

EDITORIALS.

As "Mormonism" is one of the most sensational institutions going just now, the sharpest New York *Herald*, as well as other papers, gives largely of space to the subject. From a late issue we cull the following—

"But what is the meaning of this vigorous and remorseless campaign of justice against the Mormon chiefs for their high crimes and misdemeanors? It means simply the extirpation of Mormon polygamy from Utah, root and branch; that General Grant has resolved to abate the nuisance, and that his Territorial ministers are carrying out his instructions.

"After twenty-three years of toleration of Mormon polygamy in Utah, the duty has fallen upon General Grant to take hold of it, and from these proceedings at Great Salt Lake it is abundantly made manifest that he intends to wipe it out.

"General Grant, meantime, is certainly pushing his crusade upon Mormon polygamy with the fixed purpose of abolishing it. But chaos is threatened, and, if great care be not taken, the Gentile miners now crowding into the newly discovered gold, silver, lead and tin mines of Utah may repeat there the Mormon expulsions of Missouri and Illinois. We approve the purpose of General Grant in reference to Mormon polygamy, but passing events should warn him of the danger of the rising of an anti-Mormon mob in Utah.

What will some people, who assert that plurality of wives is no part of the "Mormon" religion, say to this emphatic declaration by the *Herald*—"Polygamy is the corner stone of their religion?"

The hint to President Grant of the dangerous nature of the Utah crusade means simply this—if he be successful in abolishing "Mormonism" creditably, he will be a hero and great will be his fame. But if he fail or overstep certain boundaries and a reaction of public opinion set against him upon the "Mormon" question, it would have been better for him if he had never been born politically, and the *Herald* will give him some of the heaviest and most merciless kicks.

The following are from the latest dates by mail—

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 30.—Apart from newspaper publications the government has from time to time been advised of the progress of the judicial proceedings in Utah. In a recent communication it is stated that the great work of correcting the evils in that Territory has now fairly begun with the conviction of Thomas Hawkins for adultery committed in polygamy, his lawful wife being the principal witness. The verdict, it is added, strikes like a thunderbolt in the Mormon camp. To other parties it begins to look like a serious matter, and no power under heaven can save them from a like fate. The opinion was that there would be no trouble in the Territory unless in the southern portion of it. The parties are not nearly so belligerent when the troops are near as when they are at a distance. Troops are a kind of missionary force. A quiet and determined course is considered much better than rashness or haste.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 31.—The government will continue the prosecutions in Utah, and if necessary additional troops will be sent to that Territory. It is known that some of the federal officers have asked for troops, to aid the Executive authorities in making arrests, but this is considered by the heads of military affairs here to be inexpedient unless there should be resistance to such an extent as to require the additional force. Much is left to the discretion of General Augur, who has taken measures to insure tranquillity, and to further the ends of justice.

The *Herald* thus comments editorially upon these items:—

The Government has begun, as will be seen by our Washington dispatches, in earnest to solve the Utah difficulties, and with the same persistency that has ever characterized President Grant. The Mormons should not deceive themselves with any flattering hope that there will be some "patching up" of the controversy. Our dispatches from Washington, as well as intelligence from other sources, exhibit a calm determination on the part of the government to sustain the judiciary in the settlement of polygamy, and to bring murderers to justice. The instructions of the govern-

ment to the judiciary in Utah are free from every taint of persecution. The Chief Justice has been instructed to review the cases of reported murder, and whatever troops were necessary to protect the Court and carry into effect its judgments, the government would supply on demand. It is well for the Mormons to know this, and not to deceive themselves to their injury.

THE Salt Lake correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, speaking of the suits against President Young, says the Court organizes a "grand jury to do the work of inquisition, a petit jury to try him, and comes himself amongst the lawyers to prosecute him. This is persecution, because there is no law for it. The Court enacts the Cullom Bill, which never passed Congress, and prosecutes under it by the very man who wrote it."

The correspondent then describes some of what he terms the "Anti-ring Gentiles," thus—

The present movement against Brigham Young at one time comprised a large portion of the Gentile and apostate population here, but nearly all these have fallen away, and the ring is nearly left alone, with scarcely enough citizen material to get sufficient juries from it. The mines are ransacked to find people partial or ignorant enough to find verdicts according to the charges of the Court, and now the only reply there makes to the allegation that they are without followers, is that the timid property-holders have fallen away from them. The ring people, however, possess no property unless "jumped" or prospective, and several of them are merely waiting for the spoils of violence.

