

pect no mercy, "judging the present by the long and bitter past." Some Utah people had the contract for carrying the mail. One hundred thousand dollars had been expended in stocking the road, which was all lost.

In the spring of 1856 I went to Washington with a petition to ask for the admission of Utah into the Union. It was well known in the States that the people of Utah had lost their crops the previous year through grasshoppers. We had, indeed, lived on half allowance of bread for a year, and it was believed that we must inevitably starve; and they seemed disappointed to find us in good health and applying for admission into the Union. The press of both parties commenced a universal tirade of abuse and falsehood concerning the people of Utah. We were unable to get any paper of prominence to correct these falsehoods, or publish anything that was reliable.

I returned to Utah on May 25th. For almost a year not a single package was brought into Salt Lake by the mail from the east. When it did come everything that had not been plundered had been opened. I have no doubt but the bloody extermination of our people would have been carried out, had it not been for the humane influence of General Sam Houston, of Texas, and Colonel Thomas L. Kane, of Pennsylvania, or some other miraculous intervention on the part of the Almighty. Brigham Young sternly and continually instructed, in all of his speeches and proclamations to the people and orders to his men, that no blood should be shed, and assured them if they would implicitly obey his orders that they should come off triumphant. Nearly all the desperate acts charged against the people of Utah occurred during this period.

Imagine the feelings of a people: the mail stopped; the best appointed army ever sent out by the United States headed, so reported, by a bloodthirsty "squaw killer," on the way to cut out the "loathsome ulcer." We had few men, and they were without arms and ammunition. This was decidedly one of the tightest places I ever saw in Mormonism. It was therefore determined to seize the hand that held the bowie knife, and hold it until the knife could be taken away; and this was done in a wondrous manner, without bloodshed. It appears, however, that in some of the distant settlements some men, acting under the spirit and influence of the Christian lessons they had received, were guilty of acts of violence. All these were magnanimously cancelled by a general pardon of the President of the United States, and a special pardon of the Governor of Utah, for all crimes and offences growing out of the difficulties; and there has not since been, so far as I know, the least violation of faith on the part of the people of Utah; although the federal authorities have not invariably maintained good faith on their part, but have, and are still endeavoring to disturb the peace of the community with difficulties of that period. Even your book, written with such apparent fairness, bases upon the extreme utterances of men, many of them extremists, a faith almost as brutal as that practised upon us by our religious trainers, the Christian clergy, and their assistants in the United States. Page 156 of your book says: "It is scarcely pretended that Brigham Young gave the order for the 'Mountain Meadow Massacre,' but he took no steps to bring the murderers to justice."

Now the facts of this are, President Young, who had been superseded as Governor by Alfred Cumming, requested him and United States District Attorney Wilson to investigate this matter. He offered to go with them; guaranty their protection, and use his influence for the arrest of every party desired; and that a fair trial be had. This was refused by the judiciary, notwithstanding it was urged by the Governor and Attorney, as an investigation of this subject would not bring the guilt upon those whom political and religious intrigues wished to criminate. We are still desirous for a fair investigation of this subject, but do not want it investigated before a religious bigot or political trickster. Let the officers who handle this matter be just, high-minded men.

On the same page your book refers to the Morrisites. Morris had gathered around him some idlers, who had stopped work, and were living from cattle on the range.

One of their number had apostatized from them, and had been sentenced by them to die. His friends, in terror, appealed to the United States Chief Justice of Utah to save his life, as he was imprisoned in Kingston Fort, held by the Morrisites, and would be killed immediately. The Chief Justice issued a writ of *habeas corpus*. The officer was resisted, his life threatened, and he forbidden to return on pain of death. The Judge, John F. Kinney, called upon the Governor for a posse, which were accordingly ordered. Mormons being the citizens, were of course called upon. Brigham Young, on hearing of this, visited the Chief Justice and remonstrated against this proceeding, and the Judge insisted that the majesty of the law must be preserved. President Young urged that they were a band of fanatics entrenched in a fort, who would fight, and probably many lives would be lost; but if they were left alone, in a short time, with their idle habits, they would scatter. But the Judge still persisted that the dignity of the court must be maintained. I visited the Chief Justice myself, not knowing of President Young's visit, and insisted that the move was ill-timed and wrong; and further, that it would be construed by our enemies as a persecution of the Morrisites by the Mormons, and was calculated to do us immense injury. The Judge insisted that this could not be; but the majesty of the law must be maintained. He could not allow those people to kill their prisoners, or threaten an officer of the court. It is therefore an injustice to construe this as a Mormon persecution. I am satisfied your reference to Burton is untrue.

