

SPiRiT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

A SAMPLE OF PRIESTLY INTOLERANCE.

From the N. Y. Times.

There is a clergyman in this city who, when last asked to read the burial service over a dead man, declined on account of the profession which the deceased had followed in his lifetime. Most people may have supposed that this kind of intolerance—perhaps the most revolting and indecent that the human mind can conceive—was a thing of the past. But human bigotry and stupidity never become obsolete; they are only held in check by public opinion. There are Jesuits who would gladly revive all the horrors of the Inquisition, and would have a better relish for their dinners if they could send a few unbelievers to the stake for the good of their souls. We do not hear of so many cases of priestly intolerance as formerly, not because the appetite for intolerance has died out, but because people are a little more afraid of public exposure than they used to be. But, as we have said, New York can boast of one clergyman who does not fear to provoke the indignation and contempt of his fellow-men. A certain friend of a dead man went to him the other day and asked him to perform the last offices of the Church over the body. The minister declined because of the calling of the deceased had pursued.

The name of this minister is Rev. William T. Sabine, and the dead man over whom he refused to read the funeral service was the late George Holland, the actor. The deceased had borne through life an excellent character—he had, among other things, earned his living honestly, had brought up his children honorably, had tried as well as he could to do credit to the calling which he followed. None of us can do much more than that, no matter what we may call ourselves—and not all of us do so much. But Mr. Holland had committed an unpardonable sin, in the eyes of Rev. William T. Sabine—he had earned his living by trying to please the public on the stage. For this offense, in the eyes of a Christian minister, he was fit only to be buried like a dog, and his surviving relatives were to be denied those last consolations of religion which we are accustomed to think even murderers, standing at the foot of the gallows, have a right to ask. We may think what we please of any man's profession during his life—but to follow him with resentment after death on account of it, to pronounce a decree that he is fit only for the bottomless pit, and that no word of a Redeemer's love or of the resurrection should be pronounced over his grave—there is something so horrible in all this that we can scarcely believe it has really occurred in our own day and our own city. It is like the insolent profanity of a priest of the Middle Ages. Who is it that has a right to pronounce a judgment on his brother's soul? Rev. Mr. Sabine comes forward in answer to that question and tells us that he is the man. He can judge by a man's occupation whether he is entitled to Christian burial or not. He stands wrapped in a cloak of bigotry, which he mistakes for the mantle of infallibility, and presumes to anticipate the unerring judgment to be pronounced at that bar before which he, as well as the "wicked actor," must one day be arraigned. Mr. Sabine is an anachronism. He should have lived in the days when no harm was thought of using the rack and the thumbscrew as stimulants to men's religious faith. As it is his lot to live in the nineteenth century, he ought either to accommodate himself to its tone of thought, or at least retire from a church upon which he brings discredit. The son of the late Mr. Holland might well have addressed him in the words of *Laertes*, slightly modified—written by a man who was an actor, and lies buried within a Christian church, a fact which Mr. Sabine has doubtless often reflected upon with a shudder:—

"I tell thee, churlish priest, A ministering angel shall my father's be, When thou liest howling."

DECAY OF THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

The Mikado of Japan, the other day, in a State ceremonial in which it was designed that his sovereignty, dating from the era of the gods, should be fully and brightly recognized by the people, in the front of the procession the ancient royal chariot, closely veiled and covered, before which the people knelt, and made the day hideous with devotion, while the Mikado comfortably joggled along and dozed unseen in a plain carriage in the rear of the procession. John Bull hit long ago upon the same clever expedient to rid the real governing power of the country of both troublesome salams and fault-finding. He keeps up an ancient system of royalty and nobility which creeps and lumbers along in front of the nation, bediamonded and bespangled, big and bright enough to draw all the worship and adoration, while the real power lies behind in a half-dozen plain men who represent the commonality. Of late, however, hints begin to multiply on every side that the people are tired of salaming and koo-tooting before this ancient chariot, in which, as everybody knows, the king is not to be found. John Bull begins to question whether this gigantic sham is worth its price, when that price exhausts the best labor and life of the people.

