

[From the N. Y. Times.]

MODERN GARGANTUA.

MR. A. M. GIBSON'S DESCRIPTION OF
ELI MURRAY.THE RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE MUTILATED.—MURRAY
AS MARSHAL, TERRITORIAL
GOVERNOR, ETC.

The following is the full text of A. M. Gibson's letter to Chairman Springer, of the House Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice, which was called forth by the action of that committee in regard to the charges of misconduct against Eli H. Murray during his term of office as United States Marshal:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7, 1884.

Sir.—Eli H. Murray, late United States Marshal of Kentucky, and present Governor of Utah, was denounced by the Hon. John B. White, Representative from Kentucky, as a thief. The committee, of which you are chairman, acting upon the information obtained from Mr. White, called upon the Attorney General for any papers on file in the Department of Justice relating to the administration of the United States Marshal's office for the District of Kentucky during the incumbency of Eli H. Murray.

A bundle of papers, the result of an examination made by Geo. K. Chase, an officer of the Department of Justice, was sent to your committee. The examination covered a very short period and related only to certain specific charges made by a former subordinate of Marshal Murray. The charges were sustained by oral and documentary evidence. The officer directed to make the examination so reported to the Attorney General, who thereupon wrote to Marshal Murray demanding his resignation. In response thereto, John M. Harlan, then the attorney of Murray, now a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, came to Washington to save his client from disgrace.

The result of Mr. Harlan's visit was an arrangement by which Murray was allowed to resign as if of his own motion, and the letter of the Attorney General demanding his resignation was not only withdrawn, but the records of the Department of Justice were mutilated by cutting from the letter book the recorded copy thereof. It was also stipulated that the papers showing the result of the examination made by Chase should not be placed on file. The object of this extraordinary proceeding could have been none other than to shield an offender in whose interest powerful political influences had been brought to bear. The records of the Department of Justice are not mutilated and official papers kept off the files for trivial causes.

The papers sent to your committee were examined by Mr. Ballin, an expert of the Department of Justice, who testified that they disclosed irregularities in the accounts of Marshal Murray and frauds upon the United States. George K. Chase, the officer who investigated the charges against Murray, and who reported them sustained, appeared before your committee and testified that the evidence he obtained established Murray's guilt; that the Attorney General demanded Murray's resignation, which was received and accepted. He testified that the resignation was demanded because the examination he had made satisfied the Attorney General that Murray was guilty. This witness was superficially examined and did not give a satisfactory account of the attempted suppression of his report, of the withdrawal of the Attorney General's letter demanding Murray's resignation, nor of the mutilation of the records by removing the copy of the same.

Between the time the papers first came to your committee and the examination of Chase the most important one disappeared. It was the original warrant on which were indorsed in Murray's handwriting the illegal fees, amounting to more than \$80, in the McCord case. It was among the papers when they first came from the Department of Justice. I saw and examined it carefully. I called the attention of the clerk of your committee to it.

The Hon. John B. White testified concerning many irregularities in the Marshal's office which had been reported to him. He gave an account of gross outrages perpetrated in his district solely for the purpose of swelling the emolument returns of Marshal Murray. He gave you the names of witnesses who had personal knowledge of irregularities and frauds, and asked that they should be subpoenaed and examined. This has not been done.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue, who made grave charges against Murray, was "invited to appear before your committee and give his testimony, but declined for personal and political reasons, and was excused. Mr. Chase, who knew a great deal more than he was asked to tell in his first examination, has also been excused from giving further testimony. Wherefore this tenderness.

Mr. Murray appeared before your committee, last Friday, and consumed two hours in reading a statement abounding in tawdry rhetoric, mawkish invective, and wholly unsupported charges against gentlemen who had nothing whatever to do with the accusation upon which he was found guilty by the Department of Justice, years ago. Undoubtedly he was surprised and amazed when the proofs of his delinquencies were found in the Department of Justice. He rested se-

cure in the belief that they had been suppressed. His political friends had sufficient influence to induce an Attorney-General to mutilate the records of his office and to direct the evidence of guilt to be kept from the files. But Mr. Chase forgot to carry off the papers when he went out of office and they unexpectedly turned up as Murray's accusers. Like the ghost of the murdered Banquo, they return to plague all who were concerned in this nefarious business.

