

EDITORIALS.

A BRACE OF KNAVES.

We direct attention to a letter from Mount Pleasant, to be found in this paper. Our readers will remember that Gallagher, of Ogden, a newcomer to this Territory, almost immediately after his arrival here, went East to enlighten the people on "Mormonism" and gather dollars and dimes. In the course of his lecture, among other infamous lies he told of the hair-breadth escapes and remarkable adventures of D. J. McMillan, a Presbyterian preacher of Sanpete, who had to defend himself with a revolver from murderous "Mormons," and when he preached, was compelled to take a pistol as a pocket companion to the Bible. The story was borrowed from the imaginings and utterances of the notorious Lyford; it was a Presbyterian plagiarism of a Methodist romance.

We had supposed that McMillan desired the falsehood to be believed, as it had appeared several times in print without any denial or protest from him. But it appears from the letter in our columns that he repudiates the story—at least to the folks in Sanpete—and denies giving Gallagher any authority to repeat it. The two preachers must settle it between themselves. Gallagher told the lie a great many times in the East and gave McMillan as his authority. McMillan denies having authorized Gallagher to tell the monstrous story.

We have no reason to believe either of them. It is evident that Gallagher has used the pistol lie for the purpose of collecting money, and it is equally clear that if McMillan did not manufacture the lie he has permitted it to be published over and over again without contradiction. They are each of them besmeared and dishonored, and are unworthy of the confidence or recognition of decent people. *Par nobile fratrum.*

THE ESSENCE OF LITTLENESS.

THERE are certain newspaper correspondents and telegraphers in this city who will have a fearful load to carry into the place prepared for them that "love and make a lie." In all probability they do not believe in any final retribution, but it will reach them as sure as fate and as certain as the eternal law of compensations. No matter what transpires here that is capable of being perverted and used unfavorably to the great masses of the people, it is so reported as to convey the opposite of the facts. Even circumstances of very small moment are thus distorted, and it really seems that the truth is obnoxious to those persons. The press dispatches sent to the coast are illustrations of this, and the following, which we clip from the New York *Herald's* Salt Lake correspondence on the Standing funeral, shows to what depths of small falsehood a little-souled "Mormon"-hater can descend:

"The procession to the grave was very attenuated. A militia band marched ahead, playing, 'We thank Thee, O God, for a prophet.' A priesthood quorum followed, then came the hearse and half a dozen carriages, and it closed with a confused following of citizens. The programme was laid out for an immense procession, but the weather was hot and the streets dusty, and the devotion of the Saints gave out."

It is a matter of no great consequence how many people followed the remains, but the truth is, that there were over a hundred well filled vehicles, besides a host of people on foot, the band did not play the tune named, and the order of procession was not as described. The object of the paltry scribe was to belittle the proceedings, and he merely succeeded in showing his own insignificance, for any one who will take trouble to misrepresent such a subject must be possessed of a microscopic soul and an infinitesimal conscience.

ONLY A DOZEN.

"PRESIDENT HAYES expresses the greatest confidence in being able to break up the institution of polygamy. He has been very much surprised to learn that the number

of Mormons actually practicing polygamy is so small in Salt Lake. There are only twelve polygamists. The State Department recently issued a circular calling the attention of foreign governments to the United States statute against bigamy, and to the fact that religious belief cannot excuse crime. This government has not invited foreign nations to prevent the immigration of Mormons, because they believe in the peculiar tenets of that faith, but only when there is contemplated an offense against the law of 1862, which is directed against bigamy."

This very singular statement of the position of affairs in Utah, is contained in a Washington dispatch to the *Omaha Bee*, and as the *Bee* is Republican and supposed to speak by the card, and to be acquainted with Mr. Hayes' views on the subject, it may be well for us to give it a passing notice.

Mr. Hayes, it would seem, has learned that there are only "twelve polygamists in Salt Lake," and as President of the United States he is supposed to be correctly informed in relation to this matter. His advisers here being men of probity and honor, and above, oh! so far above reproach, it would be diplomatically impossible that he should be misinformed. Now, this being the case, beyond a reasonable or judicial doubt, it strikes us that this polygamic question could be very easily solved.

We have already three polygamists in prison; and these being under lock and key there are only nine left to arrange for, and if Geo. Reynolds should happen to be one of the dozen, also another man, an especial favorite of Judge Boreman, from Beaver, that would take two more from the list, leaving only seven to be disposed of.

Now would it not be easy to catch these seven or eight men, put them in jail and end the whole thing at once? As to the forms to be used, they are of very little importance. We have a very happy way of arriving at conclusions here; put them in prison on suspicion, then obtain evidence and try and condemn them afterwards. The Administration seem to be well informed on this matter. Cabinet ministers are learning to judge men for what it is supposed they will do. Hence "Mormons" are to be prevented from landing from foreign countries for fear they will become polygamists and consequent breakers of the law. There is no need therefore to wait until men have broken the law, punish them first and then you are sure of them. And to begin with, by all means put these seven or nine in prison, then the story is told so far as Salt Lake is concerned, and any scattering ones there may be in the outside districts can be easily snapped up and disposed of.

