

THE

## DESERET NEWS.

"TRUTH AND LIBERTY."

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## EFFECTS OF INTIMACY WITH THE PRIESTHOOD.

THE effects of intimate intercourse and familiarity with the authorized servants of God and the truths of which they are the bearers, are not always such as might be imagined. Many, if not all, of this people believed, before they became acquainted with the fact that God had restored His pure gospel to the earth and again empowered man with His holy priesthood, that if they could only have the privilege of associating with or being taught by prophets and apostles, they would appreciate and prize it as one of the greatest blessings that could be conferred upon them. Under the influence of these feelings, when they became convinced that this privilege was granted unto them—that the pure gospel of Jesus had been restored to the earth, with all the gifts and blessings which formerly attended it, and that men holding the power and authority of the ancient servants of God were in their midst, their joy was unbounded. They knew not how to be sufficiently thankful; and they felt that they could scarcely do enough for such men. To obey their counsel seemed to be their highest pleasure, because in doing so they felt that they were obeying the counsel of God, whose servants and ambassadors they were.

With many these feelings of love and veneration have increased from the day they heard and believed the gospel until the present. Familiarity and intimate intercourse with these things and these men, instead of lessening their respect and love, have increased them; and they are more willing, if possible, to honor and obey the counsel of the servants of God to-day, than they were when they first became acquainted with them. In others, however, the contrary effects are to be witnessed. The intercourse they have had with the men of God, has been attended with a decrease of those feelings of love and obedience which they experienced when they first became acquainted with their true character. They have learned that they are but men, mortal, fallible men, and not angels; and the respect and veneration which they once felt have diminished. Previous to and at the time they heard the gospel, when their hearts were filled with desire to become acquainted with its truths, or with gratitude that they had been partly communicated to them, they could not have been persuaded to believe that they would ever disregard the words or counsel of an inspired apostle or prophet, or that they would ever show disrespect to his authority. They respected the teacher, the priest or the elder so much, and gave heed to his teachings so willingly, that they would have thought it impossible to have felt otherwise towards an Apostle. Then a High Priest or a Seventy was looked upon and respected as something but little less than an angel; and how could it be possible that an Apostle, one of the Twelve special witnesses of Christ, could ever be respected any less?

Strange as it may appear to the inexperienced, yet it is the case, as all who have much acquaintance with "Mormonism" well know, that there are many who do not respect and obey the teachings and counsels of an Apostle or Prophet now to as great an extent as they did those of a Priest or Elder when they first became acquainted with the gospel. Why is this? Is it because they have learned that there ought not to be so much respect shown or obedience rendered as formerly; or that the greater authority is not entitled to so much honor as the lesser? Oh, no; they have learned nothing of this kind. If such individuals should be asked these questions, they would readily answer in the negative. But it is because the distance between themselves and the servants of God, whom He has appointed to dictate the affairs of His kingdom, has, to them, apparently lessened. They have become more familiar with them, and, consequently, the obligations to obey their counsels, are not, in their estimation, so binding now as formerly. They do not appear to realize, that however closely and intimately they may be associated with the servants of God and the priest-

hood which He has bestowed upon them, their obligations to hearken to and obey their counsels, are not lessened thereby. The feelings which they had before they became aware of the existence of this work, when they used to read the scriptures and reflect upon the privileges which the generation had who lived contemporary with Jesus and his apostles, have to a great extent left them, and they cease to appreciate such blessings as they thought they should.

Let an individual or a people permit feelings of this nature to grow within them—feelings that will cause them to be less obedient to the counsels of God, because more familiar with His servants—and the results to them must be deplorable. For, veneration for every thing sacred, even for the Lord himself and His counsels, would soon be extinguished. Before they became acquainted with Apostles and Prophets, they had a feeling of veneration for them and their counsels almost, if not quite, equal to that which they now have for angels and their counsels, or even for Jesus and his; and if a few years' acquaintance or familiarity with the work of God will cause such a total change in their feelings of respect and veneration for the former, it will not take a very great length of time to produce a similar feeling towards the latter. It would only need a similar acquaintance or familiarity, if such were possible to be obtained by individuals of this class, to produce similar results in the one case as in the other.

We, as a people, can not too carefully guard ourselves on these points. God has intrusted us with important interests; and because He has done so, and we have become acquainted with His work and associated with His Priesthood, we should not forget the obligations we are under to obey any counsel He may give through it. Intimate intercourse and familiarity with these things should cause our feelings of obedience and love to increase and grow stronger. The power of an Apostle or Prophet, is as great now that we are acquainted with it, as it was when all we knew about it was from reading. Our becoming acquainted with it has not lessened its authority, neither has it diminished in the least the power of any office of the priesthood. If we had good reasons for venerating the priesthood when we formerly read about it, or when we first learned that it was again on the earth, we surely have better reasons now when we know and have experienced its power. We are accountable now before God to an extent that we could not then conceive of; because then no authorized voice had saluted our ears; but now it is not so. The voices of apostles and prophets have reached us; we have heard their counsels and message; and our condemnation is sure if we obey them not.

