

# DESERET NEWS.

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - SEPT. 24, 1879.

## WOULD IT BE WISDOM?

THE Logan Leader, the first number of which has just been issued at the beautiful capital of Cache Valley, has the following article under the above heading, which will give a good idea of the sentiments of the new paper. It is a branch institution of the Junction Publishing Company.

The Oneida Community, on the advice of its founder, has abandoned the system of complex marriage, and will be hereafter divided into those who are regularly married and those who prefer celibacy. Property will still be held in common and business transacted in general partnership; the members will still live together and eat at the same table; there will be a common department for juveniles, and the regular evening meetings for mutual criticism will be continued. The community simply gives up practices that were a violation of the laws, and in taking this course has shown a wisdom beyond that of the Mormons, who cling so tenaciously to polygamy.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

The journal quoted from is so unusually mild in its reference to the "Mormons" that it seems almost cruel for us to offer even our humble criticism. But why, we would ask the *Inter-Ocean*, should this people be considered unwise because they do not give up their peculiar belief and practice? It probably shows good judgment on the part of the Oneida community to forsake a system so repugnant to the populace; but it is also a most positive evidence of the weakness of their position. On the contrary, a rigid and unshaken adherence to their principles proves that the position of the Latter-day Saints is one of strength. That which yields before a breath of public opinion must be grounded on nothing more than a whim. But that which endures exile and wanderings, thrives on persecution, and multiplies while the whole world scorns it, must be born of a power greater than mortal man. It must be a faith surpassing the comprehension of unbelievers. It must be—it is, a spirit which can sustain its votaries even with death apparently their inevitable fate. The true Latter-day Saint finds in the Gospel of Jesus Christ all that he can wish of comfort and consolation. While he remains faithful, the destruction of property cannot cause him grief, the loss of friends cannot fill his heart with doubts and fears, the menace of a frightful death cannot inspire him with terror. But let him yield to the opinions of the world, forsake the truth for the approbation of the ungodly, and all is changed. He no longer takes delight in life. The joys which once he knew are departed. With anguish he beholds the fair-seeming fruit which tempted him to wander into forbidden paths, turn to ashes in his grasp. Is it wisdom to exchange comfort for destitution, or bliss for horror? If so, then are the "Mormons" unwise.

We find it wisdom to live as God gave us to live. We consider it unwise to cowardly forsake the truth, disobey His commands and trust to fleeting worldly smiles for our recompense. And, notwithstanding the oft-repeated advice given to them by newspapers and ministers in the world, it will always seem wisdom for the Latter-day Saints to fulfil their covenants and act in accordance with the revelations given by God for their guidance. Even though the laws and the armies of all nations under heaven be arrayed against them, this people will never flinch.

## A WORD ON EMIGRATION.

IN emigration this Territory has found a large proportion of its wealth and life. Thousands of our population have come from afar, many of them by the patiently accumulated savings of years, and many more by the assistance of

friends or relatives, and through the operations of the "Perpetual Emigration Fund."

There is scarcely a Kingdom, State or Territory of this continent but would be proud to have within itself machinery so efficient for local progress, and the development of local resources, as is provided in the workings of that fund; and likely enough, if political bias could be held in suspense, almost all these governments would, by large appropriations from the public treasury, aid in so desirable a work as emigration.

In the history of Utah no such appropriation has been sought, neither city, county or Territory has invested a dollar, yet the material wealth, the taxable property, the farms and homes, which everywhere are the solid basis of national prosperity, have, in this instance at least, sprung from private effort, and by that incontestably fair arrangement, that all who might be so assisted should repay their indebtedness as early as practicable, so that as from an unfailing fountain, the yet parched and dried of a common faith and brotherhood might enjoy as others have enjoyed the waters of life and truth. This fund being a common one, and for the common good, should evoke a common interest. Every man in our population should consider himself as a conservator of its resources, and wherever there are debtors, each one should feel an interest in putting such debtor in a position to pay, and then see that they do pay. In this respect there has been probably far too much lenity; no man has asked his neighbor, Have you paid? Scarcely an Elder, through whom, when on a mission, some of his folks may have been gathered, has even considered it his business to watch for a repayment, although the necessities and groaning, the patient waiting, and "hope deferred," which "maketh the heart sick," to their knowledge, left its abiding impress upon many with whom they have shared in poverty their crust, or rejoiced in anticipating jointly, the blessings of Zion.