What a pity that Messrs. Hayes and Evarts had not been in possession of this information before the celebrated circular had been issued to the several European courts. It would have saved a vast amount of diplomacy, for they will only have about one to a nation to provide for.

The London *Times* suggests that "a few tracts distributed at the ports might be efficacious;" we would add "assisted by a few Methodist colporteurs." There is one thing that must be patent to every observer, the projected raid upon the "Mormons" is to be the principal factor in the coming campaign, and religious frenzy and bigotry are to be appealed to, to strengthen the shaky ranks of the declining republicans. This is the key to the whole movement, and no one should be surprised at any absurdity or any outrageous measure or proceeding, while the struggle goes on for political supremacy.

A MASS OF MISTAKES.

We have clipped from some of the leading journals several items showing their profound ignorance of "Mormonism" and Utah affairs. We cannot refrain from taking one more specimen from the Cincinnati *Times*, which thus discourses of the contempt case:

"Several eminent saints at Salt Lake have got into trouble. When suit was brought by one of the

heirs of Brigham Young to compel his executors to account for part of the estate alleged to have been squandered, the Court issued the necessary orders requiring them to appear and explain; but the men of Zion refused to comply. They said it was none of the Court's business how they had administered the estate, and went away and concealed their persons. They were finally discovered and held for contempt of court."

We have no idea that the *Times*, in publishing such a mass of errors, had any intention of misrepresenting the case. The writer, like most of those who undertake to handle Utah affairs, has jumped at conclusions without carefully looking over the ground. Our readers know that the whole statement is incorrect. The *Times* has said more than once that its editors read the *DESERET NEWS* regularly. It is strange, therefore, that they should fall into such sad mistakes on the case of the Executors, full particulars of which have been published in this paper, showing that the Executors did appear in Court; did make full explanations; did give accounts of the settlement of the estate; did not say "it was none of the Court's business;" did not "conceal themselves;" were not "discovered," but sent word to the officers that they were ready to go to prison; and were not held in contempt for refusing to "appear and explain," but for not doing something that was utterly impossible for them to do. All of which has been explained in these columns.

Seven of the positive falsehoods contained in the Decision which consigned the Executors to prison have also been fully exposed in this paper, and the proofs thereof were in the possession of the Court. In all probability, like the *Times* writer, Boreman never looked at them but only considered one side of the question.

We ask the Cincinnati *Times* to investigate the subject and on finding its error, in all fairness to retract its statements. There are journals of which we would not make such a request, because their object is to speak all the evil they can of Utah and the "Mormons," and honor with them is out of the question.

TO "MORMON" PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

THERE is a person in this city who some time ago was anxious for notoriety, and who is now desirous of obtaining pupils for the Institute of which he is Principal. He invites "Mormon" patronage. We think it nothing but right that the "Mormons" should know how worthy he is of their support. We do not wish to talk in the dark, and therefore state that the first letters of this person's name are these—J. M. Coyner.

This trainer of the youthful mind figured for some time as a very liberal soul. In the company of "Mormons" he had nothing but good to say of the people, and nothing to object against their doctrines with the exception of polygamy, and to this he had only a sort of milk-and-water antipathy. Suddenly he bloomed into a radical "Mormon"-eater, wrote rabid letters over a *nom de plume*, corresponded with the Boston *Educational Journal*, and finally published his effusions in pamphlet form, only a few of which were circulated in this city, being designed for outside effect.

Coyner took pains to display himself by name as the author of the letters in the pamphlet, and claimed credit for bravery in so doing, as he wished the impression to be made in the East that it required courage and great boldness to say anything openly in this city against the "Mormons," while the fact is, that the most cowardly and sneaking poltroons that have come here to make a living which they could not succeed in stealing elsewhere, are the loudest-mouthed defamers of the "Mormons" on this side of the abode of the damned.

"In order that "Mormons" who might be induced by this hypocritical pedagogy to place their children under his tutelage and influence, may know what kind of a creature he is, we here append some quotations from his

letters; to which he cannot reasonably object as he parades his authorship before eastern eyes, and we will add, it makes no difference to us whether he likes it or not. Some of these Coynerisms we published three months ago, while he was poisoning the Presbyterian mind in the East. Take special notice of them; he says:

"The question has been asked whether I find any good in Mormonism. In regard to the Mormon religion, I answer most emphatically, none. The more I examine it, the more I am convinced that the whole thing is conceived in sin and begotten in iniquity. It truly may be said to be the conception of him who is the Father of lies." * *

"By means of the *Deseret Telegraph*, which runs to the house of each Bishop in all the prominent wards in the Territory, the hierarchy can at anytime make a 'corner' on anything either temporal or spiritual." * *

"There are three things that are required of every true Mormon; obey the priesthood in all things, be baptized, and pay tithing. These three things constitute the Mormon moral law. He may violate daily every command in the decalogue, but if he can say 'stibboleth' in regard to these three things, Peter must open the gate of the New Jerusalem, and give him a high seat among the blessed." * *

"The admission of Utah as a State, with her polygamy, her union of Church and State and her priesthood control, will permanently settle the constitutionality of these things. * * * We Gentiles, in Utah, realize the danger that will beset us when this is done, for if the houses of peaceable ministers of the gospel are now stoned, and the very lives of their families endangered; if Mormon officials now interfere with religious assemblies, and prevent quiet church-goers from attending divine service—what may we look for when Utah being a State all the power is in the hands of the Mormon priesthood?" * *

"Mormonism is a persistent opponent of republicanism. * * * Remove these circumstances (United States troops, courts, Federal control, etc., and the Mormons would be a foreign people in every sense of the word."