Bishop Tuttle, the Episcopal functionary here, to whom Brigham Young gave a liberal subscription for the Episcopal chapel, as he gave \$500 to the new Catholic Church, is said to deprecate the precipitate action of the Court, as does father Walsh the priest. Dr. Fuller, ex-Republican acting Governor here, ex-Secretary and Governor S. A. Mann, Major Hempstead, District Attorney here for eight years, and even General Connor, an old enemy of Brigham Young, express contempt for these sensational court processes. Connor has just written a letter to Hempstead, saying that this action was altogether unfortunate as a repressory measure. The late Chief Justice, Charles C. Wilson, is even more pronounced in his condemnation of the Court. I. C. Bateman and D. E. Buell, as well as the Walkers, the latter the leading merchants of Salt Lake apostates, and the former two great mining capitalists, are said to be of the same mind. Joseph Gordon, late Secretary to Governor Latham, calls the Court "hard names." The large law firms are nearly all in like attitude. Every Representative and Senator west of the Rocky Mountains, including Cole, Williams, Corbett, Nye, Stewart, Sargent, and other Republicans, stand opposed to any measure which shall sacrifice Utah to blind bigotry without statesmanship. Mrs. Lippincott, (Grace Greenwood), who is here, agrees with us in our mutual dislike of polygamy and of these "hot gospellers" and "notoriety hunters," who will not let it die ignobly, but must irritate it to renewed existence.

After describing some wonderful judicial and other plotting and counterplotting about the Emma and Velocipede mines, the correspondent observes—

You can see from these data how much more than the Mormon question there is out here in Utah, and all the adventurers secrete themselves behind the halloo of "polygamy." No wonder the Mormons are afraid of our judicial morals more than our justice.

If the interior of a Mormon family is as tempestuous as a Gentile's out-of-doors, the life must be worse than seductive.

Next comes an uncommonly incisive description of the Court proceedings and personnel at the trial of Hawkins. If only half true, his honor, the Judge, might well burst forth in that classical phrase—"Thomas Hawkins, I am sorry for you, very sorry." But here is much of the description—

The Judge on the Bench, J. B. McKean, at once cleared his throat and looked over the bar and the audience. The Judge wore a blue coat and was trim as a bank president. He sat upon a wooden chair behind a deal table, raised half a foot above the floor: the Marshal stood behind a remnant of dry-

goods box in one corner, and the jury sat upon two broken settees under a hot stove-pipe and behind the stove. They were intelligent as usual with juries, and resembled a parcel of baggage smashers warming themselves in a railroad depot between trains. The bar consisted of what appeared to be a large keno party keeping tally on a long pine table. When some law books were brought in after a while, the bar wore that unrecognizable look of religious services about to be performed before the opening of the game.

The audience sat upon six rows of damaged settees, and a standing party formed the background, over whose heads was seen a great barren, barn-like area of room in the rear, filled with the debris of some former fair. One chair on the right of the Judge was deputed to witnesses. The room itself was the second story of a livery stable, and a polygamous jackass and several unregenerate Lamanite mules in the stall beneath occasionally interrupted the Judge with a bray of delight. The audience was composed entirely of men, perfectly orderly, and tolerably ragged, and spitting surprisingly little tobacco juice; almost all of them Mormons, with a stray miner here and there mingled in, wearing a revolver on his hip, and a paper collar under his long beard.

THE UTAH BAR.

At the bar table, on one side, sat Baskin and Maxwell, the prosecutors, the former frowsy, cool and red headed, the latter looking as if he had overslept himself for a week, and got up mad. On the opposite side sat Tom Fitch, late member of Congress from Nevada, a rotund, cosmopolitan young man, with a bright black eye, a piece of red flannel around his bad cold of a throat, and great quantities of forensic eloquence wrapped away under his mustache. Behind him was A. Miner, the leading Mormon lawyer, turned a little grey, and thinned down in flesh very much since Judge McKean got on the bench; for the Judge uses Miner as the scapegoat for the sins of the bar, and threatens him with Camp Douglas and a fine every time he has a toothache. Whenever Miner gets up to apologize, the Judge makes him sit down, and when he sits down the Judge looks at him with his resinous black eyes as if he had committed solely and alone the Mountain Meadow massacre. Miner is the "Smallbones" of the Court, and is fed on judicial herrings. The other lawyers are all Gentiles, except Hoses Stout and one Snow, of the firm of Snow & Hoge, a Vermonter. Yonder is a square-built man with cropped hair, ex-Governor Mann, Fitch's partner; they divide the leading business here, although resident only six months, with Hempstead and Kirkpatrick, the former a slow, serious military officer, and the latter a dark-eyed Kentuckian. Kentuckian also is Marshall, the Ancient Pistol of the bar, rare and stupendous in speech and chiefly admired by his partner Carter, from Maryland. Nothing is a bereavement to Marshall, however, for as he frequently reminds the Court, the jurisprudence of the country reaches its perihelion in the name of "Kent Choate and Marshall, of which latter, am a part." Smith and Earle and De Wolfe are about the remainder of the Utah bar—a shrewd, clever bevy of pioneer chaps, some of whom draw large contingent fees from mining suits.

