

tagonistic to the Mormons. There have been many Federal officials in Utah who have been disposed to have friendly associations with the people, who have shrunk from the covert insinuations that they were prompted by corrupt motives. By using this and kindred falsehoods freely, and when certain results favorable to the Latter-day Saints have been brought about hinting that money had been used, a gulf for a number of years separated the officials and people of one class in the Territory from those of another class, and they lived, as it were, in two hostile camps, each suspicious and distrustful of the other and full of misunderstandings and heart-burnings. But while this despicable falsehood may perhaps have done injury (if in no other way it doubtless made the confiscation of the Church property appear desirable), it has had the effect to give us credit in the world for being better off than we really are. As public opinion now stands in this world of ours, to be thought rich is not a bad character to have. Poverty is looked down upon. A poor man has but little influence. Power accompanies riches, and the lies of our opponents upon this point have given us a credit that we otherwise would not have had.

The lying and evil reports which for many years kept the country aflame upon the Mormon question have brought much trouble and expense and many trials upon the people; but under them all they have thrived exceedingly well. Taking all in all there is scarcely a community which has been more prospered. The Lord has strengthened His people. He has made many promises and they have been fulfilled. The aim in fabricating and circulating lies about the people has been to destroy their system of religion. How signally this has failed the most obtuse ought to be able to see. But what has been the fate of those who by falsehood have hoped to destroy that system? Who among them has made money or fame? Let the long list be read, and it will be found that the most of them never prospered and have sunk into oblivion.

GEORGE Q. CANNON.

### THE OGDEN FIRE.

"Ogden is on fire! Send men and apparatus immediately by special trains," was the startling news received by Chief Stanton of the Salt Lake Fire Department shortly after 8 o'clock this morning. Instantly preparations were made to go to the rescue. There was no time to ask questions, no time to answer them. The arrangement of the details occupied but a short time. At 8:20 Assistant Chief Donovan and eight men with all necessary apparatus were on a Union Pacific special and three minutes later were being whirled toward the Junction city at the rate of sixty miles an hour. When the depot was reached there was a quick run to the corner of Twenty-fourth and Washington streets where Utah's most beautiful business block—a six-story structure—owned by the Utah Loan and Trust company and the Utah Investment company, was found in a sea of flames. Ogden's populace filled the

streets and the greatest excitement prevailed.

Soon after the departure of Assistant Chief Donovan and his men a second request for assistance from Salt Lake was received and soon Captain Morelon, six men and apparatus left over the Rio Grande Western for the scene of the fire, which started at 7 o'clock in the Utah Trust company's building, near the roof. Its origin is unknown.

The building was considered practically fireproof, but the flames spread downward and with a rapidity that was indeed cause for serious alarm. The upper stories were soon a mass of flames and all of the offices, libraries and valuables they contained were completely destroyed.

A strong wind was blowing from the canyon and for a time the safety of the business center of the city was threatened. The Ogden fire brigade was powerless and therefore the request for help from Salt Lake. Hand in hand the two departments worked as if their very lives depended upon the result.

At 12 o'clock the word reached Salt Lake that Frank Burt, one of the Salt Lake firemen, had fallen from a four-story window and that he had been killed instantly. Chief Stanton immediately telephoned for particulars and the reply came back that Burt was not dead but that he was being carried up the street in an unconscious condition.

Later a special to the NEWS says that Burt was knocked from the fourth story window by a piece of falling timber and that he was hurled head foremost to the ground coming in contact with a couple of ladders which broke the force of his fall. He struck the ground on his left shoulder and was rendered insensible but has since recovered consciousness and will come home with the department this afternoon.

An Ogden fireman named McIntosh, son of Judge J. T. McIntosh, is said to be fatally injured. While handling a line of hose the stream of water which was being directed towards the fire suddenly came in contact with an electric wire. The current was immediately diverted to the water, through which it passed like a flash into McIntosh's body. He fell to the ground apparently dead and to all appearances a victim of electrocution. The latest reports say he cannot live.

The fire raged until nearly noon when it was placed under control. The handsome structure contained numerous offices and all were destroyed completely. The Federal court room was located in the building, and a determined and successful effort was made to save the records. The court room is damaged only by water and not to any great degree. The Utah Loan & Trust company's banking rooms are safe, together with their contents.

The American National and other banks have offered all necessary assistance, but the company will not have to accept any aid as their loss is amply covered by insurance. The total loss is estimated at \$200,000. It is impossible to state at this writing what insurance other occupants of the building carried. The directors of the Utah Loan & Trust Company will

hold a meeting tonight and adjust matters. There will be no interruption in their business and they will rebuild immediately.

The building was completely gutted with the exception of the portions mentioned. Fortunately the walls remain intact and are not damaged to any great extent.

At 2 o'clock the following reassuring telegram from Col. T. G. Webber was received:

OGDEN, Utah, March 14th.

Deseret News:

The two upper floors of the Utah Loan and Trust Building and part of the third, first and second stories are damaged by water, though the walls are uninjured. Insurance fully covers the loss. The building will be repaired immediately. The origin of the fire is unknown. The bank saved all its money and papers and opened business this morning in the First National bank building. The district court records were saved. The Salt Lake fire department did noble work and confined the fire to the building.

The Salt Lake firemen were expected home on a special at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

SUCCINCT REPORT BY WIRE.

Special to the News.

OGDEN, March 14.—About 6:30 this morning a small blaze was discovered on the top floor of the Utah Loan & Trust company building at the corner of Washington avenue and Twenty-fourth street. The fire spread rapidly notwithstanding the building was supposed to be made as nearly fireproof as possible. It was a modern office building occupied by some of the leading law firms of the city and the district court. The Ogden fire department seemed unable to cope with the fearful blaze and asked Salt Lake for assistance. The Salt Lake department arrived here about 10 o'clock and immediately began work. They seemed to understand just how to go at it and in a few moments had the fire practically under control and at this hour the fire is out and the fire department has gone to their quarters. The damage is estimated at about three hundred thousand dollars, partly insured. Great dissatisfaction is expressed in regard to the manner in which the Ogden fire department handled the fire. Several firemen were injured, none seriously.

BY WAY of contrast with our mud and sleet and slush, we note that a Sacramento paper grumbles at the prevailing clouds of dust and demands the impeachment of a supervisor for failure to enforce street sprinkling.

THE LADIES who have been so urgently requested to remove their head dress in the theater have united in the malicious demand that the dude young man be required to comb down the modern cut of pompadour.

A MAN of Kansas City who either in fun or to "show off" gave the name of his dog as "Christopher Columbus" to the tax-collector, found himself rather overmatched in humor or smartness when the collector handed him back a receipt numbered 1492.