



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

Wednesday.....Sept. 6, 1865.

AGENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS

Are reminded that three more numbers close the present volume of the DESERET NEWS, and that lists of the subscribers for the Semi-Weekly and Weekly are wanted at this Office at the earliest practicable date, that enough may be printed to accommodate all with complete files from the beginning. Those who subscribe at this Office are also respectfully requested, so far as convenient, to renew their subscriptions before the close of the present volume.

THE NEW YORK SUN ON THE "MORMONS."

According to the old doctrines of the Republican party, slavery and polygamy were the "twin relics of barbarism;" and as the special mission of that party was to inaugurate a political millennium, it of course followed that this brace of iniquities was to be utterly annihilated. The first part of this work has been accomplished. Slavery is an extinct institution, but its twin brother—polygamy—flourishes, spreads and multiplies. Why does the Republican party hesitate to grapple this evil, according to their original programme? It claims the honor of having rescued the slaves from the horrors of servitude, and why should it not now inaugurate the work of plucking the brands from the fire in the realms of BRIGHAM YOUNG? There is an excellent opportunity offered for a political raid on the harems of Utah, for the Saints who inhabit that saline locality have recently given abundant cause for such a measure. In the first place, they have not paid a dollar revenue tax since the beginning of the war, and they emphatically declare that they do not intend to. Secondly, they persistently refuse to allow American emigrants, not of Mormon faith, to settle in their region or to work the gold mines that are alleged to be quite rich in some parts of that Territory. Thirdly, they have an unpleasant fashion of putting obnoxious persons out of the way by means of their "destroying angels" which is not altogether in accordance with American notions of right. For instance, a case has just been reported wherein a family of six persons, once Mormons, and endeavoring to escape, were murdered in a kanyon about fifty miles from Salt Lake City by the Saints in the disguise of Indians. There are other indictments against the Mormons, all additional to the great sin of polygamy, but it is not necessary to recapitulate them. As President Lincoln said to Montgomery Blair when he wanted him to leave the Cabinet, their "time has come," and they should receive formal notice that polygamy is a doomed institution. This nation has commenced the work of self-purification, and it will not stop until the major evils at least, are effectually weeded out. It aspires to be the great leader in the file of nations, and this it cannot be, so long as others can show that its flag protects great moral evils. Polygamy must follow slavery to its grave, and the sooner it is buried the sooner the dark stains that have so long rested upon the escutcheon of this country will be obliterated. Therefore, let the Republican party now turn the vials of its wrath upon this sole remaining "relic of barbarism." Let it assert the doctrine that there is an "irrepressible conflict" between monogamy and polygamy. By this means the party will escape the popular verdict which now impends over it—that it has "outlived its usefulness."

The foregoing short leading article from the N. Y. Sun is published in extenso, because, apart from anything in the shape of arguments, there are statements contained in it reflecting upon the whole of the citizens of this Territory which we cannot permit to pass unnoticed.

However honest the Editor may be in his belief of the statements made they are none the less untrue, and the animus that gives birth to such malignant falsehoods is none the less reprehensible. In saying that "they have not paid a dollar of revenue tax since the beginning of the war," he commits himself by endorsing a most flagrant untruth in his editorial capacity. We have the authority of the U. S. officials in this Territory, within the purview of whose duty the collecting of the revenue tax lies, for saying that it is promptly and cheerfully paid throughout the Territory, that monthly reports are furnished to the Department at Washington, and that the amount collected has been regularly disposed of under instructions received from the Department. If we had made no inquiries as to the provisions of the re-

venue law having been fully honored by our citizens, individually we know the statement made in the Sun to be false in every word; for we have paid the tax ourself and so has every employee in our office. The truth or falsity of this wholesale charge could have been easily ascertained by reference to Washington, but it does not suit the purposes of those who propagate it to do so; it serves their object better to adopt any groundless charge against the "Mormons," and publish it to the world as true,—the mass of the people can be the better stirred up to cholera against us. The next statement that "they emphatically declare they do not intend to" is sufficiently refuted by the refutation of the first.