The member in this governing system which attracted most attention to its weakness during the last year has been the House of Lords. The Peers, being men of education and a good deal of mental force, forget sometimes that they are only part of a State ceremonial, and attempt to assume a little real authority, when it is ludicrous to observe how promptly the check-strings are pulled, and they are reduced to their ignoble woodenness again. Most noticeable was this the case in the two instances when they brought themselves in collision with the popular feeling, on the questions of the Irish Church and Land bill. No American college boy, in his debating club, could inveigh more bitterly against "the decaying aristocracy of England" than the leading English journals themselves. The House of Lords was reminded, with unmistakable significance, that coronets, quarterings, and oak-leaves were baubles pretty and rich enough wherewith to amuse themselves and the vulgar, but did by no means include the reins of government. The encroachment was one of such peculiar irritation as to betray even the wary *Times* into speaking the impetuous whole truth. The next most influential journal in "the fourth estate" protested against the very existence of "a house in which the true government was powerless, because in it the nation was entirely unrepresented. The machine cannot go on forever," continues this

journal, "with the draft-horse pulling one way and the thoroughbred another. The waste of power in the working beast is becoming too great for endurance." So dangerous did the outcry become against this useless Second Chamber, which threatened to load the working beast to death, that even *The Saturday Review*, which is the exponent of the aristocracy, yet shrewd enough to see the temper of the times, endeavored to reconcile the people with the ills they have:—

"The House of Lords is the product of centuries of political existence. No one could invent it, or create it, or reproduce it. That it should have so much power and yet so little power, that it should be so respectable and yet so moderate, that it should not be a sham and yet not know so well that it must yield when those who have the real government of the country bid it yield, is something very extraordinary and very accidental in the general history of politics. That the present state of things should be permanent seems, we confess, very unlikely."

It suggested as an original plan to solve the difficulty that the House of Lords should be kept up for the honor of the country, but that the lords should stay out of it. "One of the easiest, quietest, and most natural modes of the House of Lords dying out would be that no peer should think it worth while to attend. A peer is just as great, just as rich, and just as happy a man whether he goes to the House of Lords or not." That Government must be thoroughly decayed at heart which is drawn to childish tricks and shams such as these to keep up the semblance of life. The questions on which Peers and Commons have been brought in contact lately were but of transient importance. The significant point to a cool spectator, and the vindictive eagerness with which any movement toward independent power by the Peers was met by the demand from Commons, people, and press that the House of Lords be put upon final trial, whether it shall stand or not.

The dangers of such emergencies have been passed over in the last year by the unconditional surrender of the Peers, as in the matter of the Church bill, or by the wholesale creation of enough new peers to defeat the old ones who stood by their order—a shirking manoeuvre which is paltry and ludicrous in the extreme. The plan is that the people of England have outgrown their Government. With its childish trappings and unmeaning symbols, it becomes their adult strength, intelligence, and sound common sense much as the swaddling clothes of the infant would the limbs of the full-grown man. They show now and then with a fierce impatience that they are conscious of this. The same people who bowed down to and worshipped as the first gentleman in Europe the padded libertine, George IV, treat with a contemptuous indifference the dull, inefficient Queen and her duller, sensual sons. Even the projected marriage of the Princess Louise with a subject, who is in reality a commoner, which, whether it is so meant or not, might have served as a sop to Cerberus, has only provoked an indignant outbreak of the prevailing feeling. The radical meeting in London the other day not only protested against the infliction of a heavy duty for this useless member of the sham system of power upon an overtaxed and starving people, but urged the demolition of the whole false fabric and the establishment of a republic in the short, mid-Atlantic Englishman, who hates sham as thoroughly as any man on earth, finds this divine white elephant left to him by slavish forefathers an insupportable weight, and is heartily tired of bowing and posturing before it one minute and reducing it to order the next by a few wholesome thwacks. Yet he clings to precedent as to his God; and the idea of a republic is obnoxious to him principally because it is American.

