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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

NOVEMBER, 1842.

Nov.—Monday, 21.—A council of the Twelve, namely, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, W. Woodruff, John Taylor, George A. Smith, Amasa Lyman and Willard Richards, assembled at the house of Elder Kimball, in Nauvoo, and decided by unanimous acclamation that the printing of the Millennial Star, and all other publications in England, relating to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, be suspended on the return of Elder Parley P. Pratt, from that country, until further instructions from the quorum; and that the foregoing minutes be forwarded to Elder Pratt, or to the Editor of the "Star" which was done by letter from the President and Clerk of the council.

Tuesday, 22.—I arrived at home, after a pleasant out, in good health and spirits.

Wednesday, 23.—At home all day.

Thursday, 24.—By report of the papers, the island of Madeira was visited by a dreadful storm. The summer was hot and weather fine till the 15th, when the rain commenced falling heavily and continued to the 24th at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, the water fell in torrents, the sky became dark, the streets in the capital became inundated, and the affrighted inhabitants in town and country fled to the mountains, upwards of 200 houses were destroyed at Funchal, and much corn and wine. The damage to lives, houses, and crops on the island, and boats in the harbors was incalculable.

Saturday, 26.—At home in the morning, at 10 met in city council, which resolved that the inscription for the seal to be prepared for the Municipal Court of this city shall consist of a circle, including the words "Municipal Court, City of Nauvoo," within which is to be a book circled with rays, on which is to be inscribed the words "Constitution and Charter."

Wrote as follows:—

"Nauvoo, November 26, 1842.

Horace R. Hotchkiss, Esq.—Dear Sir:—Yours of the 8th instant, to S. Rigdon, has been received, and in consequence of his not knowing any thing concerning the matters therein mentioned, nor being in any way connected or interested in my affairs, he of course has handed the letter to me, which I shall proceed to answer.

And, sir, permit me to say on the subject of the deal between myself, as Trustee in Trust for the Church of Latter Day Saints, and you, that I am as anxious as ever to have the contract continue good between us, and to meet the obligations specified in the contract. I am not, neither have I ever been wishful to shrink from it in any manner whatever, but intend to make payments as fast as my circumstances will admit.

But, sir, you are not unacquainted with the extreme hardness of the times and the great scarcity of money, which put it out of my power to meet all the payments as they fell due, and which has been the only cause of any failure on my part, and should you feel disposed not to press the payments, but offer a lenity equivalent to the state of the times, then, sir, I shall yet endeavor to make up the payments as fast as possible, and consider the contract still good between us.

I would here say that when I found it necessary to avail myself of the benefits of the Bankrupt Law, I knew not but that the law required of me to include you amongst the list of my creditors, notwithstanding the nature of the contract between us, this explains the reason of my doing so.

I have since learned from a decision of the Judge of the Supreme Court that it was not necessary, and that the law has no jurisdiction over such a contract, consequently as I have before stated I am disposed to hold it, provided you will not press the payments. Under these circumstances I consider it unnecessary to give you the information required in your letter, in regard to the number and kind of houses on the land, &c.

I shall expect to hear from you again soon. In regard to your having wrote to me some few weeks ago, I will observe that I have received no communication from you for some months back; if you wrote to me, the letter has been broke open and detained no doubt; as has been the case with a great quantity of letters from my friends of late, and especially within the last three months.

Few if any letters for me can get through the Post Office in this place and more particularly letters containing money, and matters of much importance: I am satisfied that S. Rigdon and others connected with him have been the means of doing incalculable injury not only to myself but to the citizens in general; and, sir, under such a state of things, you will have some idea of the difficulties I have to encounter, and the censure I have to bear through the unjust conduct of that man and others, whom he permits to interfere with the Post Office business. Having said so much I must close for the present.

You will hereby understand my feelings upon the subject, and the reasons of the course I have hitherto pursued.

With sentiments of due respect, I remain as ever, Yours respectfully, JOSEPH SMITH.

