

EDITORIALS.

At the complimentary collation at the opening of the Walker House yesterday, the very best and most sensible speech of the afternoon was that made by Captain Selwyn, in response to the toast of the Chief Justice of the Territory, to England and the English. Considering that among the guests at the table were several of the chief federal officials of the Territory, and that the sentiments of most of them and the manner of their expression, in reference to the community at large, were harsh, coarse, somewhat passionate, and in rather ill taste, the temperate and judicious remarks of the Captain were exceedingly well timed, savoring much of the spirit of a man and a gentleman, courteous, sagacious, high-minded, and really, not professedly nor satirically alone, liberal. Though perhaps unintentionally, the observations of the Captain were certainly of the nature of a gentle rebuke of ungentlemanly sentiments advanced and spirit manifested by others on the occasion.

Captain Selwyn deprecated the bitter, prejudiced, bigoted, wrangling spirit manifested by certain parties. But more than that, in speaking of England as the land of cheap capital, he said capitalists of that country would be ready and willing to throw their capital freely into Utah to assist in the development of this rich and promising section, content with less interest than usual in this region, if they could only be satisfied that security would be guaranteed. This was a most important statement, manifesting the lack of confidence which is possessed abroad in the character of many who have to do with the administration of the law in this country, and especially in this western country. It is certainly a matter of regret that the character of ruling officials in this region should be so low in the eyes of substantial and clear-sighted foreigners, but such appears to be the case. The miserable petty ambitions of politics, in which so many officials indulge, are ruinous to their character and ruinous to the credit of portions of the country and of the country at large in the eyes of other nations, and we would exhort all officials, especially federal officials, to mind their own legitimate business, to attend strictly to their own individual official duties, performing them with unswerving faithfulness, having the welfare of the community and of the whole country at heart, and not let their minds be eaten up with prejudice, bigotry or political ambition, as some of them do, and do to such an extent as to utterly disqualify them for properly performing the duties of any public office, and certainly the responsibilities of such an office ought never to have been placed upon many who are clothed with authority.

We have known federal officials who have served in this Territory, and whose chief aim has appeared to be to create disturbances, to render the condition of the community unsettled and feverish, to prejudice the public mind against the community, to set the federal and local authorities in a state of bitter and vindictive antagonism. These same federal officials, had they been men of sense and decency, and had they gone about their duties in a prudent manner, could have built up and solidified the community, and been themselves respected and esteemed by all persons, at home and abroad, whose respect and esteem were worth anything.

We do not think it is to the credit of any official to be instrumental in tearing a community to pieces, in imparting to it, and to the public mind in relation to it, an apprehensive feeling of insecurity, and thereby doing all in his power to weaken the credit of the community abroad and to prevent the inflow of much needed capital to it. Any official who acts in such a manner is a deadly enemy to the community and to the country at large, though he may make the most grandiloquent pretensions to the contrary. We have had such officials, and there is no need for us to point them out, as they are already too well known. But we do wish, for the good of the Territory and the Union, that our present federal officials, one and all, would seriously ponder over the remarks of Captain Selwyn and act in such a manner that it would be patent to all that the common welfare, the credit of the Territory and the good of the country had greater weight with them than petty prejudices and political ambitions. We are jealous

of the good name of the Territory and anxious that the United States, each and every part of it, should have as good a reputation, at least, as any country on earth for security of life and property. This is far from the case at present, and so it will continue as long as personal and party prejudices and ambitions shall continue to overshadow respect for the rights of others and regard for the general welfare.

THIS morning, at 10:30 o'clock, the ground was dedicated and broken for the construction of the City water-works, at a point near City Creek, designated as the site of the pressure tank. There were present on the occasion, Ex-Governor Brigham Young, Hon. George A. Smith, Mayor D. H. Wells; of the City Council, Aldermen Isaac Groo, N. H. Felt, Theo. McKean, A. C. Pyper, J. F. Smith, and H. Grow; City Recorder, Robert Campbell; City Treasurer, Paul A. Schettler; City Marshal, J. D. T. McAllister; Captain A. Burt, of the police force; Surveyor General, J. W. Fox; W. J. Silver, engineer of the works; John Sharp, Superintendent U. C. R. R.; Feramorz Little, Superintendent U. S. R. R.; and Hon. Warren S. Snow, of Sanpete.

After the dedicatory prayer by Alderman Groo, the first shovelful of earth was removed by Mayor Wells, who was followed by Ex-Governor Young and the others of the company. Remarks were made by Mayor Wells and Hon. Geo. A. Smith, after which most of the company returned to the city, leaving the surveyor and others to prepare the ground for the immediate prosecution of the works.