But the impending changes in England are among the most important subjects which the world's history offers to-day; they are no less certain than those in France. Revolutions which grow out of the growth of national thought and development rest on a surer basis than those which depend on starvation and blood.

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO WITH MORMON POLYGAMY?

From the N. Y. Sun.

Mormonism perennially afflicts the Congress of the United States, and throws discredit upon the republic in the estimation of every civilized nation in the world. For the last twenty years scarcely a session has passed without a controversy over this obnoxious and disagreeable subject; and its constant recurrence exhibits the difficulty experienced in dealing with it.

The Republican party in 1857 pledged to the nation its best attention to two pre-eminent existing things—"slavery and polygamy, twin relics of barbarism." The first has been disposed of; the other still remains intact, and is every day gaining an extension of life. Indeed, all the efforts to reach it seem only to contribute to it a greater vitality and to give it opportunity of exhibiting still greater boldness.

The time was when the Mormon apostles and elders were indignant at the charge of practicing polygamy, and denied it publicly with fierce wrath. They subsequently perjured and dodged the accusation; and then they stealthily passed from denial to tacit admission, and then to open approval of the system, ending by fulminating damnation against the rest of mankind who reject it.

Slavery is abolished; reconstruction is now settled and out of the way; and apparently Congress is again to be occupied with the remaining relic of barbarism, and this time we hope will be the last. One of the distinguished Senators from Massachusetts assumes the task of leadership in this controversy. Will he be more successful than his predecessors?

The great cause of failure hitherto has been the general ignorance of Congress respecting the condition of the people of Utah. To-day there should be no blundering—there need be none. The opening of that mountain country by the Pacific Railroad has afforded the members of Congress as much facility for seeing Utah as they ever had for visiting New Orleans. Many of them, from both the House and Senate, have availed themselves of the opportunity of studying the question there during the past season. Besides all this, the unity that has characterized the reign of Brigham Young is at an end, and now a bold, free press in Salt Lake, under the very eyes of the nation, is furnishing the necessary facts and arguments with which the power can be reached and demolished. Everything shows that the thinking, respectable portion of the people, who constitute public opinion there, are ripe and ready for any action of Congress that is consistent and just.

That very many of the Mormon people themselves are tired of their experiment in Oriental habits, Congress should facilitate their return to the monogamy of Christianity. Branding sincere and somewhat ignorant women with prostitution, and their offspring with bastardy, is neither the way to secure their attention to what Congress would do for them, nor the way to gain the listening ears of those whom they call their husbands. If the adoption of the institution of the patriarchs has seemed to many Mormons a mistake, a matter of regret, an oppression, such legislation as will afford persons of this class an honorable discharge from their obligations will be hailed with gratitude; while the slightest semblance of persecution, or anything that can be so construed, will be eagerly clutched by the leaders, and made the rallying point by them for all the stubbornness and pride of their own natures, and of those in the same position as themselves.

There are seemingly some persons in Utah and in Washington endeavoring to work out some such programme as we suggest. Can Congress assist them, and use them toward the solution of this difficulty? Polygamy has clearly not the sacred character and obligation upon all the Mormons that has been claimed for it; or why is it that Mr. Hooper, the delegate from the Territory to Congress, the defender of polygamy, is himself applying for a divorce from his wife? During last summer another gentleman from that Territory, assisting the delegate in Washington against the Cullom bill, was also a single-married man. It is asserted by representatives from Salt Lake that only a small proportion of the men are polygamists, and many of these are repentant. It seems a fitting time to grapple with the subject by the adoption of just, humane, and effective legislation.

THE TREASURY—TAKING TOO MUCH MONEY FROM THE PEOPLE.

From the N. Y. Herald.