P. S.—Should it suit you better, I am ready on my part to renew the contract, and would prefer it. J. S."

In the evening went to see President Brigham Young in company with Dr. Richards, he was suddenly and severely attacked with disease with strong symptoms of apoplexy, which was followed immediately with laying on of hands and prayer accompanied with the use of herbs; profuse vomiting and purging followed, which were favorable indications: although few so violently attacked ever survive long, yet the brethren were united in faith, and we had firm hopes of his recovery.

Sunday, 27.—At home, except visiting President Young who remained extremely sick.

Monday, 28.—At home all day, charges of an unequal distribution of provisions, giving more iron and steel tools to Reynolds Cahoon's sons than to others, giving short measure of wood to Father Huntington; also letting the first course of stone around the Temple to the man who would do it for the least price, &c., having been instituted by the Stone cutters against the Temple committee, viz., Cahoon and Higbee.

I requested the parties to appear at my house this day to have the difficulties settled by an investigation before myself and Counselor William Law. President Hyrum Smith acted as council for the defendants, and Elder Henry G. Sherwood for the accusers. The hearing of testimony lasted until about four o'clock, at which time the meeting adjourned for half an hour. On coming together again, President Hyrum addressed the brethren at some length showing the important responsibility of the committee, also the many difficulties they had to contend with. He advised the brethren to have charity one with another, and be united, &c., &c. Elder Sherwood replied to President Hyrum's remarks. President Hyrum explained some remarks before made. Elder William Law made a few pointed remarks, after which I gave my decision, which was that the committee stand in their place as before. I likewise showed the brethren that I was responsible to the State for a faithful performance of my office as sole Trustee in Trust, &c., and the Temple committee were responsible to me, and had given bonds to me, to the amount of \$12000 for a faithful discharge of all duties devolving upon them as a committee, &c. The trial did not conclude until about nine o'clock in the evening.

Tuesday, 29.—In council with brother Hyrum, Willard Richards, and others concerning bankruptcy. Afternoon attended Court at the trial of Mr. Hunter, Grocer, before Alderman Spencer for slander. I forgave Hunter the judgment, but he was fined \$10 for contempt of Court.

Wednesday, 30.—Morning in council in the large assembly room preparing evidence in the case of bankruptcy. Afternoon had Amos Davis brought before the Municipal Court for slander, but in consequence of the informality of the writ drawn by Esq. D. H. Wells, I was nonsuited.

A severe storm of snow, rain, and wind is reported to have been experienced at Boston this day and evening, doing much damage to the ships and wharves.

Thursday, December 1, 1842.—Emma was sick which occupied some of my time, visited George A. Smith and Brigham Young who were sick, called at Mr. Angel's, in company with Elder Richards, to give some council concerning a sick sister. Called on William W. Phelps to get the historical documents, &c., after which I commenced reading and revising history.

Extract of a letter from Orrin Porter Rockwell superscribed to N. K. Whitney, dated Philadelphia, December 1, 1842, whether he had gone to escape the hands of those who sought his life in Missouri.

"Dear brother Joseph Smith, I am requested by our friend Orrin Porter to drop a few lines informing you that he is in this place, his health is good, but his spirits are depressed, caused by his being unable to obtain employment of any kind, he has applied in different parts of the city and country, but all without success, as farmers can get persons to work from sunrise till dark, for merely what they eat—he is most anxious to hear from you and wishes you to see his mother and children and write all particulars, how matters and things are, and what the prospects are—I pity him from the bottom of my heart—his lot in life seems marked with sorrow, bitterness and care—he is a noble generous friend, but you know his worth, any comments from me would be superfluous, he will wait in this place until he hears from you—please write immediately as 'twill be a source of great comfort to him to hear."

If Joseph is not at home, brother Whitney will be kind enough to write—he says every other one he has come across has been afraid of their shadows, and he watches them well—he comes to see me every day, and I keep him a close prisoner! but he does not complain of my cruelty, or being hard hearted, but when with me seems resigned to whatever punishment I may see proper to inflict, but he takes it in good part. Answer this as soon as received.

Yours truly, S. ARMSTRONG, for Orrin Porter.

Friday, 2.—Sat as Mayor on trial of Amos Davis, who was fined in the sum of \$25 for breach of city ordinance for selling spirits by the

small quantity. In the evening called on Elder Richards and Bishop Whitney to take an appraisal of the Printing Office establishment, preparatory to a lease to Elders Taylor and Woodruff for the term of five years.

