October 25

## THE DESERET NEWS.



officer in making arrests. Had the Marshal been resisted, or his authority disputed, before this arbitrary course had been adopted, there would have been some excuse for it. As it is, it looks as if it was done to provoke collision and bring on civil war. We have always been opposed to Mormonism, and especially to its infamous dogma of a purality of wives-which is, in reality, a relic of barbarism-and believe it should not be tolerated by a civilized government; but we are opposed to the exercise of unnecessary arbitrary power in its suppression. Polygamy has been tolerated by the government for a quarter of a century. It has been allowed to grow and flourish in Utah until it has assumed a sort of legal status, so far as the government is concerned, which is almost as much responsible for it as the Mormons themselves. It has been winked at and petted by the Federal appointees in the Territory. The most noted of the bigamists, who promulgated it and preached it every Sunday, have been eulogized and petted by the civil and military officers of the government, until the advent of Judge McKean, who proposes to abolish it by the bayonet in a fortnight, or provoke civil war. It is admitted by all that polygamy and the Mormon religion must soon perish in Utah and the United States. It is admitted that, since a large generation of people in Utah have grown out of the institution, some consideration for that class should be entertained; that the innocent offspring of even a corrupt and criminal practice, should not be morally damned and cast down to eternal infamy at one fell swoop; but that the thing should be condemned and required to perish in good time. Those in authority who failed to do their duty at the start, and tacitly allowed the unlawful and unnatural practice of polygamy to exist, almost from a time to which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, have no right now to suppress it, in the Jeffries style, and at the expense of civil war; at least, let them wait until the Mormons commit the overt act-resistance to peacable and legal arrest.

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THERE YOU ARE AGAIN. - The San Francisco Medical Society have been discussing that fruitful topic, the "social evil," and they have unanimously adopted the following resolution-

Resolved, as the sense of this society, that all laws which license, and therefore sanction, prostitution, with the design of restraining disease or licentiousness, are unsound in principle, derogatory to private and public morals, and incapable of accomplishing what they attempt.

That is what we have said all the time. The idea of licensing the most awful crimes, morally and often physically speak ing, is so instinctively repulsive to every virtuous mind that it is always a wonder to such how men can ever be brought to agree to it, to suggest it, or even to think of it for one moment. Only a wicked and adulterous generation ever would think of it. Utah has no "social evil," never had any, only such as is imported from afar,

