when you sang your beautiful songs of praise to the Lord. I thought then was the sweetest songs I ever heard in my life, and I keep them in my memory yet. I am glad that I have had the privilege of entertaining so many of God's faithful servants. I have spoken very pleasant hours in company with the Elders.

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