The Secretary of the Treasury seems to have but one idea, and that is to accumulate the largest amount of money possible in the coffers of the Government. He loves to gloat over the mass of wealth there as a miser does over his money bags. He imagines, we suppose, that he can point to this as the result of his wisdom in administering the affairs of the Treasury Department, and say to the people, see how carefully I have collected the revenue and piled up your wealth. But he underrates the sagacity of the people. They can see that this enormous and surplus revenue—this vast unemployed capital of a hundred millions and upward—is wrung from their hard earnings. It is, in fact, an unnecessary and monstrous exaction from an overtaxed people. The hundred to a hundred and fifty millions which Mr. Boutwell keeps hoarded up all the time, and has kept hoarded from the time he took charge of the Treasury, is so much money taken away from productive industry. In the hands of the people it would earn a much larger sum and add greatly to the wealth of the nation. That that is not the only loss lying in the Treasury vaults is dear capital. Put out at interest, what would have amounted to nearly the same thing, applied to the liquidation of the debt, from six to nine millions a year would have been saved. The Secretary has lost for the country from twelve to eighteen millions during the time he has been in office by this ridiculous policy of hoarding. This loss, as we said, is in addition to what the people have lost in having the money taken away from their industrial pursuits unnecessarily. The remark of the Saviour about the unprofitable servant who had kept his master's talent wrapped up unemployed is applicable to Mr. Boutwell.

We said the Secretary seemed to have but this one idea. He has, however, another, which also operates injuriously and keeps up burdensome taxation. That is to make the people of the present time pay off the debt which can be paid better and easier in the future—to make us who have borne the heavy burdens of the war and spilled our blood for the Union pay all the cost. This is both unreasonable and unjust. Those who are to come after us will pay the cost of things we have purchased by our blood and treasure, and ought to contribute something to liquidate the remaining part of the cost, especially when we consider that they will feel the burden much less than we do. In ten years the population of this country will be probably nearly a half more than it is now, or near sixty millions, and the national wealth will be increased in a greater ratio. Why, then, should not the people of the next decade, or of the next twenty years, pay a portion of the debt? Mr. Boutwell delights to boast of reducing the debt at the rate of a hundred millions or more a year. He thinks that gives him great credit for financial ability with the people, and will make him a popular man for the Presidency or some other high honor. But the people are not so blind. They know the money comes from them and they are oppressed to raise it. Suppose a banker's clerk, who has handed to him a large sum of money by his employer to go and pay a debt of the bank, should boast of what he accomplishes, as if the money belonged to him, should we not think his conduct most ridiculous? Just as reasonable is it for Mr. Boutwell to claim the credit of paying the national debt, when the money pours upon him from the burdensome taxes imposed by Congress.

It is not a question of the ability of the country to raise an enormous revenue and to pay off the debt rapidly. That it can do undoubtedly. Though not as rich as England in accumulated capital, it has greater and more varied natural resources. There is, in fact, a wonderful elasticity in the capabilities of the country. We have seen what an extraordinary strain it could bear during the most gigantic and costly war of modern times. It may well be doubted if any country could have brought out in so short a time such stupendous resources. Then, since the close of the war what vast sums have been raised and what an enormous amount of debt, floating and organized, has been discharged! But, as was said, it is not a question of ability to bear taxation—it is one of economy, of justice, of financial wisdom.

A merchant who should spend all his cash as it comes in—should anticipate his unmet obligations and leave himself without sufficient ready means to carry on his business or to extend it, would be regarded a more foolish man. More business is done and more wealth made by a judicious use of credit than by actual cash. It is the same with nations as with individuals. To draw away the capital of the people unnecessarily by taxation cripples the industry of a country, retards the creation of wealth, and tends to keep a nation poor. The money taken from the people would be worth much more to them in their industrial pursuits than it is to the Government, and would add far more to the national wealth. In one case it is creative and in the other exhaustive. What, then, is the true policy for us to pursue? Simply to raise no more revenue than the current economical wants of the Government require, with a small margin for a sinking fund to keep up the pro-

