

EVENTS OF A CITY DAY.

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS WISHES TO GET RID OF TEED.

**Mass-Meeting Addressed by Two De-
serters and an "Angel" from the
Koreish "Heaven" — Father Meiners
Gives a Popular Demonstration
of the Power of the X Ray—Ziska
Denies He Was Inhuman as Charged
by Mrs. Berkly.**

Washington Heights is in a ferment over the proposal to banish Cyrus Teed, the self-styled "Messiah," who has maintained his "heaven" there since being compelled to quit Englewood three years ago.

Flaming posters are displayed in the village, and two large mass-meetings have been held to bring public sentiment to a focus.

At the second and biggest meeting, which took place in the Village Hall yesterday afternoon, there were open denunciations and abusive epithets passed between deserters from the Koreschan community and a delegation of "angels" who remain steadfast to Teed. One debater was a woman.

From the spirit of hostility shown to Teed's followers every time the crowd got a chance to hoot at them, one would judge printed posters not necessary to help on the movement. Two or three times, however, Washington Heights has tried to grow indignant enough to shake off Teed, and the leaders of the movement say this time they will not again be baffled. The posters read:

FALSE MESSIAH MUST GO!

Large Mass-Meeting No. 2.

Come and hear the exposures by liberated victims and other speakers.

Hall Is Crowded.

Although the hall was not heated, there was barely standing room when the meeting opened. A. G. Specht, one of the most active men in resisting the Teed hierarchy, presided. At first there was some annoyance, caused by a troop of noisy boys, but after the exercises started a policeman came and disorder subsided.

Mr. Specht said his community believed in liberty and law, justice and right, the fatherhood of God, and brotherhood of man. But when any man sees his brother being injured, no matter under what guise, it was his duty, he declared, to rescue the weaker one. Liberty, being the gift of God and pledged by the Constitution, no person under the guise of a messiahship had the right to set up the control of a free people. That meeting was not for violence, Mr. Specht said; it was not to inaugurate a tar-and-feather policy, but to get at the root of the evil and in a lawful way correct it.

"This blasphemer Teed has again and again been exposed," said Mr. Specht, "and we proved at the last meeting all that was charged against him. These indictments include in brief:

1. He is a false messiah.
2. He invades homes and alienates wives from husbands, children from parents.
3. He is setting up an imperialism under the guise of a special commission from heaven, which is treasonable to the Nation and insulting to common sense."

Severe Arraignment.

Will J. Gould, for several years a dupe of Teed, gave his testimony against the false Messiah. He seemed uncertain of his ground when asked questions, but his arraignment of the man was severe.

"I speak from actual experience, having been a member of the Koreschan community several years," said Mr. Gould. "Teed appropriates all the belongings of his followers. Many have put in all the money they had, and these get never a cent out again.

"There is a printed form in use which all must sign upon admission to the faith. It deeds to Teed all property, incomes, or pensions enjoyed by candidates. This relinquishment is obtained partly upon false pretenses and the rest by hypnotic influence.

"Teed's representations are he is the ruler of the universe and owns everything. In only a little time, he says, he will succeed to the control of the government, manage the banks and railroads, and run everything.

"That influences his weak-minded followers, so that when he offers special inducements to all who give up their property quick and get in on the ground floor with him there are no refractory followers. Amounts to confiscation of property.

To Break Up Homes.

"Teed declares his purpose is to break up homes. His system in this respect is perfidious and diabolical. He has said repeatedly he believes in going about the severance of family ties 'with a meat ax.' He insists on dealing wholly with individuals. When he gets his influence over an individual that one bolts family ties and joins his 'heaven.' Then he is not allowed to communicate in confidence with other members of the family. There must be no confidence between husband and wife, for instance, above the head of the society.

"I have known where husband and wife were not allowed to see each other more than once a month and then in the public assembly. Children are kept isolated, poorly clothed and nourished. I think they offer a good chance for interference by a humane society."

The Rev. G. W. Hunt, pastor of Bethany Union Church, then put Mr. Gould through cross-examination to clinch his charges.

Mrs. Mattie Watson, formerly of Lynne, Mass., once blinded by the pretenses of Teed, but now seeing things differently, gave her testimony. It was a story of duplicity, imposition, starvation, neglect, and suffering. Her story was foggy and disjointed. She also charged immorality upon the leader.

"Are you sure of that statement?" asked the Rev. Mr. Hunt.

"He is immoral—certainly," said Mrs. Watson, with emphasis. "Not from what I know, you understand, but from what Mrs. Emmerts told me, and she knew it for sure from what others told her."

This argument brought out a laugh.

Daily Menu in "Heaven."

Mrs. Watson went into details of diet, confirming the charges of Gould that children were starved. This is the daily menu, according to her affidavit:

Breakfast—Cornmeal mush.

Dinner—Carrot soup, very watery.

Supper—Turnips, greens, or water cress, and hot water.

In the rear a band of ascetic-looking pilgrims had smiled in pity at the tales of these renegade "angels." When Mrs. Watson sat down one of them, Henry D. Silverfriend, a proselyte from Hebraism, rose and denounced her and every statement derogatory to "Koresch." He spoke in a sort of determined frenzy, with the audience from start almost to finish hooting and denouncing his words with a tramp of feet.

"Sit down!" "Shut up!" rose the cry.

"Put him out!"

But Silverfriend succeeded in delivering his vindication. He said Mrs. Watson had come to the "heaven" afflicted with an incurable disease.

"It is false!" shouted the woman, jumping up, and for several seconds the pair denounced each other and passed the lie. The crowd sided with the woman.

The Rev. Mr. Hunt then spoke for the sanctity of home ties and in the name of religion and morality begged not to countenance the Teed system, which sought to destroy domestic unity.

He offered a resolution asking merchants to withhold advertisements from Teed's paper, and Mr. Silverfriend threatened to prosecute him for instituting a boycott.

It was agreed to investigate Teed's system, with a view to infractions of the law, and A. G. Specht, the Rev. G. W. Hunt, and E. H. McNabb were named to carry on the work.

Other meetings will be called at their discretion.