Your committee swallowed the "intolerable deal of sack" ladled out by this modern Falstaff, and graciously accepted the modicum of explanation he vouchsafed about the charges against him, as a complete vindication. It was voted that you would take no more testimony. The mutilation of the records of the Department of Justice, the attempted suppression of the proofs of official misconduct, the abstraction of an important piece of documentary evidence after it had come into possession of your committee, the political thimble-rigging by which all these things were accomplished, are matters about which you will not waste your valuable time. Nero fiddled while Rome burned.

Murray placed the responsibility for all the shortcomings of himself upon a discharged deputy. The copies of his enrollment returns in your possession show that it was the rule of Marshal Murray to charge the government greater mileage than his deputies actually traveled, and for guards in attendance on prisoners when none were employed; to charge mileage and guards when arrests were not made, the accused persons having voluntarily appeared; to defraud the government by the fictitious accounts of negro janitors, to pilfer by the means of excessive stationery bills. These and many other instances of official misconduct this valorous and virtuous Gargantua shuffles off upon a discharged deputy who had not, and could not have had, lot or part in them. But your committee considers its time too valuable to waste in a search for trivialities like these! It will not summon the witnesses indicated by a member of the House of Representatives, who says they have personal knowledge of the facts and will prove the truth of his charges!

This Gargantuan Governor of Utah ascribes to himself the sacred character of a great moral reformer, and would have the world believe that he like his Rabelian antetype, is persecuted because he has been "called to the faith of the Gospel and convinced with the certainty of evangelical truths." His organ in Salt Lake City, Mr. Chairman, terms you a Jack Mormon, whatever that may mean, and his mouthpieces here proclaim that you were bought by Mormon gold, and during a recent visit to Utah entered into a conspiracy with the Mormon leader to blacken and defame his lily-white character. I am accused of being paid by the Mormons to send abroad defamatory dispatches concerning the past official record of this champion Gentle of morals in Salt Lake City. With lofty Gargantuan rhetoric he describes me as "a bird of ill omen with an æolian attachment."

If your committee will exercise the legal "attachment" provided by the House of Representatives, and permit me to examine the witnesses, I will undertake to prove to your entire satisfaction that while Marshal of Kentucky Eli H. Murray systematically defrauded the Government by charging illegal fees; that his emolument returns were invariably "crooked," and that he escaped merited disgrace and punishment nearly eight years ago by political thimble-rigging. I will undertake also to prove that he has prostituted his position as Governor of Utah to further the schemes of a ring of public plunderers, that he and the men whose subservient tool he is, exerted all their influence, official and otherwise, to bring the Edmunds law into disrepute, and to embarrass the Commissioners appointed to carry into effect its provisions. I will further undertake that his and their purpose was to make the law a failure in order that they might procure the passage of an act by Congress disfranchising the people of Utah and vesting in their hands the entire machinery of the Territory so that they might oppress and plunder at their sweet will. I will prove beyond peradventure that he has lent the use of his name as Governor to bolster almost every description of swindling corporations organized for the purpose of fleecing the public and putting money in the pockets of the projectors. I append hereto a list of these "snide" companies organized in one county of Utah in which Murray appeared as an officer and the holder of stock at the time of their organization to the amount of \$1,120,030.

I will content myself with the history of one of the corporations—the Black Diamond Coal & Coke Co., organized July 12, 1880, Eli H. Murray, president and owner of 140,000 shares of stock, nominal value \$5. The projectors of this swindle pretended to be owners of a large body of coal land, when in truth and in fact they had merely "filed" upon the lands, and thereby obtained only the privilege of becoming the owners within a year by complying with the terms of the law. They organized their company, made Eli H. Murray, president, giving him 140,000 shares of stock of the nominal value of \$700,000 for the use of his name, and then he and they disposed of their stock to a public confiding in the good character of the Governor of the Territory, the representative of the sovereignty of the United States. The title to the

property was not perfected, and the stock of the company is not worth the paper it is printed on.

Very respectfully,

A. M. GIBSON.

To the Hon. Wm. M. Springer, chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice.

