

ing these "sacred books," the Judge merely listened to the tirade and denunciation of a certain bull-dozing attorney for the plaintiff, whose utter lack of conscience in making attacks upon the "Mormon" Church is generally recognized. If Judge Berry will read those books carefully, without the glasses of sectarian prejudice and anti-"Mormon" bias, he will find that they teach the very reverse of what he has judicially declared to be the "Mormon" doctrine and discipline. Also that his suspicions and the conclusions based upon them are not warranted by anything he can find in those books.

And we would like him to inquire within himself how it would be possible for any "Mormon" Bishop, President or Apostle to prevent a member from withdrawing from the Church if he chose to do so. Also by what process he or they could by "negative" such action. If a man chooses to leave an organization, whether temporarily or permanently, how can his action be prevented? Judge Berry delivered himself of a good deal more unwisdom than what we have quoted, on the "Mormon" question, but we have not space today to refer to it. We care little as to the issue of the matter, as we have no particular interest in the office of Sheriff of Bingham County. But we do not like to see the faith and position of the Church to which we belong misrepresented by any one, and we therefore protest against the misleading and nonsensical utterances of Judge Berry in the Third District Court of Idaho.

A WORD OF WARNING.

THE spirit of discord is not of God, neither is the spirit of discontent. The influence that comes from above tends to harmony and unity and fills the soul with satisfaction and peace. It is the spirit of production and life. Its opposite, which comes from beneath, promotes strife and division, contention and rebellion and spreads destruction and woe. It is the spirit of dissolution and death.

The people who have made a garden out of the desert in these mountains have accomplished a good work. The blessings of heaven have attended their earthly labors. Increase has crowned their efforts, the elements have been pregnant with fertility, the waters have broken out in dry places and the volume thereof has been augmented

as the population has become greater. Prosperity has smiled upon them like the clear sunshine, and joy and gladness have been found in their habitations, where the praises of God have been sounded and the voice of prayer has ascended in the morning and in the evening.

In the process of time strangers, attracted by the opportunities to acquire property created by the Saints who preceded them, have gradually settled down in their midst and obtained possession of lands which "Mormons" were willing to turn over to them for money. These persons have brought with them the spirit of the world as well as its ways and customs, its vices and its ambitions. They have also set their hearts upon obtaining control of this Territory and its people. To accomplish this a large number of them will stop at nothing that appears safe for them to attempt. Success in small things naturally emboldens them to attempt greater things. Their purpose is to divide us and by that means to conquer us.

We are approaching a crisis. The very atmosphere seems to bear a warning of it. The calamities of various kinds that are overtaking the world are indications of its advent. The spirit that is working in the midst of the Saints, leading to worldliness, recklessness, excess of pleasure, disregard of good counsel and of solemn obligations; the disposition to contend and complain, and believe evil reports and accuse others of wrong motives; the readiness exhibited to be swayed by invective and censure, instead of wisdom and principle, by sound rather than sense; to be captious, resentful, fault-finding and opinionated; and the lethargy in regard to many important things, spiritual, social and political, all mark the approach of troublous times, when "all things that can be shaken will be shaken, and only those that cannot be shaken will remain."

The people of God have been forewarned of this, and that which is to come should not take them unawares. But who are the wise that will see, and hearken, and be prepared to "stand in holy places and be not moved," when the Lord shall shake terribly the world? Is it not time that all who are called by the name of Saints should examine themselves and see "what spirit they are of?" Look at the history of the people called of God in former ages, note the causes that led to their downfall, and see if similar influences are not now oper-

ating among us tending to the same end.

We do not wish to act the alarmist. We do not believe that there will be any failure of the prime object for which the Saints gathered to this favored spot. But we cannot close our eyes to the evils that have been gaining ground, nor fail to sound a warning when we see troublous times ahead. A great change is needed in the course of many professed Latter-day Saints and it ought to be commenced at once. When any who are called by that name are so blind that they cannot discern the difference between the purpose of their friends and the intent of their enemies, nor behold nor appreciate the dividing line between the two hostile elements, it is a sign that Satan has had power to befog their vision and that they are upon very dangerous ground.

It is absolutely necessary that the Saints should be united in sentiment, feeling and action; that they cultivate kindness, brotherhood, forbearance, charity and peace. Contention is not of God; litigation is contrary to the Gospel law; revenge is of the devil; fault-finding brings discontent and leads to quarrelling and misery; indifference to the good of others, carelessness as to the public welfare, slothfulness in the performance of duty, are incompatible with the obligations of a Saint and indicative of a lack of the Divine Spirit.

In these times every man and woman who has "come out of the world" should be as "a city set upon a hill," and an example of the effects wrought by the truths revealed from heaven. Friends, we should all be promoters of union, contentment, pacification and faith. Let us not drink in of the spirit of the world. Let us not pattern after their ways. Let us not surrender ourselves as a prey to their designs. Let us not complain against God or man because of drouth or other trials. Let us stand by one another and maintain our civil and religious rights. Let us perform our civil and religious duties. Let all lethargy, indifference and carelessness be swept aside, and as a band of brethren and sisters let us rise to the position to which we have been called and be Saints in very deed. Then shall the evils of the age pass us by, the trials of the times only make us brighter and stronger, and the assaults of our enemies leave us more united and determined, powerful and prepared. And all the dif-