

## The Mountain Meadows Massacre.

If there is one thing that should engross the attention of the law department of the Government, it is the Mountain Meadows Massacre. Lee is on trial, and evidence enough has been presented to convict him as one of the principal murderers in any other place than Utah, and before any other jury than the one by which he is being tried. The story, as told, is revolting, and seems to us to be chargeable to the Mormon Church directly. But it does seem to us that the authorities have not been very vigilant in the conduct of the trial, or very desirous of convicting the guilty, however terrible their crimes may have been. It is said the jury is composed of nine Mormons and three Gentiles. This is not all; three of the nine are relatives, by blood, of parties charged with participation in the horrible butchery. Some persons may think that justice can be had at the hands of such a jury as that, but we confess to a large degree of skepticism upon that subject.

All the blame was sought to be thrown upon the Indians, alleging that the emigrants poisoned a well. This plea caused the Indian Chief to come out and tell his story. They were induced, by offers of reward, fine horses, fine everything if they would join the Mormons in the bloody butchery. They did so and then were cheated by the pious Elders of the Mormon Church. The facts seem to justify the conclusion that the crime was conceived and executed by the Mormon Church, and justice would dictate that the Government should hang the leaders and disperse the church of Mormon, for a long concealing such a crime and protecting the criminals. This Government has tampered with and coaxed the Mormons until the conduct of the Government is almost as loathsome as the debauchery of the Mormon Church.

Let the <sup>spirit</sup> of the law be in earnest, fasten that terrible crime <sup>where</sup> it properly belongs, and good will come out of <sup>the</sup> trial. We owe it to ourselves, to our Government, to the slain, to humanity, and to Christianity. But we doubt, when nine Mormons, three of them blood relatives of the murderers, compose three-fourths of the jury before whom the trial is being held. — *Leavenworth Commercial*.