

POLYGAMY IN NEW YORK—POLITICAL LIBERTY AND RELIGIOUS TOLERATION.

Polygamy is, as is well known, one of the established institutions of the shady side of New York society. Polygamy that may not be called by that name, perhaps, but is just as really polygamy for all that. Polygamy out side of the law, it is true; and just for that reason a polygamy that sacrifices directly all the wives but one, and that one also indirectly, in most cases; dooming all but that one, at all events, to irreparable dishonor, depriving them of all rights that any biped brute of a man is bound to respect, and permitting them no possible future but a final tumble into that lowest hell of all that masculine beastiality, combining it must be confessed with feminine prudery, provides for over-trusting woman—prostitution. And the crowning beauty of this New York form of polygamy, the form common in fact to all our great occidental cities—Vienna, London, Paris, all presenting one common type—s that its victims have been quite commonly snatched by the rude hand of power—power combined it is true, generally, with more or less fraud, according to the prevailing characteristic of the modern form or mode of power, which is wealth—from homes more or less happy, and forced by a veritable compulsion, none the less real for being more or less disguised, into their wretched state. Once in a while it is true a Josephine Mansfield is met with; but voluntary prostitutes of the female sex are the rarest exceptions.

The New York Polygamist, ever so well known to be such, is none the less well received in "Society." He is required perhaps to throw a veil over the fact, but the thinnest gauze imaginable, one perfectly transparent, will suffice. Indeed, the thinner the veil the better. The more wives—illegitimate wives—a man has, the more will fashionable ladies dote upon him. They admire his prowess. Is he not, moreover, maintaining the principles of their class? In the human breast the desire of distinction is an inextinguishable passion; and distinction for any noble pursuit, for any grand service rendered to society—the real society as distinguished from "society" (in quotation marks)—is out of place among our millionaires, as well as rather out of date among our people generally—in New York city at all events. It is an elegant amusement of our wealthy idler, absolutely necessary to the filling up of his otherwise vacant and listless hours—when tired of yachting and horse-racing for example—winning over women of the "inferior classes!" Indeed, what else are yachts and fast horses for? Besides, there is one very great advantage attendant upon their exploits in this direction, that they insure an unfailing supply of victims to that most faithful of all the demons attendant upon the almighty modern devil-god Mammon—open prostitution. It would be such a sad thing, you know, for this supply by any chance to fall off! It would defeat one main end of our panics, reduction of wages, and other devil-processes ever going on among our Bible-distributing money-makers. Besides it would endanger the peace and happiness of our "society" homes and hearth-stones; at least so we are assured on the excellent authority of An eminent lady litterateur herself. And this precious "society" (in quotation marks) must be protected, you know, at no matter what cost to that greater and better human society for which you, O eccentric and solitary reader, and I, eccentric and solitary writer, and what few other honest men are left in this world would fain find our happiness in living to serve.

But then here stands the fact, manifest, undeniable, patent to every man, not an idiot, that the law is utterly powerless to put it down. And it would be a bright day indeed for the cause of morality and virtue among us on which the American mind could be awakened to reflect on this fact, of so vast import, that morality and loyalty cannot by any possibility be one same thing. The morality must be of a contemptibly low type that can prevail among a people who allow themselves to feel that nothing more is needed to enable a man to pass muster among them on the score of morality and virtue than the skill to keep out of jail! When a people has no higher standard of virtue, no nobler moral au-

thority, than its civil government, legislative, executive and judicial, its value cannot possibly be anything more or anything better than vice vanished over with a most attenuated film of concealment. And this on many other and deeper grounds than the first most obnoxious one, itself however more than sufficient, that as a matter of fact that very government will itself, judged in the court of an enlightened and awakened conscience, be the arch sinner! Where is the government in the United States that is not so? Discussion of moral questions with one who did not perceive the great fundamental fact here indicated, would at all events be a pure waste of time. It would be like discussing questions of color with the blind.