"FREE LOVE" IN NEW YORK CITY.—The Daily Times exposes the existence of a "Free Love Club" in this city. In spite of the foray of Capt. Trumbull, two years ago, the "system" still exists in our midst. The Free Lovers, headed by Messrs. Brisbane and Andrews, hold weekly meetings, and a portion of them live together in a house in Stuyvesant street, "under the shadow of St. Mark's Church." The "Unitary Household," as it is called, is a large four story brick house, wherein some twenty persons dwell. They are divided into separate families, and each family has a suite of apartments to itself. The expenses of the household are paid by common assessment.—Here the doctrine of affinity is carried out, probably to its fullest extent. The Free Lovers are said to be very successful in propagating their opinions, and now propose to hire a hotel with eighty rooms, and carry out the system on an extended scale. Mr. Brisbane is sanguine that his "theory" will live and progress, until all the world will become Free Lovers. New York is in a fair way already to realize his expectations.—*New York Weekly Day-Book*, June 26th.

[Where are James Buchanan and the U. S. Army, those knight-errants of morality?

A NEW PROCESS OF EXTRACTING TEETH.—The Baltimore Patriot says: "We yesterday witnessed the trial of a new process of extracting teeth, by which it was stated the operation would cause no pain. It was certainly the most satisfactory trial of the kind we have ever witnessed. A number of teeth were extracted, and the patients declare they received no pain but experienced a numbing sensation about the tooth. This soothing is produced by passing a current of electricity through the tooth at the time of extracting. The patient grasps firmly in his hand one pole from an electro-magnetic machine; the other pole from the machine is attached to the forceps, and by this means a current of electricity is passed thro' the tooth and produces a local numbness, and so avoids the use of chloroform or ether. The amount of current is adjusted to suit each patient, so as not to produce an unpleasant sensation."

## NEWS ITEMS.

ARRIVAL OF COL. THOMAS L. KANE.—This gentleman—the self-appointed Peace Commissioner to the Mormons—arrived at his home in this ward, on the evening of June 18, in buoyant spirits and hearty good health, after one of the most romantic, dangerous and successful expeditions on record. He proceeded to Washington, on the 19th, with dispatches from Gov. Cumming for the Government.—[*Germantown Telegraph*, Phila., June 23.]

CHOLERA.—The Louisiana Courier of June 15th notices the fact that the cholera prevails in many parts of Arkansas, and is making ravages over other Western States.

POVERTY.—The very urgent necessities of the national treasury are shown by the fact that the department at Washington has written to the successful bidders for the new loan, requesting immediate compliance with the terms.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., June 18.—The Great Yazoo Pass gave way last night, and the channel is now over thirty yards wide and rapidly increasing in width. The water in the Mississippi has in consequence fallen eight or ten feet, and is rushing with terrific force through the opening, felling all trees in its course. It will deluge the whole Yazoo Valley.

THE MISSISSIPPI TEN MILES WIDE.—The steamer Silver Lake now plies regularly between Burlington, Iowa and Oquawka Junction, the present western terminus of the Chicago and Burlington Railroad—a distance of nearly ten miles. The railroad track is at the bottom of an ocean of water for a distance of ten miles. This new steamer is now a regular railroad packet, connecting with morning and evening trains. Captain Willoughby reports that the shallowest water they found on Monday was four feet, and the river has risen half as much more since.—*Oquawka Spectator*, June 11.

SPREAD OF THE MISSISSIPPI IN ILLINOIS.—The portion of Illinoistown opposite our city, under water, was completely dotted yesterday with crafts of various descriptions, conveying parties to and fro, and engaged in rescuing goods from stores, and people and furniture from dwellings. The force of the current was much stronger than formerly, and yaws were frequently driven against the trees. A party sounded the depth of the water all the way to the bluffs, and found no point less than eighteen inches, the shallowest places being on the railroad tracks. The yawl started from opposite the foot of Market street, and went from thence almost directly east. Farther to the north, about a mile, five feet of water can be found for a distance of ten or fifteen miles.

The bridge at the lake was reported still firm, although there was water on it two feet deep.

Tom Winstanley, farmer, in the bottom, about four miles from the river, has lost everything on his land. Tim Callahan, farmer, has lost all.

Pappstown was a scene of constant fighting on Sunday, and several bodies of drowned persons had been picked up in that neighborhood.

A farmer on the border of Goose Lake drove thirteen head of cattle out to the bluffs, but they swam back, and were drowned.

The boat St. Louis, and another ferry boat, have made several trips from Mound street to Brooklyn, and the country, and around it, and returned every time with several families. The town of Brooklyn, which contains a population of several hundred, contained last evening only two families. The place is destroyed. Newport, the first sale of lots in which took place some weeks ago, cannot be seen. One of the ferry boats started on a trip of relief in the direction of Alton, and was to return last evening.

From the top of the "Big Mound," a wonderful view could be had with a telescope. Brooklyn, or rather the tops of the houses, peeped from the surface of the waste of waters. The river spread away into the country, to where the horizon is hidden by a belt of trees. Further up the river, the islands had dwindled to a puny size. Water everywhere predominated. Water covered everything, or surrounded everything.—*St. Louis Democrat*, June 15.