They never have and do not now "persistently refuse to allow American emigrants, not of Mormon faith, to settle in their region, or to work the gold mines that are alleged to be quite rich in some parts of that Territory." The Territory has been overrun by "American emigrants" who have prospected the mountains, kanyons, gulches, gulleys and valleys, north and south, east and west, without let or hindrance, to their heart's content, and troops in the pay of the Government have been furnished animals, rations and prolonged "leave of absence" for the same purpose, but the "gold mines" "quite rich in some parts" have yet to be discovered, after all the efforts of "American emigrants" and Government troops to find them. Instead of refusing to allow "emigrants" to settle in our region, the country has been and is free and open to all. Many, very many, have come, searched and prospected, and departed for other regions where their labors were likely to be more productive of desired results; and many are settled in this Territory to-day who are "not of the Mormon" faith.

The murder of the "six persons" we have dealt with in another column.

But these are only trumped up pretexts, in conjunction with "other indictments" equally as reliable, for covering a bitter policy and vindictive course towards the "Mormons" with a semblance of justifiability. Polygamy, the other "twin relic," of which we will have more to say at an early date, is the ostensible object of attack, and they are not slow to declare "that there is an irrepressible conflict between monogamy and polygamy." But the "irrepressible conflict" is not between those two institutions, but between light and darkness, truth and error, the government of God and the government of satan upon the earth; and if polygamy was not, nor ever had been an institution of the kingdom of God the "conflict" would have been equally as "irrepressible." It was so before polygamy was revealed by the Lord, and would have continued although it had never been revealed.

But to talk of "self-purification," and to take far-off Utah as the point where that "purification" is to become dominantly active, with the leprosy of foulest corruption growing, rankling and festering throughout the nation, uncontrolled and uncontrollable in every city, outrages modesty and puts consistency to shame. Was the Editor blind, or was he ignorant of the state of society in New York, when he spoke of having "the major evils at least weeded out," pointing to Utah, and passed over the following picture of crime in his own city, published in the very number from which we have clipped the leader that heads this article.

The report of the Metropolitan Police Department for the quarter ending July 31st shows an alarming prevalence of crime in the city at the present time. The aggregate number of arrests for the past three months foots up twenty thousand, four hundred and sixty-seven—an increase of seven thousand, eight hundred and seventy-five over the preceding quarter. This is a fearful ratio of increase, and it is difficult to account for it satisfactorily. Either the police force is decreasing very rapidly in efficiency, or else lawlessness is approaching very nearly a

mania. The high standard which the police has uniformly maintained, of late years, precludes the solution of the mystery on the first mentioned ground, and so we are obliged to believe that crime is literally "stalking abroad."

Has the worst enemy of the "Mormons" in his most malignant efforts of mendacity ever entered a pretended record against them as black and terrible as the above, published as the actual state of society in the Metropolis of the East, in the very number of the very paper which talks of "plucking the brands from the fire in the realms of Brigham Young?" We say advisedly and beyond the possibility of truthful contradiction, that any single number of any leading New York paper contains the record of more crimes, than the records of all the courts of the Territory of Utah can show in a year.

The sad and corrupted state of mankind lead those in authority to adopt many and various measures to check or control growing depravity; hence in this Christian nation, in which professors boast so loudly of their purity with Pharisaic hypocrisy, and lift their sanctimonious voices in affected horror at the presumed immorality of the "Mormons," we find corruption and prostitution legalized, and the authorities of a city honestly declaring by their acts that they are impotent in the work of "self-purification," and must needs adopt ordinances to, if possible, control a fearful evil which they admit themselves incapable of in the least degree removing. Witness the following extract from the New Haven Register of June 17th:—

Prostitution has been legalized at Nashville, and the result is thought to have been beneficial to the soldiers. The prostitutes pay \$5 a month for a license, and pay \$2 for examination every ten days. This money is appropriated to hospital treatment of the sick and diseased ones, who have good medical care. During the last ten months the receipts from license and examination fees were \$5,598, and the expenditures in hospital were \$6,153.

With these pictures of society; with the "social evil" a fearful fact, which flourishes, spreads and multiplies;" is it not astonishing that men should talk of the sooner polygamy "is buried the sooner the dark stains that have so long rested upon the escutcheon of this country will be removed?"