"And now I say to the American people, that if something is not done soon to stop the development of this aw-breaking, law-defying fanaticism, either our free institutions must go down beneath its power, or, as in slavery, it must be wiped out in blood."

"There is no religious freedom in the true sense of the term, in the Church polity. * * * It matters not how absurd the doctrine may be or how much it outrages common sense, if it is the declaration of the inspired priesthood it must be obeyed. The Mormon Church dares not to-day, as in former times, enforce its commands by the pistol and the knife, but it has means of control none the less effective, which it does not hesitate to use." * *

"The Mormons as a people are profane and vulgar in their language. * * * If all the secret history of the Mormon Church since its organization were written up, there would be sufficient evidences to convict it of every leading crime in the calendar. * * * The utterances of its prominent leaders, again and again from every Mormon stand, shows that it is disloyal to the government and is guilty of treason. * * * The Mormons, from the highest official to the lowest member, do not hesitate to commit perjury. * * * There is more private prostitution and more illegitimacy in Utah than in any other place in the civilized world."

"It has not been many years since to be known as an opponent of the Mormon priesthood was to cause a man to be spotted, waylaid and may be murdered, and many still fear an unknown foe."

Now, when you hear this man profess admiration for the masses of the people while he mildly protests against the actions of their leaders, and pretend to endorse much of "Mormonism," but merely object to polygamy, you can reckon him at what he is worth, if you can find decimal figures enough to get down to an infinitesimal quantity. If you ask what induced him to write such absurd and outrageous falsehoods, we answer by another clipping from his pamphlet. Here is his motive, in his own words:

"Our earnest prayer is that God will move upon the hearts of some of his faithful servants, so that in His own good time, money will be forthcoming, not only to complete our building, but to amply endow our institution, so that it may have all the equipments of a thorough Christian College."

The object of the utterance of the whole-cloth lies in the above quotations was to get money out of pious people in the East. Is the author of them the kind of a precursor any careful father, mother or guardian would choose for the young? Will any Latter-day Saint trust a child to his teaching? "Mormon" who would send a boy or girl to school to such an unprincipled being, deserves to see the legitimate fruits of such training, to see the child grow up to oppose all that is sacred, to speak evil of the good, and to lie for the purpose of getting money.

One of the plans which is being resorted to in order to entice "Mormon" children into Coyner's net is to offer free or partially gratuitous tuition. This proceeds from benevolent or charitable feeling on his part. He will get pay for the scholars he obtains. The money for such scholarships is furnished by eastern philanthropists deceived by his falsehoods. We think they are doing God service spending money to save our children from delusion. He will it and laugh at their sorrowing his own cunning. Is there a "Mormon" parent, however poor, will give up a child to the influence of an individual that can see a good whatever in the gospel as taught in this Church? who accuses the people here of perjury, treason and interference with religious worship? and says "there is more prostitution and illegitimacy in Utah, than in any other place in the civilized world?" Such an untruthful and slanderous being is unfit for a decent person to speak to, and certainly ought not to be entrusted with the care of youth "Mormon" or "Gentile."

We have just as good educational establishments under "Mormon" supervision as can be found in this territory under outside influence. Tuition is not high-priced. A portion of the taxes is expended in the payment of teachers. And there are parents too poor to pay anything for the schooling of their children, the Bishops will take care that they do not go uneducated. There is therefore no need of courting those whose aim it is to lead our children astray from the path of their fathers, much less to encourage men who employ the talents in the grossest abuse of honest and sincere people, and the vilest wilful falsehoods against leaders and principles.

We are not in favor of sending "Mormon" children to any "Mormon" school. It seems to us that every one can see why unwise and impolitic to do so. Enemies are all anxious for it, this should be argument enough itself. But we specially object placing "Mormon" children in the daily and prolonged influence of a bigoted, libellous and unprincipled defamer, and therefore this method of warning the "Mormon" public against Coyner and his Institute.

EGGS vs. EVARTS.

THE following letter to the immigration clerk here, exhibiting very commendable spirit on part of the ladies at Mount Pleasant, Sanpete County. See Mr. Evarts will find before he through with his absurd effort stop "Mormon" immigration, even the chickens are against those Sunday eggs from Sanpete will bring from Old World age, one more Latter-day Saint longs for the freedom of the United States and the pure air of mountain valleys:

MOUNT PLEASANT,
August 18th, 1878.

Mr. R. R. Anderson:

Dear Brother,—Please send enclosed \$60 United States currency as donation to the Perpetual Emigration Fund, from Sunday eggs gathered by the sisters of the Female Relief Society of Mount Pleasant. You will please forward receipt for the amount.

Yours truly,
L. LARSEN.