A list of Mining and other Companies in which Eli H. Murray, Governor of Utah, Holds Positions and owns Stock, as Shown by the Records of a Single County of said Territory, Salt Lake County:

The Mount Baldy Gold and Silver Mining company, organized June 14, 1880, E. H. Murray, President, owning 12,500 shares of stock; valuation,	\$75,000
Black Diamond Coal and Coke company, organized July 12, 1880, E. H. Murray President, owning 140,000 shares of stock; nominal value, \$5,	700,000
Deer Creek Mining company, organized Oct. 27, 1880, E. H. Murray, Director, owning 5,000 shares; nominal value, \$5,	25,000
The Apex Mining company, organized, June 28, 1881, E. H. Murray, Director, owning 24,028 shares; nominal value, \$10,	240,000
The Utah Ore Reducing company, organized Nov. 14, 1881, E. H. Murray, President, owning 100 shares; nominal value, \$10,	1,000
The Eagle Foundry and Machine Co., organized, May 31, 1883, E. H. Murray, President, owning 90 shares for himself and 90 shares as Trustee—180 shares, nominal value, \$50	9,000
The Vanderbilt Silver Mining and Milling company, organized, May 31, 1882, E. H. Murray, Vice-President, owning 1,000 shares; nominal value, \$25	25,000
Lexington Mining company, organized July 10, 1882, E. H. Murray, Vice-President, owning 8,450 shares; nominal value, \$5	42,250
Moulton Mining company, organized Dec. 2, 1880, E. H. Murray, Vice-President, owning 100 shares; nominal value, \$25	2,500
Total number of shares, 101,358; nominal value	\$1,120,000

MORMONISM EXPOSED.

AN ENGLISH VIEW OF THE CASE.

There has just been issued at this office a pamphlet of thirty pages, bearing the above title, the matter of which is copied from the *Nineteenth Century*, a monthly magazine published in London England, in which it recently appeared over the signature of James W. Barclay, Esq., M. P. It is entitled by its author: "A New View of Mormonism," and purports to be, as it undoubtedly is, the result of personal study and observation of the "Mormon Question," during a late visit by Mr. Barclay to Salt Lake City.

The "newness" of the "view" referred to, consists in the fact that the writer has conscientiously endeavored to view the subject in its proper light, and then tell the truth, so far as his comprehension of the subject—which is large—enables him to do. As a result he is exceptionally accurate, towering head and shoulders in this respect above the generality of writers who essay the treatment of the same topic. We can therefore heartily recommend this pamphlet, notwithstanding a few inaccuracies, to the Saints as well as to the world. It is clearly and forcibly written, and its perusal will pass away an evening very pleasantly and profitably.

The writer begins with the rise of "Mormonism" and briefly traces its growth and progress from the first vision of the Prophet Joseph Smith, through the principal vicissitudes of its ensuing history up to the present time. He describes the great west of thirty years ago and the travels of the Latter-day Saints to the Rocky Mountains, and declares that "should Mormonism ever produce its poet, he will not want materials for an epic in the march of his people to their promised land." He then says:

"The transformation in Utah since its settlement by the Mormons is truly wonderful. The traveler to Salt Lake City by any of the railways has ample opportunity of contrasting the country in its virgin state with the Mormon settlements, and may thus realize the change that has taken place. Salt Lake City is the finest town of its size in the Western States."

The social life, commercial enterprise, public works, Church organization, political troubles and religion of the Saints come in for consecutive treatment, not omitting the all-absorbing theme of "polygamy," which he says is the only ground for the accusation that the "Mormons" are not law-abiding citizens. He continues:

"But I apprehend that the animosity to Mormonism is principally due to the efforts of the host of hungry office-seekers who would find lucrative posts in Utah were the Mormons disfranchised, and by the missionaries from the Eastern States who come to turn the Mormons from the error of their ways, and whose income depends on the strength of the feelings they can excite in their supporters. If the Mormons could be disfranchised in a body, 500 lucrative posts in Utah would be open to Gentile office-seekers. According to the legislation which might be adopted, the offices would be filled either by the President of the United States or by the small minority of Gentiles in Utah.

