Salt Lake Democrat.

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THE TUCKER BILL.

The news from Washington published in last evening's DEMOCRAT will gladden the heart of every friend of free government in Utah. To-morrow has been designated as the day for the consideration of the Tucker bill in the House. There is not the shadow of a doubt of its passage in that body, and as there are upwards of forty more working days for Congress before its adjournment, there is plenty of time for action on it in the Senate. Nothing now, except some unforeseen and most improbable circumstance, can possibly defeat the bill in either House, and its approval by the President is beyond the possibility of question. The Tucker bill will become a law of the land. With its passage commences the redemption of Utah from priestly and treasonable rule and its movement into line with the other States and Territories of the Union. The DEMOCRAT takes time by the forelock and congratulates the people of Utah upon their deliverance from theocratic bondage. It also congratulates the sincere but misguided victims of Mormon priestcraft upon the dawn of an era of prosperity in the Territory, the benefits of which they will share equally with those who have so long labored to bring about the change.

CLERICAL IMMORALITY.

The New York *Sun* says everybody must have been struck by the frequency of cases of clerical immorality within recent years. They have occurred in several parts of the Union, and among the ministers of nearly every denomination, the number reported in New York newspapers comprising only a portion of the whole, as any one who keeps the run of American journals can testify.

There seems to be no doubt that there has been a decided increase in such misconduct, and it has taken place during the last ten years. We observe, too, that there is a remarkable similarity between the cases, more especially so far as concerns the behavior of the clergymen under the disgraceful charges made against them.

The accusation, almost invariably, is of undue familiarity with the wife of a parishioner, or of attempts at her corruption. This is a terrible charge to bring against a minister of the gospel, whose usefulness and fitness for his holy functions depend upon his reputation for purity of character and fidelity in his own life to the standard of conduct he holds up for others. Yet we do not remember a single one of the most scandalous cases where the accused clergyman has insisted upon a satisfactory vindication. He has either allowed the public to remain in doubt as to his guilt, or has undertaken to brow-beat his accusers, and meantime and afterward has gone on in the exercise of his sacred profession as if the charge were of minor consequence.

What does all that mean? It means that Henry Ward Beecher set profligate and licentious ministers an example which they have been quick to follow. They saw that he was able to brazen it out when proof of gross immorality was brought against him, and to keep on as a preacher of the gospel, and they were emboldened to indulge in like practices, expecting to have equal success in standing out against the truth. They learned from him the tactics they have used, and the effrontery under such accusations displayed by them is copied from the Brooklyn pastor. A charge of immorality, they have found, can be so treated as to become of positive advantage to a thick-skinned and unscrupulous minister, by giving him welcome notoriety; and Mr. Beecher's success has, of course, encouraged the entrance of such characters into the sacred profession.

The consequences of that unpunished crime against religion are not yet all apparent.

PROSPEROUS BUTTE.

The Butte *Inter-Mountain* fairly laughs with glee in anticipation of the big product of that camp for 1887. It says:

"Butte is swimming in a high tide of prosperity. Its mines never looked so well nor were in such a shape to insure a heavy and constant production. The Gagnon will double its output within the next thirty days. The Anaconda will continue to increase its ore shipments till they reach 2,000 tons per day. They are now 1,200 tons. The Parrot shaft from the 420-foot station is making rapid downward progress. In the eastern markets the Parrot product sells within a fraction of Lake prices. The Bluebird is now producing $3,000 per day in fine bullion, at which rate it will take many years to exhaust the ore resources even above the 300-foot level. The Lexington on the 1,000-foot level is full of great possibilities. The Alice at the same depth has some good ore, though the amount of it is unknown. The Morning Star has resumed operations. The Magna Charta is looking well and producing heavily from the north vein. Walker Bros. recently made a large offer for an interest in the Saukie, which shows the ground in that vicinity to be increasing in value. In other mines no new developments are reported for the week, but the outlook is exceedingly promising both for silver and copper properties."

THE true inwardness of the prohibition now in Provo has at length been explained to the DEMOCRAT by a gentleman who is a resident of that town. He says the ecclesiastical authorities have really no desire to close the back rooms of the drug stores, as the said ecclesiastics would then have to go to a public saloon instead of enjoying their "three-fingers" in private. And perhaps the gentleman is not far from right.

THE verdict of the jury in the Thompson case at Beaver City was more than a mere acquittal. It was a declaration that he was justifiable in the killing of Dalton in the execution of the law. He was either entirely justifiable or was guilty of at least manslaughter, if not of murder. A jury of his countrymen has declared him guilty of neither. He was removed from office during the pending of the legal investigation of the affair. That being over, he should be reinstated in his old position or appointed to some other within the gift of his former principal. He should not be made to suffer for having performed his duty. We are confident that Marshal Dyer will see that he does not.

THE New York *Times*, one of the bitterest and most uncompromising enemies of silver coinage, admits that the Government has more gold than it has had at any time since the resumption of specie payment, and that the stock of silver dollars is falling off in spite of the continuance of the coinage. That being the case, why continue the howl against the white metal. The admission is in itself a falsification of its former utterances and of its present demand. Repeated necessity of acknowledging the falsity of their own predictions ought to teach modesty to the gold organs, but it does not.

GOSCHEN, who succeeds Lord Randolph Churchill as leader of the House of Commons, is spoken of as an able financier, but, nevertheless, is one of the most unpopular men in Parliament. He has no following among the Liberals, and the sympathy extended by Gladstone to Churchill, mentioned in the DEMOCRAT's dispatches last night, is pretty certain to widen the split and increase the number of discontented who sympathize with "Randy." An early dissolution of the present English Cabinet may be safely prophesied.

THE Victoria Jubilee will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of England's Queen to the throne, on the 20th of next June. England has never known such an era as that of Victoria. Nor has there been a peaceful reign wherein there has been such a marked political advancement. It is a season for Democracy to celebrate rather than Monarchy. The aristocracy had virtually all the power when it began. Now the sceptre is practically in the hands of the people.

THE New York *World* is of the opinion that the grumbling Knights of Labor who object to paying Grand Master Workman Powderly a salary of $5,000 a year, do not appreciate the market value of brains. To back up this opinion that journal says: "We should be very willing to pay Mr. Powderly $5,000 a year to devote his services exclusively to the *World*."

THE Camas gold belt in the Wood River country is attracting wide attention in the mining world at the present time. Salt Lake mining capitalists who have invested ducats therein are confident of big developments this next season. All reports go to show that the Camas gold belt will turn out a second Black Hills.

SALT LAKE has a number of churches, and at the present time there is room for some applied Christianity—the only article current in the Kingdom of Heaven. Coal, food and clothing for our local poor should occupy more attention at present than any efforts to save the souls of the heathen of Timbuctoo.

OVER four hundred divorces were granted in San Francisco in 1886. If the Bay City keeps up its proportionate increase a few years longer, the segregations will outnumber the marriages as largely as the Endowment houses of Utah beat the penitentiary in the workings of the Edmunds law.

BEFORE the Nevada Legislature was a week old the sportive members had "busted" two faro games in Carson. The bankers have now established a rule barring the Solons from betting, the games being dealt exclusively for non-professionals.

THE announcement that a chemist has produced "tamed" whisky—red liquor deprived of ethers or intoxicating elements—is not so much of a temperance victory, after all. Prohibitionists who have tried it say it is of no use as a substitute for the genuine article.

A FAGE in the Nevada Legislature publishes a card in the Carson *Appeal* denying that he is a Democrat. He is evidently an ambitious lad, and is looking forward to an appointment to some Federal office under President Cleveland.

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