

The Mormon Question.

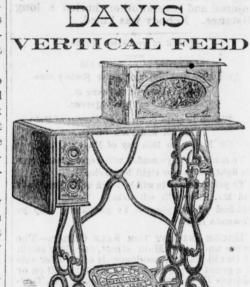
" Had there been a political issue over the Mormon imbroglio, it is probable the miserable society would have gone the way the "woodbing-twineth" long ago, doubtless finding a grave prior to that other iniquitous institution, slavery. But as it is not a partisan matter, it is shorn of the agitation, debate and attention usually bestowed upon the great questions of the day.

The great political parties all claim to abhor, detest and denounce the shameful system, yet none of them have the pluck or courage to wage an encounter against it, aside from an occasional spread-eagle speech and those periodical platform resolutions, served up at the national conventions.

Congress ever full of promises for any sort of reform cautiously takes up and in kid glove manner handles this evil but signally fails to pass or see executed any practical measures that are likely to uproot or seriously injure the infamous 'institution. There living in security, unmolested and unconquored, occupying the garden of the United States, this society has grown in opulence and increased in numbers till to-day it is a powerful political as well as religious organization whose demoralizing teachings and degenerating influence are imbueing the followers with a spirit hostile to the Government from which they received protection, comfort and existance. The pest is not confined to Utah alone as is generally supposed. The mildew and blight spread into Idaho, while even Arizona and Nevada begin to feel its tenacious and destructive grip. Good authority assures us that the morals of this people are of a low grade their educetion is neglected, their genius and intellect are undeveloped, while the social status is deplorable and the family relations anything but harmonious and healthy.

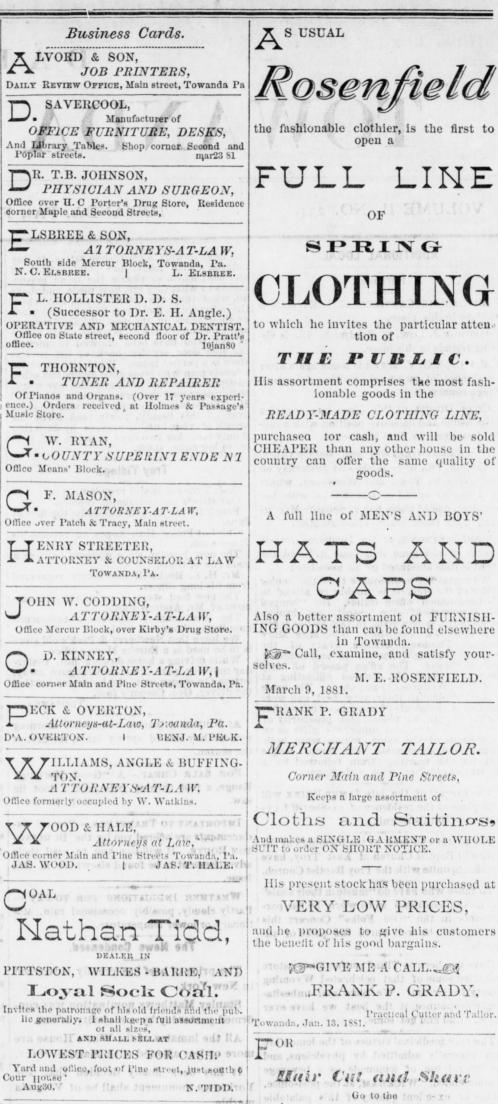
Plurality of wives in this age and country is not calculated to advance the thrift happiness or morals of any people or sect. In fact like all kindred vices, it wars with the ennobling characteristics of mankind, dwarting the spirit of progress and destroying the genius of the home, that grand foundation of divine origin, upon which rest the fame honor and greatness of any people or nation. The household in Mormondom in the true sense of the word is a myth and shadow, existing only in name, having none of that attraction, permancy and sanctity that mark it in Christian communities. In short we will know of the crookedness, leudness and abomination of this degenerating institution. We are aware of the low status of the "Saints" in a social, intellectual and moral point of view. Their disloyalty to the Government that fosters them upon its lands is patent to all and their cruelty and murders practiced upon the Gentiles among them is a matter of history. In view of these and many other reasons we think it behooves our Government to act in the matter and at once too, not pursueing a namby pamby policy as has been done heretofore but "go for them" on the war path, subjecting them to our laws, compelling them to respect and protect the rights and property of others among them and finally breakinfi up and sweeping out of existance that system of faith and practice, the legitimate fruits of which are decay decline and degeneracy. President Garfield has given good evimuch need. And if during his administration he shall break up the shameful system and destroy the sinful institution of Mormonism as it now exists in our States and Territories, the grand event will be the crowning act of his life.

Sir Edward Thornton, British Minister at Washington, has received notice from the British government of his appointment as Ambassador to Russia, and immediately telegraphed his acceptance. It is proposed by the citizens of Washington to make some friendly demonstrations in honor of Mr. Thornton before his departure- He and his family are very popular there and their removal will be deeply regretted.



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