We wish it distinctly and plainly understood that we do not, and can not for one moment be supposed to, institute a comparison between polygamy and the horrible condition of monogamic society thus revealed, as a contrast between two evils. If "polygamy must follow slavery to its grave" then would the only means pass from among men, which, if properly understood and righteously employed, would save them from the degradation of being compelled to admit the existence of such a fearfully dominant evil as the "social sin" reveals. This, however, is only assertion; we reserve the argument for another opportunity. But until a better state of society than our own can be shown to us, as the result of the workings of institutions elsewhere, we will hold to that "doomed institution" which is incorporated in our faith, revealed by God as a means of regeneration, and presents in its practical workings a picture of moral purity such as cannot be seen elsewhere in the world.

THE WAY IT IS DONE.

We clip the following extract from the Missouri Republican, in which it is credited to the Council Bluffs Nonparteil, and present it to our readers as a specimen of the manner in which reports concerning the "Mormons" are produced and circulated to the world. We give it without altering a single word.

A private letter just received by a gentleman of our acquaintance from a reliable party in Utah, gives the details of a wholesale murder of a family of six persons by a gang of Brigham's "Danites" or "Destroying angels." Our informant was intimately acquainted with unfortunate victims, and says they had been the objects of relentless persecution by "the brethren" for some time past. They had all been members of the church in high standing, and familiar with the inside workings of Brighamism. Latterly, they had been seriously suspi-

cioned of disloyalty to the church, and were supposed to be making preparations to get out of the Territory, an event which the "Angels" were instructed to prevent, as the people knew, and would probably say, after leaving Zion, many things which the good name of the church would not permit to be made public. The parties knew they were watched, and took every precaution to elude the vigilance of the "Danites." They started, ostensibly for the purpose of changing their residence to the eastern side of the territory, but really intending to come on to the States, and were accompanied by two young men who were not members of the church. When they had been out several days and were encamped in a kanyon about fifty miles from Salt Lake, one of Young's Bishops came to the camp, and told them they must move immediately or they would all be murdered by the Indians; they were loth to start at first, but the bishop insisted and they finally constructed to follow him. He led them to a "secure camping place," several miles distant from the public road, and there left them.

The following night a company of men disguised as Indians, came upon the camp and murdered every member of the party except the two young men, who returned to the settlements and informed the friends of the family what had happened.

These statements may be relied upon as true; we are in possession of the names of all the parties, but not at liberty to make the same public, as the informers, if known to the "Danites," would share the same fate.

The inhabitants of this Territory will no doubt be astonished that such a thing could occur here without their ever hearing a word of it or ever dreaming that such a tragedy was played. "The friends of the family" will be in a similar state of mind, notwithstanding that the "two young men" informed them of "what had happened." The statement is a tissue of the most malignant falsehoods from beginning to end, having evidently for its foundation a melancholy occurrence, the details of which are well known and have been widely circulated. The only thing to which it could be made to apply is the massacre of the Given family at Thistle Valley, in Spanish Fork Kanyon, by the Indians on the 26th of May, the full statement of which is this moment lying before us in the testimony of Charles W. Leah, one of the "two young men," given before Col. O. H. Irish, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, on Friday, June 9th, at the Spanish Fork Indian Reservation Farm, and reported in phonographic short-hand at the time by our Assistant.

The only thing in the statement that is the ghost of a truth is that six persons were murdered. The statements that "may be relied upon as true" when correctly put give the following direct, manifest, well known and plain falsehoods. They had not been "members of the Church in high standing." They were not "making preparations to get out of the Territory." Instead of starting "ostensibly for the purpose of changing their residence to the eastern side of the Territory," they resided in the eastern side of the Territory, and simply moved six miles up the kanyon, a short distance from the mouth of which Spanish Fork is situated, there to locate themselves for the summer.

The "two young men" were not "young" men particularly, and were "members of the church." They were not "out several days" and "encamped in a kanyon about fifty miles from Salt Lake," but had erected a little shanty of willows in which they were residing and intended to reside. It was known that Black-hawk and his band of marauding Indians were in the mountains, for only a day or two previous there had been some massacres a little further south of the same place in Sanpete Valley, but they were not warned by the bishop, for the bishop was then on his way across the plains to fill a mission to Europe. Instead of being "loth to start at first but the bishop insisted and they finally constructed (?) to follow him," when "he led them to a 'secure camping place,' several miles from the road," they were not asked to move, did not move, but remained where they were.

The "two young men" escaped through being in a wagon-box at one end of the shanty. The first intimation they had of the Indians was by the cattle herd running down from Thistle Creek, about daybreak on the morning of the 26th of May, followed by his