The aggregate of this indebtedness is said to be enormous (a short time ago it was something near one million dollars), and many who are indebted could with a very little effort make a settlement. They live in their own houses; they own their own teams and farms; pictures and books and music are around them, and some "style" can be seen in their families, yet repeated applications are in vain. They know not or have forgotten their obligations, and their feelings and sympathies for their countrymen, relatives and brethren on strike and in poverty in foreign lands, are down to zero and almost impossible to change. Many of these debtors are able to pay in part, and these portions should be collected with unwearied persistence. Bishops who have lists, we think, should consult them continually, and whenever practicable, introduce parties of this class to employment which would help in this direction. Every teacher should be an aid to the Bishop in these collections; in their visits from house to house this item should not escape their attention. Every Elder who has been in the mission field and who realizes the condition of those amongst whom he labored, should work in this direction, and while prompting others, should hold in remembrance personal promises made when grateful for ministrations of kindness, bestowed while far from home and family, and every man in Israel should feel that this is a sacred fund created by divine revelation for the salvation of the poor.

Subscriptions should be poured into this fund by the people at large and by every business man and woman of property. For every emigrant of good moral character and religious faith and practice, enhances the value of every home, and the prosperity of every legitimate business enterprise. But the great tidal wave of brotherhood should sweep away all excuses, all indifference, until every worthy applicant to President Taylor or to President Carrington for deliverance, in any land, should be partakers of the wished for blessing.

The coffers of the fund are empty now, yet means are needed in the United States to deliver the Saints there from the power of persecution; means are needed in England and Wales to lift the people

from enforced idleness, poverty that is fearful in its horrors, and a darker future than ever before clouded the horizon of labor in any civilized nation of the earth. Means are needed in Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, that the thousands there, who have been made by many sacrifices partakers of the gospel, may strengthen our colonies, expand our industries, and enjoy our plenty while partaking of our peace. There is time now for men to pay their debts; time for people to assist their friends; time for donations from those who can help, and time for every man to work so that next season, when we may be called upon to celebrate the Jubilee of fifty years since the organization of the Church, we can, by a "long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether," prove that we appreciate our blessings, desire and intend to keep our covenants, and show that our conceptions of brotherhood are neither mythical nor theoretical, but as embodying one of the highest principles in the faith and practices of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## ALL THERE IS OF IT.

THE New York Tribune, as may be seen from the dispatches, is devoting considerable attention to Utah affairs. We are willing. All the notices we receive from the press advertise our cause and direct public attention to our principles. The misrepresentation is neutralized by the force of the reaction, when the truth is made clear and the general result is satisfactory. But it must be evident to close observers that all the recent talk about the "Mormons" is prompted by political motives. The Republicans are afraid that Utah will be admitted as a State with two Democratic Senators and a Democratic Representative, and wish to forestall such an event by alarming the country as to the consequences of the contamination of a "polygamous State." They know very well that the question of polygamy has really nothing to do with the matter, and that Utah is doing no more toward Statehood now than she has done for the last twenty years, but popular sentiment is wanted against their political enemies and the "Mormon question" makes convenient material out of which to manufacture it. Just that and nothing more.

## A SMART CARTOON.

ONE of the most cutting specimens of cartooning is found in the last number of *Puck*. It represents Senator Conkling mounted on an elephant as the emblem of the Republican Party. Across the animal's back, and bound with thongs, is a slave labelled "Cornell." While the senator rides with the air of a conqueror over the abject forms of the people, in a corner may be seen the form of Beecher, looking wistfully at the triumphant rider, while *Puck* addresses the Rev. gentleman thus, "What brought you disgrace, brings him honor!" It is pleasing to contemplate that men who figure the most prominently in the immoral peccadilloes of the times are those who take most pleasure in denouncing "Mormon" polygamy. The eulogies of such men would be marks of discredit, while their denunciations we regard as complimentary.

## THE COMING FAIR.

ON the first day of October next, the Territorial Fair for the year 1879 will be opened on the Market Square of this city. The fair will be under the supervision and direction of appropriate and efficient committees, appointed by the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, which has always been the head and front of such exhibitions, and whose enterprise and liberality have hitherto afforded much encouragement to our agricultural and manufacturing citizens throughout the Territory.

The annual congregation of the finest specimens of stock, produce, manufactures and minerals at some central point where they can be seen by visitors, cannot be too highly estimated. Competition in

such exhibitions begets a meritorious rivalry which is very advantageous, both to the participants and the public. A stimulant besides the mere value of the prize, is afforded in the critical comparisons made between the articles exhibited, which leads to renewed efforts in the direction of improvement. In addition to presenting their own specimens for examination, exhibitors have a fine opportunity to profit by the practical suggestions offered for their consideration. Besides, every one feels a degree of pride in being able to compete in some useful or ornamental branch of industry, thus advertising in the most thorough and practical manner the various merits claimed for the productions, and inducing an increase of custom.

At the coming Fair, the greatest impartiality will prevail in the estimating of articles and the distribution of prizes. It will be arranged so that awarding committees will have a fair opportunity to vote by ballot, and in every way to perform their responsible duties without being infringed upon by exhibitors. Every care is to be taken of the property entered for exhibition, but the Society will not assume any responsibility for injuries or losses. The city police will be present to aid in preserving property in the buildings and on the grounds. Provision is being made for the exhibition, not only for the classes already named, but also of the varied productions of our artists, workings in marble, oil paintings, specimens of photography, penmanship, ornamental sign-painting, engraving, printing and other useful handiwork. The ladies too come in for an important share of the inducements offered, and they are especially invited by the committee to furnish a full representation of their department.