Already the blurred and confused way in which our people generally and especially our politicians comprehend this principle of the separation of church and state has led us to permit proceedings in what ought long ago to have been the state of Deseret, which are not only unutterably disgraceful to us as a people, but are an infamous outrage upon every principle of justice and popular freedom.

Let us look at the matter a little in the light of fundamental principles. What do our federal legislation and federal action in Utah really amount to? First there is the pretense on the part of Congress to settle by legislation that which is pre-eminently a question of morals and religion. Then secondly supposing even a State government justifiable on principle in punishing polygamy by law, there is the grossest violation of the principle of the freedom of local legislation—"Home Rule," to use the slang of a certain set of political hypocrites. If Congress may on any pretense legislate as to their purely internal affairs for the people of Utah, why not also for the people of New York? Why not throw overboard our whole system of independent States and have one grand central democratic despotism? The pretense of morality only doubles the usurpation. Extend that pretense a little further and you have got back the Inquisition! It was bad enough when, in the interest of freedom, the federal power had to interfere in the internal government of the Southern States simply to secure the majority that their rightful authority should not be stolen from them by an organized minority. But when there was sandwiched in with what was at the bottom, in spite of our federal blundering, a struggle in behalf of freedom and republican institutions; an intervention on behalf of what is at the very best a religious persecution, a precedent in fact sufficient to amply justify any and every future attempt at religious persecution that can but get a majority on its side, there was consummated in our American politics a piece of Jesuitism that would have done great honor to a Dominican friar.

But if we turn now from the consideration of general principles to the specific facts of this particular case the atrocity of our federal proceedings in Utah becomes the more glaring. For polygamy in Utah is a wonderfully different institution from polygamy in New York. The Utah polygamy sacrifices none of its women, leaves none to starvation, drives none of them to the brothel. These Mormons, too, whom we cannot convert, but are not ashamed to persecute even to extermination at the sword's point, had gone away a whole generation previously into the wilderness, made it to blossom as the rose, and founded there a civilization from which drunkenness, pauperism and prostitution were alike shut out. Practically in fact the federal power now goes into Salt Lake City to force upon its inhabitants at the cannon's mouth these three beautiful institutions of ours—the brothel, the gambling den and the rumshop! It deliberately makes itself the catspaw of a handful of land thieves, thimble-riggers, pimps, rumsellers and ruffians generally, handing over into their tender mercies, in just about absolute slavery, this strange but in many respects admirable people, whose social system would deserve at least a respectful toleration on no other ground than that they had not a pauper among them. For let polygamy, even in that comparatively mild and orderly form in which it exists in Utah, infinitely superior to the vile and beastial form in which it exists undisturbed on Murray Hill and among our "superior

classes" generally here in New York, be ever so much a "relic of barbarism," our abominable pauperism is a barbarism incomparably more barbarous, parent as it is of nearly all other crimes known among us.

To have had among the free and independent states of our Union a Mormon state uninterfered with in the peaceful development of its own career, would have been a triumph of our American system that would have won the admiration of intelligent observers over the whole globe in spite of a few cynical sneers on the part of here and there some fools and idiots in the editorial chairs of newspapers. But in fact, at the first real test, our American system has announced itself so utterly a failure that forty millions of people dared not suffer one poor little forty thousand to have their own life upon their own soil, won by their own toil from the seemingly ir reclaimable wild! Instead of calmly standing by the principles of political liberty and impartial religious toleration on which the fathers of our republic attempted to plant their country, our peanut-stand politicians could imagine nothing more broad, more wise, more enlightened than to plunge the great American republic into a Waldensian crusade, from which, after a whole series of foul crimes and infamous outrages, it will ultimately have to come out second best.

The farce of a verdict of Utah Gentiles will deceive no one, not even among ourselves, pretend what we may. The federal courts in Utah, in fact, are, in their very constitution from top to bottom, an infamous mockery of justice, an infinitely greater disgrace to the country than any amount of Mormonism could be.—New York Correspondent of Yates County (Pa.) Chronicle.

Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

No matter how far an American may be from the seat of Government, he is always interested in what is going on at that point. The interest is greater than usual now, because of that singular *flap* in politics which, with equal surprise to both parties, placed the control of the House for two years in the hands of the Democracy. Since the sixth day of the present month the representatives of that party in the House have been preparing for the winter campaign of legislation, and their preparations have culminated in the announcement of the usual forty-four committees today. Only fifteen States are represented in the chairmanship of the committees, nine of those being Southern States, four Western, and two Northern. The East is left out in the cold, for the first time in many years. On these forty-four committees Alabama and Maryland have one chairmanship each; Louisiana, Tennessee, Indiana, North Carolina and Georgia, two each; Virginia and Kentucky three each; Ohio and Missouri, four each; New York and Illinois, five each; and Pennsylvania has seven. The nine Southern States have seven chairmen; the four Western have fifteen; and the two Northern have twelve. The South has the control, so far, and the fact will hold good through the balance of the members of the committees, I think, of the House of Representatives, with the West as its right bower. It is, so far, a good piece of strategy for the time being. How it will result is more than I dare predict.

The most of the old clerks and employes have been beheaded, and in their places the South is abundantly represented, mostly by men who cannot take the "ironclad" oath. It looks a little to an old soldier like an advance from Massachusetts. But, after all, if we are to live together in peace and prosperity, perhaps the sooner we begin to put away, on both sides, the feelings engendered by the war, the better it will be for us all in the end. I do not see that the democratic party can be blamed for taking the fruits of victory; it is the republican party which is to blame for giving them a chance.

Now that the House is fully organized, it may be worth while to record the confirmation it gives in its political aspect to an opinion I formed while traveling through

some of the Territories two years ago. I thought then that the day was not far distant when the States along and west of the Mississippi would rule this country, with those yet to be formed of existing Territories. I think now that the balance of power has gone west of the Capital, never to return. If the democratic party should obtain still further control of the government, the South will hold the balance, with the aid of certain Western and one or two Northern States, for some time. If the republican party recovers from its recent partial defeat, the West will hold, with the aid of certain Northern States, the balance of power, which it is sure to achieve ultimately. There are many geographical, political and economical reasons for this, and some reasons based upon the nature of our government, which a thinker will find out. The winds from the Rocky Mountains will yet blow through the Union with renovating force; and it is not impossible that in some far-off day the country will be saved by its literal backbone.

For over two years I have had a nodding acquaintance with the Delegate from your Territory, Mr. Cannon, and have found him in all respects a courteous gentleman. I do not think there is a man in Congress who is less assuming, or has more friends and well-wishers. I notice that he has, during the brief hours of this session, already introduced several bills; and I am sure he is always alive to the interests of his constituency. I think, after all the airing which various members have given their public morals, there is a feeling growing in favor of the early admission of Utah as a State. There is room enough for a great deal of belief in these United States, so long as it does not aim at the destruction of them.

Yours, DESERET.

Pic-Nic Social.

CEDAR CITY, Iron County, Dec. 20, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

The evening of the 6th of December was the season of the Elders' Quorum pic-nic dance in this city, and by half past six o'clock the Social Hall, which was nicely decorated for the occasion, and which, by the way, has been greatly improved and enlarged by the removal of the old stage, was crowded to excess, as the adult population of the whole town; with but few exceptions, turned out to enjoy themselves. After singing and prayer, the brethren and sisters led off in the merry dance, and dance and song followed each other in rapid succession, until eleven o'clock, when the tables were laid for supper, and a most sumptuous repast was partaken of by the Saints, appropriate toasts were given by our worthy Bishop and others, and general good feelings prevailed, after which dance and song were continued until the *wee sma hours*, when all returned home, more than satisfied with the proceedings. Much credit is due to Brother James Davis for his efficient assistance in making the Elders' Quorum dance a complete success.

Yours respectfully, ONE OF THEM.

MANUFACTURES APPLICABLE TO UTAH.

ARTICLE III. NITRIC ACID.

The materials required in the formation of nitric acid were given in the article on sulphuric acid. I will therefore proceed at once to describe the apparatus and manufacture, which is exceedingly simple.

The apparatus consists of iron or glazed earthenware retorts, worms, tubs and glass receivers.

