

was extended to the Mormon Church—"come down."

The first item of personalty surrendered was 800 shares of Salt Lake City gas stock, with somewhat more than its par value, which is \$80,000.

Then came a block Deseret telegraph stock, valued at \$30,000, but worth perhaps not quite that.

The Receiver learned of some sales of personalty and he pressed for the amounts realized from them as he had for the realty sold. He got \$5000 out of the Church which had been received for stock the Church had held in the DESERET NEWS and had sold to the Literary and Scientific Society.

The Church had owned a large interest in the Salt Lake City Street Railroad but had sold it. The sum of \$45,000, with interest at 10 per cent since the sale, was turned over on this item.

Certain stocks in the Provo Woolen Mill had been sold to John Cutler and the Zion Co-operative Manufacturing Institution. The Church gave up \$22,000 on this account.

Before the act took effect "the trustee in trust" for the Church at large had distributed to the Church associations and organizations in the various counties a lot of property such as had been received from contributions of members in those counties. To this the receiver put in his claim and got \$75,000 in lieu of it from the Church officers—"all it was worth," said the receiver.

Two other pieces of realty were taken possession of by the Receiver. One was the Church farm of 1100 acres, on the outskirts of Salt Lake City, valued then at \$100 an acre, and now by reason of the advance of real estate at three times that. The other piece was adjoining the Gardo House, and known as the Historian's place. It is worth now \$40,000, double what it was valued at when first taken.

The gas stock has paid \$6000 in dividends since it has been in the Receiver's hands.

Recapitulated, the property which the Receiver has obtained from the Mormon Church is as follows:

	First valuation.	Now worth
The Tithing yard.....	\$ 75,000	\$150,000
Church farm.....	110,000	330,000
Historian's place.....	20,000	40,000
Gardo house.....	50,000	50,000
Coal lands.....	30,000	25,000
Gas stock.....	80,000	83,000
Telegraph stock.....	20,000	15,000
Thirty thousand sheep.....	52,500	52,500
Cash for personalty distributed.....	75,000	75,000
Cash in lieu of street railroad stock.....	45,000	45,000
Cash in lieu of woolen mill stock.....	22,000	22,000
Cash in lieu of theatre.....	27,000	27,000
Cash in lieu of realty sold.....	84,666	84,666
Dividends on gas stock.....	6,000	6,000
Cash in lieu of NEWS stock.....	5,000	5,000
Totals.....	\$702,166	\$1,010,166

To the above are to be added rents from real estate, money for the sheep leased and other items, amounting to some thousands of dollars. The expenses of the receivership the first year were \$27,000. The receiver's allowance was \$10,000. His lawyers got as much more. The rest was absorbed for taxes, clerical hire and

in other ways. The biggest row the Gentiles have had among themselves in many a year was set agoing by this receivership. Having despoiled the Mormons, the Gentiles couldn't wait until they got across the Red Sea with the plunder. They became involved in a bitter controversy over the amount of compensation which the receiver ought to get, and the hard feelings thus created still exist.

With the property scheduled above in the possession of the Receiver, the Court entered a final decree against the Church, and the case went to the Supreme Court of the United States. A decision is expected in October, as the case was advanced and argued last term. If the Court sustains the lower Court, there is nothing to be done but to turn the property over to the Secretary of the Interior, to be used for the common schools of Utah. The realty is increasing in value every day. As shown above, the property of all kinds now in the Receiver's hands amounts to over \$1,000,000. That, however, does not fully represent the loss to the Church. The transfers which took place about the time the act passed were at prices below the real value. They were in the nature of forced sales. The property for which the Church received \$84,666 was in the city and was worth \$200,000. The theatre for which the Church received \$25,000 would sell quickly for three times that amount today.

It isn't worth while discussing in a newspaper letter whether the confiscation is constitutional or whether it is just. The court will settle the constitutionality. The individual reader will decide for himself whether such a proceeding is just. And that decision will depend largely upon whether he believes Mormons have or have not rights which the government is bound to respect. But what has confiscation accomplished? That is the question profitable to pursue. What good has it done? Or, as Gen. Billy Florence has it in the German Professor:

"Vot's the use?"

This query in varying forms has been put to Gentile after Gentile. The common reply is:

"Not a d—d bit."

The sole purpose of the legislation was to put an end to the ecclesiastical despotism supposed to exist in Utah, to aid in the suppression of polygamy; in brief, to crush Mormonism. What has the act of 1887 accomplished in that direction? Most of the Gentiles say that confiscation has proved a failure. The more thoughtful say there has been a falling off in the tithing. The contributions to the Church have not been so large during the confiscation proceedings as they were before. To that extent the Church has been injured. But it does not appear to outsiders as if the power of the leaders had been materially weakened, or as if disintegration had set in as the result of this rather unheroic treatment. W. B. S.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Sept. 26.

## FRESH DEVELOPMENTS.

The following is the judgment of Judge Berry in the case of S. D. Davies, of Samaria, Idaho:

"That the said defendant S. D. Davies pay a fine of \$500, and in default thereof that he be confined in the county jail of Oneida County for a term not exceeding two hundred and fifty days. It is further ordered that said defendant be remanded to the custody of the sheriff of Oneida County until the judgment is satisfied."

Our best lawyers state that this decision gave the defendant the option of paying the fine or going to jail. Mr Davies chose the latter, and applied for a writ of *habeas corpus*. The anti-Mormons seeing in such cases as these a prospect of ending those unlawful proceedings which they have carried on in Idaho for years, thought there was no time to lose, so an execution was applied for, which was granted. Accordingly, Mr. Davies' only horse was taken, and sold for \$21. One of his partners protested, telling the sheriff that Davies, though a farmer, was a poor man, which, however, had no effect. Mr. Davies had a fourth interest in the firm of Evans, Gibbs & Davies, of Samaria, which was also sold to the highest bidder, D. W. Standrod, who conducted the prosecution against Davies.

Now comes the "fourth act," and this is the strangest proceeding in the whole affair. It will be remembered that on the 25th of September Davies' fourth interest in the firm of Evans, Gibbs & Davies was knocked off to D. W. Standrod, the prosecuting attorney. On the 1st of October, Standrod, Fred. Pack and W. R. Thomas came to Samaria, entered the yard of the firm named, and helped themselves to two of the best of five wagons, and twenty-seven spools of fence wire out of eighty-eight. There were 110 spools, all told, according to the sheriff's reckoning. Of these twenty-two spools (2250 lbs.) were the private property of Jonah Evans. The wagons and the wire were worth between \$400 and \$500, which Mr. Standrod and others carried off in lieu of the \$190 which he paid for the fourth interest in said firm. Mr. Evans protested against their action, and told them that a portion of the wire was his own property; but this made no difference; Mr. Standrod had need of it.

Evans, Gibbs & Davies have now instituted a suit against the sheriff, Attorney Standrod and others for the recovery of their property, with damages. The property is now in the possession of the coroner of the county, and if the defendants will insist upon having the property returned to them pending the suit, they will have to give bonds in the sum of \$1000, in default of which the property will be restored to its rightful owners. SAMARITAN.

SAMARIA, Idaho, Oct. 17, 1889.