After referring to the Edmunds law and other anti-"Mormon" measures in Congress, he says:

The Mormons have proved them-

selves eminently capable of self-government, and it is with regret I observe that President Arthur, in his recent address, recommends Congress to withdraw constitutional rights from the inhabitants of Utah, and to substitute a government from Washington, apparently similar to that of our crown colonies by the Colonial Office.

"I refuse to anticipate that Congress will give ear to any such proposal. The treatment of the Mormons by the people of the United States is already a blot on the fair fame of the greatest republic the world has seen, and I firmly believe that, if the citizens of the United States could only visit Utah, investigate and judge for themselves, there are very few who would not be ashamed of what has taken place in Utah under their authority."

The "Mormon" people are spoken of as follows:

"They are, as a people, tolerant, temperate, peaceable, and industrious. Temperance is in some cases carried to the extreme of abstinence from alcohol of all kinds, tobacco, and tea. Before the Federal Government exercised so much authority as now, drinking saloons and other establishments of vice were prohibited; and, although a few professing Mormons keep drinking saloons, they are held in disgrace.

Hostile Gentiles living in Salt Lake City, of whom I inquired the grounds of their hostility to the Mormons, referred only to polygamy and exaction of the tithe, to which, however, they do not contribute. They admitted that the Mormon people were honest, straightforward, and fulfilled their contracts fairly, although they seemed to think it was not easy to get the better of a Mormon in a bargain.

Among the Mormons all are equal. It is the duty of every man from the President downwards to labor for his living. There is no special or privileged class or caste. The people in the fullest sense govern themselves, and every man is eligible for any office in Church and State. The only difference between individuals is in their inherent qualities and capabilities.

They have no property in common, but the tithe collected by the Church is sufficient to provide for the wants of the helpless poor, and to assist the widow and the unfortunate to regain a position of self-supporting independence. I had the pleasure of traveling for some days in company with a Mormon Elder, a gentleman of great ability, intelligence and courtesy, and I was much struck by the evident cordiality of his reception by his co-religionists, as well as by his genuine kindness, without any tinge of condescension towards his humbler brethren. There was on both sides an evident feeling of perfect equality combined with respect and affection. It is the same with the President. So far as I observed and could learn, President Taylor is regarded with greater respect by the Mormons than is the President of the United States by its citizens, and at the same time his office is open to all, and he is prepared to hear what the humblest Mormon has to say.

Referring to a recent interview between Governor Eli H. Murray and a New York Herald reporter, he says:

"The sum of Governor Murray's whole case against the Mormon people is that they are too obedient to the rulers of the Mormon Church, and as he thinks the growth of this loyalty is dangerous to the commonwealth, he advises that the Legislature be abolished, the organic act repealed, and a Territorial council appointed to govern Utah by commission; in other words, he recommends that the Constitution of the United States should be violated in order to punish the Mormon people, whose three cardinal principles are to pay tithes, to live regularly, and to obey the Priesthood."

In conclusion the writer says;

"There are many interesting questions connected with polygamy, but more particularly with the social organization of the Mormons, which I had not sufficient time to investigate. What I have written will, I hope, serve to attract a closer study. Let me say, in conclusion, that I went to Utah prejudiced against the Mormons, but after seeing and investigating myself, I came to the conclusion that apart from polygamy, there is much in the Mormon organization to admire and respect, and that the Mormons are the subjects of a greater amount of misrepresentation and abuse than any other community with which I am acquainted.

SHIP WRECK ON LAKE ERIE.

"Tell us how your hair turned white," said one of the party at the fireside.

"In June, 1851," said the man with white hair, "I left my home in Ohio for Buffalo. Being in a hurry to return, I took a passage by the steamer G. P. Griffith for Toledo on a late Saturday afternoon. The ship carried over 400 passengers and crew. I must have slept soundly for about two hours in my berth, when I was awakened by the sound of hurrying footsteps overhead, and, looking through the ventilator to the upper deck, I saw two or three sailors running along dragging a hose pipe. I partly dressed and went forward to the promenade deck, where I heard from the pilot house above the voice of the captain crying 'starboard! Hard starboard! and steer her for the shore!'