Saturday, 3.—Called at the Printing Office several times. In the afternoon attended the Municipal Court in the case of Amos Davis for breach of city ordinance, &c.

Sunday, 4.—The weather being very wet I remained at home all day.

The High Council of Nauvoo met, heard, accepted, and adopted the report of their committee, for dividing the city into ten Wards, for transacting church business as follows:—

The First Ward is bounded on the north by the city boundary line, and on the south by Brattle street.

The Second Ward is bounded on the north by Brattle street or the First Ward, and on the south by Carlos street or the Third Ward.

The Third Ward is bounded on the north by Carlos street or the Second Ward, and on the south by Joseph street or the Fourth Ward.

The Fourth Ward is bounded on the north by Joseph street or the Third Ward, and on the south by Cutler street or the Fifth Ward.

The Fifth Ward is bounded on the north by Cutler street or the Fourth Ward, and on the south by Mulholland street.

The Sixth Ward is bounded on the west by the Mississippi river, and on the east by Main street, or the Seventh Ward.

The Seventh Ward is bounded on the west by Main street or the Sixth Ward, and on the east by Durfee street or the Eighth Ward.

The Eighth Ward is bounded on the west by Durfee street or the Seventh Ward, and on the east by Robinson street or the Ninth Ward.

The Ninth Ward is bounded on the west by Robinson street or the Eighth Ward, and on the east by Green street or the Tenth Ward.

The Tenth Ward is bounded on the west by Green street or the Ninth Ward, and on the east by the city boundary line.

Monday, 5.—In the morning attended in council with brother Hyrum and others on bankruptcy, making an inventory of our property, and schedule of our liabilities. That we might be prepared to avail ourselves of the laws of the land as did others. Afternoon had conversation with brother Gheen. In the evening attended the Masonic Lodge.

Tuesday, 6.—Attended the trial of an appealed case of Amos Davis before the Municipal Court. Judgment confirmed.

Wednesday, 7.—Dined with Elder Orson Hyde and family. Elder Hyde has this day returned home from his mission to Jerusalem, his presence was truly gratifying, spent the day with Elder Hyde and drawing wood.

Thursday, 8.—Spent the day at home, received a visit from Elder Hyde and wife.

This day Thomas Ford, Governor of Illinois, in his inaugural address to the Senate and House of Representatives, remarked that a great deal has been said about certain charters granted to the people of Nauvoo. These charters are objectionable on many accounts, but particularly on account of the powers granted. The people of the State have become aroused to the subject, and anxiously desire that these charters should be modified so as to give the inhabitants of Nauvoo no greater privileges than those enjoyed by others of our fellow citizens.

Hints and Hits.

SHORT BUSINESS VISITS.—IDLENESS IN STORES AND OTHER PLACES OF BUSINESS.—A correspondent complains that some of his customers, who are very valuable to him, are nevertheless in the habit of lingering in his establishment for hours at a time, much to his annoyance. He cannot treat them with discourtesy, and has no inclination so to do. But he thinks that a hint or two as to the policy of short visits on business, especially when others require a fair degree of attention, would not only prove serviceable in his case, but in a general sense.

The error alluded to is a serious one, and it prevails to a very great extent. There are some people who fancy that others have little or nothing to do. They stop them in the street during business hours and attempt to get up a long conversation on trifling matters—they visit their stores and lounge on their desks and counters—they repeat silly stories that have been told a dozen times before—and still worse, they pry into matters with which they have no concern, and thus not only annoy and vex, but inflict absolute injury.

A friend who keeps a leading store at one of our prominent corners, informs us that he has lost quite a number of customers, in consequence of the almost perpetual presence of idlers and loafers, who stare with rude impudence and who will not take any of the many gentlemanly hints that he has ventured to give them. He does not like to turn them out absolutely, but he assures us that he not only suffers in his feelings but his business. Some of them may mean no harm, but the effect is not the less pernicious. A man of common sense, and a gentleman, could readily imagine the indelicacy of standing beside the counter of a bookstore, with a lady making application for publications, either for herself or a member of her family. Nay, we know of a case, in

which a young man, who kept a store for the sale of works, was absolutely ruined in the manner described. He lacked the moral courage to send away idlers who infested his establishment, and the consequence was, that all his customers left him.

