

and persecutions have been inflicted. Further, that the lives of some of the force make it impossible for them to execute the laws, as the execution would, followed to its legitimate source, cause their own arraignment and punishment. It is useless to say that all this could not be stopped and stamped out by capable and earnest officers.

There is no institution so depraved that it cannot be made to conform to the decencies of civilization or go out of business. But no city government can compel this whose agents to perform the work are not themselves above accusation. And a city government that is not strong enough and firm enough and just enough to compel its own officers to do what is right, will not long retain the respect of the people. It is a reproach to our city government that there exists even a pretense for calling such a meeting as is referred to at the beginning of this article."

The foregoing needs no comment from us at present. The results were anticipated as the natural consequences of an election stolen by fraud from the people. But be that as it may, the situation is upon the community, and we are in sympathy with any movement having for its object the purification of the moral atmosphere of Salt Lake City, which has, during the present year, sunk into a condition of corruption the like of which has never existed in this region.

#### NOT MOVING TO MEXICO.

THE reported purchase of several million acres of land in Mexico to a noted "Mormon" railroad builder, with the inference that a wholesale immigration of "Mormons" is intended, still occupies the attention of newspaper men, and many silly comments are made on the rumor. For instance, the *New York Journal*, after narrating the alleged facts, remarks:

"The real fact of the matter is, that the Mormons want to get away from civilization. Their choice of land, three millions of acres in the immediate vicinity of turbulent and warlike Yaqui Indians, is a proof of this. Their peculiar institution cannot afford to come into contact with modern notions. But let them be prepared to have Mexico, when she has got all the profit she can out of them, coolly inform them that she cannot allow polygamy to exist within her borders, and proceed to put it down with a strong hand. Then the Mormons will wish that they had become converted to the tenets of ordinary American citizenship and had remained at home."

This, of course, is but evidence that the writer knows nothing of the "Mormons," their history or their purposes. The *Brooklyn, N. Y., Citizen*, however, shows much more understanding and a very clear perception of this matter. It is disposed, moreover, to be as just

toward the "Mormons" as truthful concerning their situation and intentions. Here are some extracts from what the *Citizen* says:

"Since the Mormons have openly and formally renounced polygamy, we see no reason why they should leave their present homes, or why their neighbors should rejoice at the prospect of their going. Outside of their peculiar views on the marriage question, the Mormons have not been an objectionable people; indeed, in industry, sobriety and enduring patience they have compared favorably with the swarms of adventurers and not always law-abiding Gentiles who have been so eager to condemn their vices, without evincing any disposition to imitate their virtues. The Mormons found the valley of Salt Lake and the Jordan a desert and they transformed it into an Eden, making it the halfway house thirty years ago for the swarms of gold hunters pouring west to California. If ever a people have won the right to a fee simple title in the lands they hold it is the Mormons, for to their patience and industry the fertility of Utah is entirely due."

"There will be no exodus of the Mormons from Utah. They may be religious fanatics, but they are not fools. They know when they have a good thing and they will keep it. What if 10,000 do go to Mexico, as it is claimed; 200,000 will remain back to hold and to till the valleys they have redeemed from Southern Idaho to Southern California. They are with us like the negro, the Chinaman and the Indian, and it is the part of wisdom to make the best of them and to give them all the rights of citizenship and the benefits of education."

"It is not generally known that one of the most prosperous of the Mormon colonies settled at San Bernardino in Southern California, and known as 'Smithies,' are, and ever have been monogamists, and they live peaceably with and are respected by neighbors of other denominations."

"With polygamy gone from Utah, it is doubtful if the Mormons could be replaced by a people better suited to that peculiar country. One thing is certain—their place could not be taken by their Gentile associates without a great decrease in the output of agricultural products."

#### THE SLAUGHTER OF THE REDS.

THE news of the slaughter of Indians of Big Foot's band, confirms our opinion that a deep laid scheme has been planned to exterminate, if possible, the unfortunate remnants of the ancient owners of the soil, and in that way settle the perplexing Indian question.

We do not believe there was, in the beginning of the latest Indian excitement, the slightest cause for hostilities. The Messiah craze, as it was called, involved no assault upon the whites. On the contrary, it breathed of peace and inculcated amity. The dancing of the red men ought to have been left as free as the revival excesses of the so-called "Christians," and would have done no harm to anyone but the misguided participants.

A pretext was wanted for active service among the military. It was found in the "ghost dance," as it was misnamed by the whites. The reds knew it as "The dance to Christ." An effort was made to stop this religious exercise by force. Even that did not accomplish what was intended. The object evidently in view was to provoke the Indians to resistance, and then swoop down upon them and sweep them out of existence.

The murder of Sitting Bull and the few reds who died with him, has only whetted the appetite for blood. The surrender of Big Foot and his band did not comport with the plan of campaign, which contemplated fighting and slaying, not a peaceful settlement of the disturbance which has been magnified out of all due proportions. So the captive Indians were provoked into resistance in the taking away of their arms—essentials to their livelihood—and what with starvation from insufficient supplies and the prospect of further hardships from the loss of their only means of obtaining food, some of the more fiery savages fell into the trap, resisted the soldiers and opened the way for their own destruction. "The soldiers are now shooting them down wherever found," so says the dispatch giving an account of the slaughter.

How many squaws and papooses there are among the slain is not stated. In reflecting upon this bloody affair, it must not be forgotten that the band who surrendered, numbered but 120 to 150 bucks and "250 women with many children." Everyone who understands anything of Indian ways will perceive from this that the Indians in surrendering had no intention of revolt. When the full particulars are disclosed, it will be seen that the warriors were driven into the error they committed, and that advantage has been taken of it, so as to justify their annihilation.

It is one more chapter in the history of the wrongs of the red men, and one more bloody incident in the nation's century of dishonor."

#### DEATH OF ALFRED H. CAINE.

IT is with deep regret we record the death of Alfred H. Caine, son of Hon. John T. Caine the Delegate to Congress. The young man whose demise has plunged his family and numerous friends in sorrow, was endeared to all who knew him by his pleasant, gentlemanly manners, his kindly disposition, his faithful and