Thus has been fairly inaugurated the construction of the city water works, which, when completed and brought into use, will be a very great convenience, long needed, both for domestic and other purposes.

Correspondence.

SPRINGVILLE, Aug. 24, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir:—I left Salt Lake City on the 14th of November last, in obedience to a call of the Semi-Annual Conference in October, to travel in the United States. I left Ogden on the 15th, in company of about sixty elders, going on their respective missions. We had a good trip across the Plains, with slight exceptions.

I spent a few days visiting friends in Nebraska and Council Bluffs. From there I traveled direct to Mentor, Lake county, Ohio, where I have a brother and sister; but they, like most people, know all they want to of "Mormonism."

While at this point I visited Kirtland. The town looks old and dilapidated, many old houses ready to fall, yet there are a goodly number of pleasant looking places, both in and adjacent thereto.

I noticed the house formerly owned and occupied by Joseph Smith, which had a very common sign (for sale). The Kirtland Temple is also for sale. This building, I was told, was sold on an execution many years ago for about \$60. This was the first temple built by the Latter-day Saints, and was dedicated in the Spring of 1836. It is 55 x 65 feet in the inner court. The outer court adds on about twenty feet more, and is two stories high, and I think about twenty feet to each story, finished with school rooms in the attic, with dormer windows. This house is built of rough stone, except the basement, the cornice, window and door frames. The rough or uncut stone was covered with hard finish or cement, and although it was finished over thirty-six years ago, I noticed only one place that the finish had ever fallen off, and this happened at the time of the burning of the printing office, about two years after completion. The building is in the hands of a man by the name of Huntley, of Illinois, and can be bought for about \$2,000. It is unused and has been for many years. A man by the name of Bond has the keys, and he waits on many strangers who visit there. He was very kind to me, as also his family. They were formerly members of the Church.

While there, I spent a night with Luman Carter, who was leader of the choir at the time the Saints resided in Kirtland, and is now a spiritualist. I also took occasion to speak of a remark that had been made to me by a lady, a day or two before, that a great deal of the prejudice that existed against the

church was because rumor said the "Mormons" were thieves. I replied at the time, I guessed a good deal of thieving was done on "Mormon" credit. I alluded to this, and Mr. Asa J. Bump, son of Jacob Bump, of Kirtland memory, and son-in-law of Luman Carter, replied that it was so, and went on to state that there was a protracted meeting of the different sects, held in the temple about 1847 or 1848. This meeting was held for nineteen days and nights. A minister of the Baptist denomination, named Weaver, presided. In the course of the meeting they got so warm, that they began to confess their sins. Mr. Darius Martindale confessed that he stole forty bushels of wheat belonging to E. Holmes, Esq., out of the mill, he being the miller at the time. His son, Cyrus Martindale, confessed that he stole a bolt of sixty-five or seventy yards of cloth from the bars at the woolen factory in Kirtland, also that he stole money from the pockets of Joseph Coe's son, while said Coe was boarding in his house. Coe spoke to him of his loss and Martindale accused his own nephew of the theft, and turned him out of doors, and he had to quit school in consequence. Another confessed to stealing some sheep; one man to stealing a plough. One man wanted to confess something, but concluded it was so heinous that they could not pardon it. Many confessions were said to have been made to the priests privately, in fact, the spirit of confession ran so high that Mr. Weaver, the minister, said they must stop confessing, or they would ruin the town of Kirtland, advising them to confess to God, etc., but at the close telling those who had not confessed that they had committed the sin against the Holy Ghost. Cyrus Martindale is now a Presbyterian minister, and a brother of his, now a minister of another sect, also made similar confessions. The above thefts, Mr. Bump told me, were committed while the church lived in Kirtland, and were all charged to the "Mormons," except the pocket money of Coe. Luman Carter and Bump's wife corroborate the same, also Mrs. Bond and Mrs. Hadlock, Mr. and Mrs. Norton Stray, also Mrs. Jenkins, and two maiden ladies by the name of Jones; all nearly agree in the same.

Now, Mr. Editor, was there a spark of the spirit of inspiration still lingering within those walls, that caused them to rise and confess those crimes, that at some future day the innocent might be exonerated, or did Satan overshoot himself in this matter?

I travelled east as far as Wyoming Co., N. Y. The inquiries generally made were, How many wives has Brigham Young? And where are the Mormons going to this time? As if it was a settled point that we had to move again.