But as a general rule, a visit of business should be brief, especially when other parties are to be consulted with, or waited upon. When, too, any matter, private or confidential, is in progress, everything like curiosity should be regarded as ill-timed or impertinent.

It is quite a common occurrence for an idler to step into a room, and exclaim, "are you engaged?" seeing, at the same time, two or three persons busily occupied, and hence such a question being altogether unnecessary. But even when an affirmative answer is given, he will take a seat coolly, pick up a newspaper, and attempt to listen to all that is passing. Nay, he will venture ever and anon, to throw in a remark, as if he were the party concerned, and as if his affairs were the topics under consideration.—[Ex.]

HOW TO EDUCATE A MAN OF BUSINESS.—In the education of a business man, it must never be forgotten that his future life will be a life of action, and not of study. Great care must therefore, be taken that the health be not impaired in a strife for useless honors, that the feelings be not suffered to grow over sensitive in recluse contemplation, nor the mind lose its spring and electricity under a load of cumbersome and unpractical learning.

It has been said that at least one fourth of the students of colleges leave them with impaired health; full one-half are too sensitive to bear the rude jostlings of the world; and, perhaps, two-thirds of the balance have some defect that would seriously mar their happiness and usefulness. A collegiate education cannot be recommended, and if attainable, is not desirable. A counting house is the business man's college. When the youth has finished his course of preparatory education, at a school or private seminary, under the charge of an instructor, who teaches as much by conversation as by a prescribed course, he should go into a counting house, where he will learn order, method, obedience, and acquire a knowledge of life and the business of life. It is there that he will learn the value of time and the value of money, two very important things to know. Whatever of conceit he may have brought from the village academy is soon rubbed out of him. He learns to obey, to submit and to be patient—to endure reproof without anger, and to bear contradictions with good humor. He is obliged to keep his wits about him, to decide quickly, to have accurate eyes, and truthful ears, and to learn that there are just sixty minutes in an hour.

A counting house education will be of advantage to every man, whatever his future education may be. A moral education need not be dwelt upon. This is especially a work of self-cultivation. No one's principles can be called temptation proof but those which are the result of logical conviction, and for which repeated sacrifices have been made. As ability to communicate varied and practical knowledge by conversation is a qualification that especially fits man to be a teacher, it should not be overlooked in the selection of one.—[Freedly's Treatise on Business.]

INFLUENCE OF A NEWSPAPER.—A school teacher, who has been engaged a long time in his profession, and witnessed the influence of the newspaper upon the minds of a family of children, writes to the editor of the Ogdensburg Sentinel, the result of his observation. He has found it to be a universal fact that those scholars, of both sexes and of all ages, who have access to newspapers at home, when compared with those who have not, are better readers, excelling in pronunciation, and consequently read more understandingly.

They are better spellers and define words with ease and accuracy.

They obtain a practical knowledge of geography, in almost half the time it requires others, as the newspaper has made them familiar with the location of the important places, their government and doings, on the globe.

They are better grammarians, for having become so familiar with every variety of style in the newspaper, from the common place advertisement to the finished and classical oration of the statesman, they more readily comprehend the meaning of the text, and consequently analyse its construction with accuracy.

They write better compositions, using better language, containing more thoughts, more clearly and connectedly expressed.

TO CLEAN WINDOW GLASS.—Take finely pulverised indigo, dip into it a linen rag moistened with vinegar, wine, or water, and apply it briskly to the glass. Wipe off and polish with a dry cloth. This method of cleansing window glass imparts a brilliant polish, and is far more expeditiously accomplished than cleaning with soap-suds or whiting.—[Ex.]

The Paris Monitor says that England has sent to the Crimea, since the commencement of the war, 80,000 men, and beside guaranteeing the \$20,000,000 loan of Turkey, and advancing \$10,000,000 to Sardinia, has expended \$80,000,000 in the prosecution of the war.