Your account of the Mormon doctrine of blood atonement is, to me, entirely new. I have been in this church forty-two years, and have been acquainted forty-four years with its founders. We have had some extremists and some extreme men, but I never heard any one advocate the extreme doctrine you impute to us. The beautiful woman you describe as being killed by her husband I never heard of; she must have been a myth. We believe in the death penalty. Our territorial laws were enacted in accordance with our faith. Give the murderer his choice to be hung or to have his blood spilled on the ground. Utah jurors have refused to hang men who had killed the seducer of their wives or daughters. On page 140 you say, "Polygamy was revealed to Smith to meet some difficulties of a social character with which he found himself embarrassed." It is not so. It should read, The revelation of plurality of wives caused Joseph Smith to be embarrassed with some difficulties of a social character. He was a rigidly moral, virtuous and pure man, and nothing but a sense of the awful responsibility of disobeying the Almighty caused him to teach or practise a principle which increased manifold the responsibilities and burdens of men.

The Spaulding story is a myth, and exceedingly shallow. I am ashamed of the credulity of my fellow-men who believe it.

Murders have been committed in Utah; but on investigation these troubles invariably prove to be individual difficulties, and not unfrequently growing out of cattle and horse-stealing enterprises.

Had you travelled all over Utah during the exciting year of 1857, in the same kind, gentle and peaceful manner that you have done in the past two years, you would not have been molested.

I thank you for sending me the book. The references I have made have been very hasty, and in the absence of my library and journals. On page 91 of your book you accuse us, like the Puritans, of persecuting other sects. From the foundation of the church to the present, ministers of all denominations have been invited to preach in our pulpits. Men of all persuasions have done business in our settlements without interruption. When some of these business men whom we have made rich with our trade used that means and influence to induce the country to shed our blood, we withdrew our trade from them; and all the acts of violence that occurred during the war of '57 were done under a firm conviction, on the part of our people, that the nation had decreed our extermination, and not from a spirit of persecution.

My reference to preachers is not intended to apply to all, as I have reason to believe that some Chris-

tian ministers deprecate these acts of persecution, though I have no knowledge of any of them speaking out, either in public print or in the pulpit, against them. We have had professors of religion of different denominations as federal officers in the territory, who have been impartial, and not disgraced themselves and their professional honor by trampling the law under foot to injure the people; though as a rule the federal officers of the territory, I believe, have been bigoted tricksters, unworthy the confidence of their neighbors, and probably sent to Utah to get rid of them. You say, page 96: "I find it hard to believe that any educated man can have or have had a real faith in the inspiration of Joseph Smith or Brigham Young." What other motive than real faith could have prompted men to endure the persecution and suffering which this faith inevitably brought upon them? I find it hard to believe that any educated, honest man, with the evidence which exists before his eyes of its truth, can reject it. I believe that many who entered the church with a firm conviction of the truth have been induced to abandon it through persecution.

You certainly have as good a right to your belief on this subject as I have to mine. Not a single criminal connected with tarring and feathering, burning hundreds of houses, murdering men while trying to put out the fire of their burning building, the bloody scenes of the Blue, Haun's Mill, Crooked River, Goose Creek, the boasted ravishings of Mormon women at their meeting grounds, the murder of their prophets, the driving of tens of thousands of people into the wilderness and robbing them of nearly all they possessed—I have never known of a state or national court bringing one of those criminals to justice, but do know of instances where a Mormon court, Mormon jury, and Mormon officers have executed a Mormon for killing an outsider. Thomas Ford, then Governor of Illinois, in a letter to my father and myself, in 1844, said many of the people of the state regretted the manner in which Joseph and Hyrum Smith were killed, but were glad they were dead. Their murderers were admitted to bail for \$1,000 each, allowed to go security for each other, and of course were acquitted.

The weather is fine. There are one hundred masons and tenders, with seven carpenters, at work on the Temple building here. Ninety five quarrymen and twenty-five stone-cutters are at work in the quarry. More than fifty tons of rock are daily laid in the walls. Lime burners, wood, lime, stone and sand haulers and road-makers, lumbermen and lumber haulers amount to one hundred and twenty men more. The lumber and timbers are hauled sixty-five miles across a desert, forty of which are without water.