On my return I stopped at Quincy, Ill. Passing up Broadway one evening I noticed a very fine edifice on my left. Turning the corner, I passed over to the next street, and on nearing the building, which proved to be a college, I noticed a large stone with a face neatly chiseled on it. This I was satisfied, on sight, was one of the 30 capitals or heads of pilasters formerly set in the Nauvoo Temple. On asking a bystander, I ascertained that it was. Whether it had been taken from its original position, and removed there as a mere curiosity, or for its sculpture, or for a relic of "Mormon" industry, or whether for the use of the students of the Phrenological Institution, I will not pretend to say. Let it suffice that it was there, neatly set up in the front of the building, a relic of the arduous toil of the Latter-day Saints.

From Quincy I went down to Hannibal and visited Bro. Edward L. Page, an old member of the church, who had staid back on account of poverty, but who expresses himself anxious to gather with the Saints. He has a wife and two children at home, and a son married, all anxious to gather.

From there I traveled up the St. Jo. road, visiting two brothers—one on and the other near said road; also stopped in Caldwell and Daviess counties, visiting family relatives. While at these points I gleaned some matters that I think best to communicate. Mr. Nelson Noah informed me that Milford Donibue was the man who killed Bro. Cary by striking him over the head with a rifle; he said he had heard Donibue speak of the circumstance at different times, and he acknowledged that he never saw a well day afterward, and Mr. Noah stated to me that he was fourteen years dying. He had eight children. One son was in Gallatin, county

seat of Daviess, at the time of the war, cheering for Jeff Davis, when he burst a blood vessel, and was carried into a house and died immediately. Another son fell down in the road and never spoke afterward, and died in a short time. A third was imprisoned for crime, and died soon after getting out, a fourth was shot by a brother-in-law, and died of his wound. He had six sons in all, and all are dead. One daughter is an idiot and lives with her mother in Gallatin. The other daughter has a large family, who have a habit of using on each other knives and other weapons. One grandson went to the timber for a load of wood, and was run over by the wagon and crushed to death. Thus three successive generations are feeling the wrath of an offended God. Bill Pennington, leader of the mob from Livingstone county, took a dose of medicine from a physician, supposed to have been poison, and died within an hour. Neil Gillum was killed by the accidental discharge of a rifle; he was the leader of the mob from Platte county. His brother, Tesse Gillum, died of paralysis, a confirmed lunatic. Dick Weldon died of delirium tremens (or snakes in his boots). His son was found dead by the side of the road with a hole through his body, my informant said, sufficiently large that a man could pass his hand through it. By gathering information from different persons all agree in this one point that nearly all have died by violent means. Many were among the bushwhackers of Missouri, and many have been found dead in the brush, or other private places, and what few remain are nearly all under the ban of the law, for bank robberies, murder, horse stealing or other evils. In fact, according to the information that I received, no people on the earth have filled up the catalogue of crime more thoroughly than the Missouri mob, even since our expulsion from the State.

I met a clergyman on the cars as I was leaving Caldwell, and in conversing with him a short time, although he was very bitter against the Saints, he said he wished to give them all the credit that was their due; and said they had done more to build up that country in the short time they resided there, than the mob who drove us from there had ever done. I also ascertained that the people living on "Mormon" lands will not give a clear title to such, but quit claims with reference to "Mormon" titles. I learned the same of lands at Nauvoo also. When interrogated as to whether we intended to come back and claim our lands, I replied, "Most assuredly we do."

I will not further encroach upon your patience, only say I arrived at home on the 8th of June last, in tolerable health.

Yours in the bonds of the gospel covenant,
STEPHEN C. PERRY.

PROVO CITY, Aug. 31, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir.—Yesterday, while coming from the city on the Utah Southern Railroad, I was somewhat surprised, after all that has been said on the subject of taking care of bees, to see a dozen or more swarms of bees in a field a hundred yards or more from any house, without any shelter over them to protect them from the heat of the sun, with nothing around them to protect them from destruction by the toads, and placed close together, which, in the opinion of our best bee-keepers, is also a bad plan, as bees should be placed four to six feet apart. I have also visited several places where there were bees and seen from one to half a dozen toads feasting upon them.

Those who take so little care of their bees cannot expect to be successful. Another plan, I am informed, is practiced by some who have the honey extractor, i. e., extracting the honey before it is capped over. I cannot say from experience, for I never do so, but from the best information I can get, it the honey is extracted before the bees cap it over, it will sour, as it is a well known fact that when first deposited in the cells, it is a thin, almost flavorless substance. It may be different in Utah from other places; I hope so, as it will be quite a saving. If any person knows how it is by the experience of a year or more, I wish they would let us know, for if the honey is just as good, and will keep as well taken out in that condition, I would be glad to know it as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

WM. D. ROBERTS.

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