cess of liquidating the debt. The people would not be satisfied if some of the debt were not paid annually, but a sinking fund of twenty to twenty-five millions would be ample at present. Thus the debt would waste away sensibly, and the people would not feel it. The credit of the Government would stand just as high or higher. Our ability to pay would be shown, while the wealth of the nation would be more augmented. Taxes to the amount of a hundred millions a year or more might be taken off. There would then be revenue enough to pay all the current expenses of government and twenty-five millions of the debt a year. Let this reduction be made and the money now in the Treasury be applied to paying the debt. The burdens of the people will be lightened, industry will greatly revive, and before six months Mr. Boutwell will have again a surplus in the Treasury. The whole policy of the Secretary should be reversed. If he has not the ability or financial skill to take the initiative in the policy we indicate, Congress ought to force it upon him. A large revenue leads to extravagance and corruption. The vital question now is to reduce taxation and to bring the revenue down to the wants of an economical administration of the Government.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE SCRIBNER RIVER BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE CHESSNUT STREET BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE UNITED STATES BANKING COMPANY, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE HAMILTON BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE PENNSYLVANIA BANKING COMPANY, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

NOTICE—BY VIRTUE AND IN EXECUTION of the powers contained in a Mortgage executed by THE CENTRAL PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY of the city of Philadelphia, bearing date of eighth of April, 1863, and recorded in the office for recording deeds and mortgages for the city and county of Philadelphia, in Mortgage Book A. H. No. 56, page 465, etc., the undersigned Trustees named in said Mortgage.

WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION, at the MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE, in the city of Philadelphia, on TUESDAY, the fourteenth day of February, A. D. 1871, the property described in and conveyed by the said Mortgage, to wit:—

No. 1. All those two contiguous lots or pieces of ground, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate on the east side of Broad street, in the city of Philadelphia, one of them beginning at the distance of nineteen feet seven inches and five-eighths southward from the southeast corner of the said Broad and Coates streets; thence crossing said street at right angles with said Broad street eighty-eight feet one inch and a half to ground north or late of Samuel Miller; thence southward along the east side of said Coates street with said Coates street, seventy-two feet to the northeast corner of an alley, two feet six inches in width, leading south and north to the said Broad street, crossing said alley and along the lot of ground hereinafter described and at right angles with said Broad street, seventy-nine feet to the east side of the said Broad street, thence northward along the east side of said Broad street seventy-two feet to the place of beginning. Subject to a ground-rent of \$250 a year.

No. 2. The other of them situate at the northeast corner of the said Broad street and Penn street, containing in front or breadth on the said Broad street eighteen feet, and in length or depth eastward along the north line of said Penn street seventy-four feet and two inches, and on the line of said lot parallel with said Broad street, seventy-six feet six inches and three-fourths of an inch to said two feet six inches wide alley. Subject to ground rent of \$75 a year.

No. 3. All that certain lot or piece of ground beginning at the southeast corner of Coates street and Broad street, thence extending southward along the said Broad street nineteen feet seven inches and five-eighths of an inch; thence eastward eighty feet one inch and one-half of an inch; thence northward at right angles with said Coates street, nine feet to the south side of Coates street, and thence westward along the south side of said Coates street ninety feet to the place of beginning.

No. 4. The whole road, plank road and railway of the city of Philadelphia, and all their land (not included in Nos. 1 and 2), roadway, railway, right of way, stations, toll-houses and other super-structures, depots, goods and other real estate, buildings and improvements whatsoever, and all singular and the corporate privileges and franchises connected with said company and plank road and railway and relating thereto, and all the same, together with all the rights and appurtenances to the same or any part thereof belonging to said company, and generally all the tenements, hereditaments and franchises of the said company, also all the cars of every kind (not included in No. 4), machinery, tools, implements and materials connected with the proper equipment, operating and conducting of said road, plank road and railway; and all the personal property of every kind and description belonging to the said company.

Together with all the streets, ways, alleys, passages, waters, water-courses, easements, franchises, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments, and appurtenances, unto any of the above-mentioned premises and estates belonging and appertaining, and the reversions and remainders, rents, issues, and profits thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim, and demand of every nature and kind whatsoever of the said company, as well as law as in equity of, in, and to the same and every part and parcel thereof.

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