REPUBLICANISM IN VIRGINIA.—The spring election in Hancock county, Virginia, was closely contested between the Lecompton and anti-Lecompton forces. The County Clerk elected is a Republican, and his majority was 180. Mr. Buchanan carried the county in 1856 by 150 majority.

ROWDYISM.—During the session of Congress just closed, no less than five personal altercations have taken place between members, viz.: Grow and Keitt, Clay and Cullom, Hughes and Harris, Davis and Benjamin, and Gwin and Wilson. It is pleasant to be able to state that nobody was hurt, though it is rare to see so much smoke without fire. Explanations have proved more efficacious than bullets.—[*Baltimore American*.]

## FRANCE.

Intense heat had prevailed in Paris and the vicinity, and agriculture stood sadly in need of rain.

A dreadful fire, which spread consternation

among the inhabitants of the Faubourg St. Germain, took place on Sunday, June 16, in the great establishment called the Grand Conde, which before the fire occupied one house in the Rue de Seine and two houses in the Rue l'Ecole de Medecine. It caught from bales of light summer stuffs, the gas meter burst, there was not enough water on hand, the smoke was very dense, so that the destruction of property was immense—of merchandise alone 1,200,000 francs.

The Paris *Constitutionnel* describes the difficulty which has arisen between Great Britain and the United States on the subject of the right of search, and concludes that both nations are in the wrong—England, because she seeks to "exercise a control over the other navies of the world;" the United States, because they "offer a plausible motive for the interference of which they complain, by engaging in transactions condemned by morality." "The state of things," says the above journal, "is certainly embarrassing. Were the other nations to be raised from the position of simple spectators to that of judges, would they not condemn both parties? For England has sought to raise an excess of power into right, while the United States, who justly claim the independence of their flag, abuse that sacred principle by tolerating the slave trade."

The Paris *Patrie* says that France does not now keep her ships on the African coast to catch slavers, but to prevent British ships of war meddling with French vessels. It declares such an attempt as watching the coast of Cuba as frivolous and vexatious.

## AUSTRIA.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Herald* says that events surely indicate the fast ripening of a misunderstanding between France and Austria; and the *Globe's* Paris correspondent says there can be no doubt that Austria is drifting into a war with France. The Archduke John, who possesses much engineering capacity, will organize on a grand scale the armament and fortifications of Antwerp; and the Duke of Brabant is engaged in a strategic examination of all the Prussian fortresses along the Rhine.

## ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.

From the London Times Correspondent.

NAPLES, June 5.

The eruption continues with unabated energy. Since its commencement not less than seven new craters have been opened. The four great streams of lava, mentioned in my former letters, continue to be fed by these mouths, and to descend the slopes of the mountain, varying their course more or less, according to the direction of the ravines they encounter. The progress of the two northern streams, which are fed by five craters, is slow, but continuous. One of these is directed towards the ravine called the Fosso della Vetrana, and the other towards the Fosso Grande, and the other stream, which is fed by a small crater more recently opened in the Piano della Ginestra, has already intercepted the old road to the Hermitage, thus obstructing the progress of the numerous visitors, who were able hitherto to arrive at that point in their carriages. Both the northern and southern streams have descended already to a very low point on the mountain, and have become very menacing. One of these was swelled by the lava issuing from the seventh crater, opened about noon on Monday last. The fiery torrent has destroyed several properties, consisting of forests, vineyards, and cultivated farms. It now approaches very near the new road to the Observatory.

The official journal of the 2d contains a report, addressed by the Director of the Meteorological Observatory on Vesuvius to the Minister of Public Instruction. The Director says that on the morning of the 30th ult., he went, accompanied by the concierge of the Observatory, near some streams of lava recently formed. Suddenly they observed enormous quantities of lava projected upwards with great force, accompanied by a frightful noise. In a few moments three most beautiful cones were formed, which continued to thunder and eject fire to a great altitude until a late hour in the evening. Similar phenomena were produced at the other craters, and finally the summit of the great cone itself responded from on high, with the most fearful rumbling.

The spectacle presented by the mountain last night (Friday) was unusually imposing. The wind had swept away the vapor which more or less obscures the fires, and the torrents of lava were revealed in all their terrific splendor. At times I observed the lava fall like a cascade of liquid fire through a considerable space, an effect produced by its encountering a transverse ridge over which it flowed.

THE LAST LEGISLATURE OF KENTUCKY deserves to be immortalized, if what the Lexington *Observer* says of it be true. It asserts that "the Speaker of the House was entirely incompetent to the discharge of his duties. The clerking, although it cost the double of any preceding Legislature, was so neglected and imperfectly executed that laws that were passed were never enrolled, and one law was enrolled and signed that not only never passed the two Houses, but never passed either House."

SERMON OF A QUAKER.—My friend, bridle thy tongue, to enable thee to remain quiet; mind thine own business, and thou wilt not have much time to attend to that of others, and thou wilt have many friends and few enemies.