As Miner is the victim of the Court, the Court in turn is the victim of Baskin, the Prosecuting Attorney *pro tem*. Baskin comes from Ohio and gets his red hot temper from his hair. He is related to have — somebody in Ohio, and about six months ago he scaled the ermine slopes of Judge Hawley, one of the three luminaries of this bench. But as this notable bench in Utah never consult together, Strickland agreeing with McKean in everything and Hawley nothing, Judge McKean let Baskin out on *habeas corpus* in four days and Baskin disdained to pay his fine. It is Baskin, therefore, who insists, as Prosecuting Attorney, that the laws of the United States and the Courts thereof must be respected in Utah.

As for McKean's two Associate Judges, they are off holding District Court at Provo and Beaver, Hawley harassing some rural justice of the peace with his last printed opinion, and Strickland playing billiards for drinks, between sessions with Bill Nye. But Judge McKean does not use tobacco nor a billiard cue in any form; his sole recreation is to practice elocution and parlor suavity in anticipation of his appearance in the United States Senate from the State of New York. A trim, apprehensive, not unsagacious man, with

a great, burning mission to exalt the horn of his favorite denomination upon the ruins of the Mormon Bishoprick, McKean is resolved in advance that everybody is guilty who can keep awake under Orson Pratt's sermons.

THE AUDIENCE.

There stand the guilty fold, without the bar of the court—most of them look as if they wanted a new razor and a square meal—the Mormon rank and file. Grave and listening, and so respectful as to irritate the prosecuting attorneys very much, so that they would like to make premeditated good behavior a conspiracy punishable at law.

To the following sensible and truly republican remarks of the Colorado *Miner* we say heartily amen—

The next new departure adopted by all political parties should be in favor of abolishing Territorial *Serfdom*. The people of the Territories are taxed without their consent, and have officers appointed, not elected, to rule over them. The men that settle up and render valuable the public domain, have no voice in the councils of the nation. This is political justice with a vengeance. Political *Serfdom* in the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Grace Greenwood, in closing her letter to the N. Y. *Times*, on the late Territorial Fair, held in Denver, speaking of the number present says:—"It was made up, in great part, of strong, hardy, earnest, and intelligent-looking men—excellent representative men, of this noblest of the Territories. As I regarded them, I could but think it hard that they should be cut off from any of the political privileges and dignities of American freemen—that after adding so much to the wealth of the Republic, after having rallied so bravely to her defense—they should see their beloved Territory barred year after year out of her bright company of sovereign States."

How long, oh Lord, how long must the people of the Territories endure the burden of taxation without representation?

THE "Woman's Club" of Washington, D. C., gets some hard hard hits from divers portions of the press, after the fashion of the following paragraphs—

The "soiled doves" of Washington are losing faith in the Woman's Club. They charge that the members want to black-mail the patrons of naughty houses. One of the ladies connected with the club went to a house recently, and began to question one of the girls under the plea of desiring to rescue her from a life of shame. The missionary got this answer: "Now, look here, I don't want you to come any more. We have been 'pumped' enough!"

The Detroit *Union*, in speaking of the work of the Washington Woman's Club, says: "We do not wish to impugn the motives of these ladies, but we have very little respect for their intelligence when they undertake to do away with the 'social evil' in a town infested by Radical members of Congress."

A correspondent of the Washington *Chronicle* declares that there is as much "social evil" among the ladies of that city as in its recognized localities, and advises the Woman's club to look out for vice wearing the cloak of respectability.

For two or three days past, we have surrendered a large portion of our space to extracts from our contemporaries, inasmuch as many of them have many things to say upon the current situation of affairs in this Territory, which extracts, we doubt not, have been of great interest to our readers. The present is an exciting time with many regarding "Mormonism" and the inhabitants of this Territory, and it is satisfactory to see what the papers say about these things. Moreover, the judiciary and the ring and the crusaders generally cannot but feel edified at the trenchant criticisms upon their proceedings, which many of the more sensible public writers are making. It is manifest that, however much the public may desire the abolition of plural marriage, through a misunderstanding of its nature, induced by ignorance, tradition, and prejudice, yet there is a very general conviction among the intelligent and candid that the present crusade is really persecution for religion's sake, with the hope of political and pecuniary advantage on the part of the crusaders, is entirely unjustifiable and utterly disgraceful, and, if persisted in, will bring a damning blot upon the national escutcheon.