A portion of the road is now almost impassable from mud. The walls of the building are about forty feet high.

GEO. A. SMITH.

—New York Post.

INFORMATION WANTED. —Rasmus Hansen, of Grantsville, Tooele Co., Utah, would like to learn the whereabouts of Frederic Neilson. Both left Denmark in 1862.

IMPORTANT TO THE TRAVELING PUBLIC.

It is the duty of all persons before starting on a journey to ascertain by what route they can reach their destination with the least trouble, and if there are two or more roads leading to the same point, to decide which is the safest and pleasantest to travel.

We take pleasure in stating, that the CHICAGO & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY is the oldest, and several miles the shortest, route between Omaha and Chicago. Within the past two years the road bed has been put in admirable condition, and almost the entire line has been re-laid with steel rails.

The Depot in Chicago is centrally located, and as their trains arrive there thirty minutes in advance of all other lines, passengers can always be sure of making Eastern connections.

Close connections are made at Chicago with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, Michigan Central, Baltimore & Ohio, Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago, Kankakee Line

SCHUTTLER WAGONS!

Buckeye Reapers, Buckeye Mowers,

FURST & BRADLEY

SULKY RAKES,

Elward Harvesters,

SWEEPSTAKES THRESHERS.

The "SCHUTTLER WAGON" is the Strongest and Best Proportioned Wagon made, and is fully Warranted.

The "BUCKEYE MACHINE," either as Self-Raker, Dropper or Mower, will give better satisfaction than any other machine manufactured.

The "FURST & BRADLEY SULKY RAKES" are simply strongly constructed and easily handled.

The "ELWARD HARVESTER," two binders standing on the machine bind the grain as fast as cut.

The "SWEEPSTAKES THRESHERS" are the leading machines of their class; they will thresh more grain and clean it better than any other Thresher in the market.

A full and complete stock of the above constantly on hand and for sale on **Very Reasonable Terms.**

Also a large and complete assortment of

Iron, Hard Wood, Wagon, Carriage and Buggy Materials, Plows, Harrows, Corn Planters, etc.

GEO. A. LOWE.

Office and Yard—One Half Block South of the Theatre, on State Road, Salt Lake City.

w15 s30

ANDERSON & GIRARDET,

GENERAL AGENTS FOR

ENLARGING LIKENESSES,

On Plate, in India Ink, Water Colors, Crayon, Pastel and Oil, in any Size.

All kinds of Pictures, OLD and NEW, from the smallest gem picture, or large Photographs, Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes, &c., copied and enlarged. Copies taken of groups, or one or more persons taken from a group. All work done in the highest style of the art, and perfect copies guaranteed. No advance payment required on orders for work. All kinds of Frames furnished to order.

ALSO GENERAL AGENTS FOR

Personal Reminiscences of Gen. R. E. Lee; Life of Dr. David Livingstone; Life of Gen. W. T. Sherman; Zell's Encyclopaedia and other Standard Works.

OFFICE—33 FIRST SOUTH STREET, 3 DOORS WEST OF DIN-WOODLEY'S FURNITURE STORE.

P. O. Box 674, Salt Lake City.

w17

and Pan Handle Routes, for all points EAST and SOUTH-EAST.

If you are going to Chicago, or East, you should, by all means, purchase your tickets by the Old Pioneer Route—The Chicago and North-Western.

You will find on all through trains Pullman Sleepers, new and magnificent Day Coaches, and the best Smoking and Second Class Cars now on any road in the United States.

Particular information, with maps, time tables, etc., may be had at any of the Through Ticket Offices in the West, or upon personal or written application to J. W. Irons, Ticket Agent, Salt Lake City, A. H. Earl, Ticket Agent at Ogden, or to J. H. Mountain, Western Traveling Agent, Omaha, Neb., or to W. H. Stennett, General Passenger Agent, Chicago.



DR. WM. H. GROVES

DENTIST.

Office—Second South Street, Salt Lake City, east of Elephant Store. Office hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FREE!

The "BOY'S OWN" is sent FREE for one month. Address BOY'S OWN, Box 233, Boston, Ms.

C. B. BURNHAM & CO.,

Late Greeley & Gale, ESTABLISHED.....1838.

Wholesale Grocers, ST. LOUIS, MO

w1

w17