

mony, of public utterances, which has been resorted to for the purpose of making white look black, and by implication to prejudice the case of Mr. Moore, is truly appalling. And only by the most far-fetched logic, and the most arbitrary wresting of language and reason, can the mass of stuff brought forward to vilify and misrepresent the "Mormon" Church, be made to apply to the case before the court. It has been one of the most infamous proceedings ever permitted against a religious body, in the history of modern jurisprudence. It would not be permitted in any other part of the civilized world.

PHASES OF OSTRACISM.

DURING the recent investigation in the Third District Court, instituted and conducted by conspicuous managers of the "Liberal" party for anti-"Mormon" political purposes, the question of ostracism of apostates from the Church by their former brethren was given a prominent place.

There happen to be several phases to that subject, but only one was suited to the purpose of the active politicians who engaged in the work of manufacturing capital from the proceedings in point. Two distinct aspects were strikingly illustrated by two of the witnesses whose testimony was taken—Mr. Henry W. Lawrence and Mr. William Ward—both of whom seceded voluntarily from the Church many years ago.

The former stated that, in consequence of the position he assumed, his business materially decreased and he was shunned by his former associates. If this were the case, it may be proper to inquire into the cause, and also to ascertain whether the shunning was one-sided. Mr. Lawrence asserted substantially that he did not apostatize from the faith, but voluntarily renounced the fellowship of his co-religionists because he held that the chief authority of the Church usurped power that did not properly belong to him. Had he stopped there his position would have been different to what it has been and is.

The local history of the past twenty years or so shows that Mr. Lawrence has frequently, bitterly and relentlessly assailed the Church and been hand and glove with the most virulent and unscrupulous enemies of the Latter-day Saints. That his former associates who still adhere to the faith and in whose

hearts the love of their brethren glows could, under such circumstances, be expected to fall on his neck, so to speak, is quite too much to anticipate. This, however, we can state without fear of successful contradiction—that the community as a whole have treated Henry W. Lawrence with a thousand times more consideration and respect than he has exhibited toward the community. As a matter of fact also we may state that even the unwarrantably prejudiced course taken by the gentleman toward his former brethren has not wiped out of the hearts of many of them a kindly and respectful feeling that has always existed toward him, but which does not appear to be met by any reciprocal sentiment from him. Hence the prejudicial attitude he assumed on the stand, manifested even in his repeated protestations of not desiring to do the "Mormons" injustice. Shakspeare struck a potent keynote when he put this into the mouth of one of his characters—"Methinks the lady doth protest too much."

The bias he displayed was a disappointment, because some of the members of the community against whom it was directed expected better things of him.

But returning to what has been designated as ostracism, it has always appeared to us a manifest absurdity for a man who has pursued a course of the most pronounced antagonism against a community, to complain of being cut by a people whom he thus ostracizes.

Even now there is a friendly feeling among the people toward Mr. Lawrence. He may have so nearly worn it out that it is not appreciably deep, but notwithstanding his constant efforts to uproot it, a remnant still remains. What there is of it is genuine, and a man of his intelligence must know by this time that the real article on the outside is decidedly scarce, especially toward men of his class. There is plenty of that which is spurious, exhibited by demonstrative but unreal lip and pen service, dealt out for the attainment of ulterior ends. Once in a while the real sentiment toward ex-"Mormons" in certain quarters crops out. A report came to us of a manifestation of that kind that occurred two or three months ago. When its probable effects were estimated, there followed a fulsome dissertation upon the heroic qualities of apostates in general. Even among seceders from the Church there is a growing

belief that in the event of certain conditions arising the "Liberals" would demonstrate in a manner unqualifiedly practical, that the class referred to are only wanted so long as they can be of use for the attainment of the objects of their pretended friends.

Mention was made by Mr. Lawrence, in his testimony, of the late T. B. H. Stenhouse. During one of the latter's last visits to this city, he said to an old acquaintance, in the hearing of the writer: "Stick to the Church. There is nothing equal to it. My experience has taught me this lesson: that there is no real friendship outside of it, and without genuine friendship life is a blank."

Mr. William Ward, whose name has already been mentioned, belongs to a class of seceders from the Church who incur no ostracism, because he does not ostracize. He renounced the faith completely. He pursued his own course, and left his former brethren to pursue theirs. He does not fight them. The consequence is there is no bitterness on either side, because he has not created it. Indeed, his nature is so kindly that we do not believe he has an enemy anywhere. He is simply regarded here, as we presume elsewhere, as an able architect and a good man, and as such the hand of friendship is always extended to him.

There is another phase of ostracism belonging entirely to the anti-"Mormon" side of the fence, erected by that class. When a non-"Mormon" shows a humane disposition toward the Latter-day Saints, or in any manner exhibits a desire for them to have fair play, he is dubbed a "Jack Mormon." He is assailed, bulldozed and vilified in every conceivable way. The assault is mercilessly maintained until he recedes from his position and joins the ranks of the rabidists. The attacks are of such a character that but few can long resist them. This accounts to a large extent for the attitude of many really well-disposed U. S. officials, who would have done right if they had possessed the courage of their convictions. But the war waged against square and fair administration is so wolfish and determined that but few men can withstand the unscrupulous anti-"Mormon" assaults. This is the anti-"Mormon" phase of ostracism. It is devoid of reason and decidedly inhuman. It is peculiarly and distinctively anti-"Mormon" and worthy of its authors.