We understand that various kinds of manufacture, including those of boots and shoes, soap, candy, etc., will be carried on during the exhibition.

Considerable energy is being displayed in preparing for the opening, and it is hoped and expected that the Fair of 1879 will far surpass its predecessors, not on account of any deficiency in former exhibitions, but as a material evidence of the general progress of our people in those industrial pursuits that characterize a growing and prosperous community.

## THE SILK INTEREST.

BRO. Daniel Graves, of Provo, who it is well known, is actively engaged in promoting sericulture in Utah, sends us the following for publication. We commend it to the notice of all who are interested in silk raising in this Territory:

"To make sericulture a success in this Territory, there should be a State organization under the priesthood in every Stake, similar to the Utah Stake (see *DESERET NEWS*, August 9th ult). Utah County, after two years' experience and success, by recommendation, adopted a Stake organization, and without some such system being adopted it is not likely to succeed, for the plan which obtains in some places, of appointing an agent to utilize the seed in raising the worms without knowing where to find a market for them, will discourage and not be very likely to succeed. But if the same plan is adopted as that of the Utah County Association last August twelvemonth, to raise funds by donation throughout the county so as to enable each association to purchase the cocoons in their various localities, they will make it a success, thereby creating a market and finding employment among themselves, and when there is sufficient of the raw material raised will enable us to export.

I would like all who have been raising cocoons and eggs to furnish me as early as possible the amount raised of each, and those wanting eggs for the next season to also report the same, and if there should be a surplus, that a market might be found for them through the department at Washington. Persons wanting eggs for next season should procure them this fall so as to have them when wanted and not to have to procure them at the time needed.

Now is the time to prepare for the planting out of mulberry trees for future use, the fall being in my opinion and observation the best time for doing it, so as to have them well set by the spring.

Persons raising the silkworm would do well to sow white cabbage lettuce seed for feed in early late frosts in the spring, last season the leaves having been frozen some instances twice, so as to save the loss of a good many worms feeding upon lettuce leaves until after the second moulting.

## AN EASTERN SOCIAL BLEM.

A recent number of the *New Mail*, contains the following editorial notes:

"The laws against polygamy be enforced, if it takes half of an army to do it."

Just below it this item appears:

"How long will the citizens of Camden, New Jersey, submit to the enforcement of the Police which has just been promulgated requiring the arrest of all girls found in the streets at nightfall in the evening, without male escort?"

Here is a "Christian" city where morals are so corrupt that girls cannot be permitted to walk its streets in the evening without the protection of the sturdier sex. The wondrously wise men of East would employ the force of a national army, to suppress a vice which strikes at the very root of evil that bears for the bitter fruit. Arrest all young girls found in the streets at night, plus young women and shut them up from contamination, but for the world open wide the door of matrimony for them! If there are not husbands enough to marry, sooner than allow two more girls, by mutual agreement to marry the same man, build prisons enough to hold all the marriageable damsels who cannot find a mate, lest they should wander the streets at night and be tempted into evil!

We would like to ask the whether it would not be better give all the soldiers in the army opportunity to marry some of the girls in New Jersey, and others instead of employing half of the force of arms to stop by force of arms the system of the marriage system of Utah. And supposing that it is decided to increase the number of husbands women by enforcing the laws against polygamy, why involve aid of the military in a branch of the public service which belongs solely to the judicial power?

We think that the *Mail* and other eastern journals which so much concern about polygamy in Utah, would show much common sense by applying muddled wits toward the source of their own social problem, among which is the serious question, what shall be done with the multitude of girls?

## UNCOVERING OF THE HIDDEN RECORD.

FIFTY-TWO years ago today Joseph Smith, the Seer, took from a hill Cumorah, under direction of the angel appointed to guard the plates containing the sacred records of the Jaredites and Nephites. What "a marvelous and a wonder" has grown out of that event! The gospel inscribed in hieroglyphics translated by power of God, has been presented throughout the civilized world. Church and Kingdom of God have been set up, the orders of the priesthood have been organized, the great gathering of Israel has commenced, Temples erected, the ordinances for the living and the dead have been administered, the order of celestial kingdoms in which are involved the glories and dominions of the Gods, have been unfolded and the foundations have been laid for a Dominion that shall be universal and everlasting, and which no power on earth can destroy. We are thankful for this uncovering of the hidden scriptures of the Western Continent, which should be highly prized by the Saints and all who are seeking the truth throughout the earth. They are a stumbling block to the worldly wise, but a consolation and guide to the meek and humble, and though fools may scoff and the learned may despise, the Book of Mormon will stand unimpeached.