"The ship veered from her course and headed for the shore, five miles distant. I went back to my stateroom, awakened the man in the other berth and rapped on several of the doors. As I came out again into the cabin I

saw smoke curling out from the side. The command had been given to call up the passengers, and when I again reached the forward deck they were crowding upon it. Just aroused from sleep, they hurried out half dressed or in their night clothes, many carrying children, bandboxes, bird cages, carpet bags and bundles, and all anxious to save something. I climbed up on the railing and, taking hold of a stanchion, swung myself to the main deck below. Stepping over the forms of many who were lying there still asleep, I went around to the engine, and looking up, saw that the fire had broken out near the smokestack in a spot so difficult to get at that in all probability the ship was doomed. Hurrying back to the main deck, upon which the crowd was fast increasing, I removed all my clothing but my night shirt and drawers. Taking my money and valuables, I rolled them up with my trousers and laid them carefully away on deck where I might recover them if the ship should escape destruction. Climbing up on the rail near the gangplank, I held on until the frantic crowd, pressing forward, forced me away. I crept along on the gunwale to near the wheel on the land side, where I clung and watched the crowd as they surged forward from the approaching flames.

"There was scarcely a scream heard. As the flames drove further and further forward whole columns of people were pushed into the water. Husbands caught their wives and children, and throwing them overboard, jumped after them. Women with babies in their arms went about piteously begging some one to save their children, and when they were pushed or jumped into the water held their infants high above their heads. After they were drowned their quilted skirts buoyed them up, and I saw babies actually trying with their little hands to catch the dancing light of the flames in the water.

"The ship grounded at daybreak in about ten feet of water, a little more than half a mile from shore. The water all about the forward part of her was full of drowned and drowning people. Many good swimmers struck out for the shore, but from all sides the poor drowning wretches would clutch them and drag them down.

"The flames drove me off at last. In the water just beneath me was a struggling crowd of drowning creatures clinging to each other. Suddenly a space of about twenty feet cleared instantly by their sinking out of sight, dragging each other down. I determined to jump, swim toward the stern of the boat until out of reach of the clutches of the drowning, and then make a detour for the shore. Remembering how I used to jump into the water as a boy, when learning to swim, I put my feet closely together, arms straight by my side, and plunged down like a wedge to the bottom, with my eyes wide open. For a brief second I saw lying on the bed of the lake heaps of dead bodies in all positions. On rising to the surface I struck out with my arms, but to my horror found my feet bound tightly together. The band of my drawers had burst and slipping down, had bound my ankles as securely as if tied. Turning on my back, I carefully disentangled them from each foot. These efforts greatly exhausted me, but, once free, I swam towards the stern until I was quite clear of all obstructions, and then struck out for the shore. One strong swimmer passed me and spoke some encouraging words. I saw others, who must have become dazed, swimming back into the lake.

"I was not an experienced swimmer, but I had passed, as I had judged, nearly half the distance to the shore when a deathlike coldness and numbness came creeping over me. All the life I had left seemed centered in my head, which felt like a ball of fire. I found that I was turning round and round in the water, now catching glimpses of the burning ship, to which even yet a few human beings were clinging, and now of the beach. Could I ever reach it? Was it worth while to struggle any longer? Every movement caused intense pain in my chest and lungs. It seemed so easy to die now.

"I ceased all efforts and raised my eyes for a last look at the sky. I was struck by a peculiar golden haze of the atmosphere, and the air seemed filled with human forms hovering over the drowning. The air was filled with them, and close beside me I recognized my father, brother and other friends who had died many years before. They called me by name. They pressed closely around me, telling me to struggle on and they would aid me—that my work was not done—that I could not be spared yet.

"A little strength came back to me. I remembered that I must be more than half way to the shore. The water could not be more than five feet deep. I let myself down, and felt the sand under me. Aided by my spirit friends, whose hands and presence were as real to me as any human touch, I crept on my hands and knees on the sand for some distance, rising often to breathe. Becoming too weak for this, with my heavy head falling backward, I sank to the bottom, and drew my body with my arms near and nearer to the shore, rising to the surface as often as necessary. A man was lying on the beach, one of the few who ever reached it. When he saw me feebly struggling, he crept down to the water's edge, and reaching out his hands, tried to aid me. I slowly crept up a little way out of the water, but he was so weak that, falling backward, I would lose my hold and sink again.

"At last I was lying on the dry sand. How good it was to lie there, if only I