The retort is set on masonry work, and the furnace is so constructed that the direct heat strikes the bottom and sides of it. In the upper part of the still or retort are two apertures, one called a man-hole, for introducing the charge. When charging it is luted by a clamp or plaster of paris. The other aperture is for the connection of the worm with the still. The worm is a hollow spiral coil of earthenware, in England usually made in one piece. It is placed in the tub, is of sufficient capacity to permit water to entirely cover the worm, having

an inlet in the bottom to admit cold water, and an exit at the top, to permit the warm water to flow off into a drain. The receiver is a glass, sometimes a ten gallon carboy.

The materials required are sulphuric acid and nitrate of potassa, in the following proportions—1 part of sulphuric acid to one part nitrate of potassa. First, the nitrate of potassa is introduced through the manhole, then the sulphuric acid, and the orifice luted and a gentle heat applied, gradually increasing. It is usual to employ the above proportions of SO3, but it actually requires but half a part of the acid to liberate all the nitric acid from the nitrate of potassa, which would form a neutral sulphate of potassa, difficult of removal, therefore the preference for the former proportion, which gives a bi-sulphate of potassa, which overcomes all danger of breaking the still by its removal.

The chemical interchange that takes place in the retort is as follows—the sulphuric acid combines with the oxide of potassium in the nitrate of potassa, forming sulphate of potassa, and setting free nitric acid, which passes over into the worm as a yellowish fuming liquid, is condensed and flows out of the tail of the worm, and is collected in the receiver.

The strongest nitric acid contains in every pound 2½ ounces of water, without which it could not exist. The crude acid of commerce contains perhaps 10 to 12 ounces per pound.

The chemical test for the presence of nitric acid is that if you color some water blue with one drop of solution of indigo in a tube, and add to it one drop of nitric acid, on boiling the blue color will disappear.

Nitric acid is sometimes used for dyeing silk yellow, for cleaning metals when they become rusted, in the manufacture of nitro-glycerine, gun cotton, for dissolving silver when alloyed with gold, leaving the gold unacted upon, and for the preparation of sweet spirits of nitre.

The consumption in this Territory at present is quite limited. The United States consume many hundreds of pounds daily. It is usually manufactured in connection with sulphuric acid works. The cost of manufacture depends on the price of sulphuric acid, nitrate of potassa and its specific gravity, which is very variable.

If the still is charged with 500 pounds sulphuric acid and 1,264 pounds nitrate of potassa, we should have theoretically 675 pounds nitric acid, 1,089 lbs. sulphate of potassa, but, as before stated, absolute nitric acid does not exist, therefore 2½ ounces of water must be added for every pound theoretically obtained. We thus have 780 pounds of the strongest nitric acid. But in crude acid of commerce we have it three or four times weaker than the above, giving 1,097 pounds. It therefore follows that the cost of such acid would be, according to the previous figures given under sulphuric acid, 5½ cents per pound, but as sulphate of potassa is worth 2 cents per pound, we get nitric acid at a cost of 3 1-5 cents per pound. The sulphate of potassa has an immense consumption for the manufacture of alum.

True proportions cannot be given for the manufacture of nitric acid, owing to the various strengths of sulphuric acid and the impurities in the nitrate of potassa.

Should nitrate of soda have been used for this manufacture, the by-product would have been sulphate of soda, which is used for the manufacture of carbonate of soda and caustic soda.

The cost of apparatus to manufacture 100 pounds daily of No. 5 would be about \$200.

HYDROCHLORIC ACID.

Is formed when sulphuric acid is added to chloride of sodium (table salt).

The interchange that takes place is as follows—the sulphuric acid displaces the chlorine of the chloride of sodium, forming sulphate of soda, and the hydrogen in the water contained in the sulphuric acid forms, with the chlorine, hydro-chloric acid. Now these products formed are highly important, being the materials from which chloride of lime or bleaching powder, carbonate of soda, and caustic soda are prepared.

CLARENCE BARRATT.

The bell boys at the Galt House in Louisville are all girls.