

a copy of the mittimus, which was refused. Messrs. Woods and Reid, as counsel, insisted that the prisoners were entitled to be brought before a justice of the peace for examination before they could be sent to jail. The constable to their surprise then exhibited the following mittimus:

“State of Illinois,
Hancock county.”

“The people of the State of Illinois to the keeper of the jail of said county, greeting:

Whereas, Joseph Smith and Hyrum Smith of the county aforesaid have been arrested upon the oath of Augustine Spencer and Henry O. Norton for the crime of treason, and have been brought before me as a justice of the peace in and for the said county, for trial at the seat of justice thereof, which trial has been necessarily postponed by reason of the absence of material witnesses, to wit: Francis M. Higbee and others. Therefore I command you in the name of the people to receive the said Joseph Smith and Hyrum Smith into your custody in the jail of the county aforesaid, there to remain until discharged by due course of law.

Given under my hand and seal this
{ L.S. } 25th day of June, A.D., 1844,
{ (Signed) } R. F. SMITH, J.P.”

REMARKS

By Elder O. Hyde, Tabernacle, Nov. 1, 1857.

[REPORTED BY J. V. LONG]

Dear brethren and sisters,—I arise to address you for a short time this day. I shall be as brief as possible and detain you but a very short time.

The last Eastern mail, I think, brought me a pamphlet or tract written by Elder Orson Pratt of Liverpool, England. Subject: “Gathering of the Saints, and building up the kingdom of God.” The whole matter is handled in a masterly way: free from blind obscurity—unchecked and unrestrained by fear, and untrammelled by the religious or political dogmas of the age. It is the product of a clear head, of a strong heart, and of an unflinching hand. In short: it is *Heaven’s Eternal Truth*. I do exceedingly regret having mislaid it, for I would like to send it to Senator Douglas with a request that he read it faithfully before he applies the knife to “cut out the loathsome ulcer.” Having read it, then, if he shall be disposed and able to cut, cut away and carve up to suit his own peculiar appetite, and that also of his friends. Will some person, having said tract or pamphlet, be kind enough to mail it to Honorable Stephen A. Douglas, Washington City, D. C.

But, let all men, however, know, that if what the honorable gentleman calls the “loathsome ulcer” be cut out according to his views and suggestions, the United States will be cut off from being a nation; and her star of empire set, and set in blood!!

The Mormons can hardly be made to believe that the United States intend to act in good faith towards them until they hang the murderers of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, and punish the murderous incendiaries that killed our men and burned our grain and houses on Green Plains, Illinois. Nor yet, until they punish Missouri, and cause the wrongs of the Saints in that State to be redressed. Whenever the United States Government shall begin its work of justice at that end of the Mormon question, it will find it not so vexed, nor yet so knotty as many complain of its being. And moreover such a course pursued by the Government, would tend to convert the Mormons to the belief that sincerity, good faith, and evenhanded justice towards them were the paramount considerations and rules of action of the federal government.

A few officials, so notoriously corrupt that they became frightened at their own shadow, ran away, having greatly feared that what they justly merited, might come upon them. An army is raised at their instigation to force them back upon us again, or some others, not the men of our choice, and to aid them to punish us for alleged crimes which they have trumped up. But it will be hard for the Mormons to bring their feelings to accept of any federal officers at the point of the bayonet, or at the cannon’s mouth; or yet while troops are about them or on their borders. The contest appears very unequal it is true; yet a wasp may worry a bear; and God, by his providences, has, sometimes, overthrown the strong by the agency of the weak. In that God do we hope for succor, and trust for strength and deliverance.

When we were driven from Missouri and Illinois, leaving all our property, except what little we could take in the hurry, there was no army sent to re-instate us, neither to punish our persecutors. Then thousands of our men, women, and children were forced away from their homes at the point of the bayonet, at mid-day and at mid-night,—in the burning rays of a scorching sun, and in the gloomy shades of a wintry night. Our Judges, Magistrates, Civil and Military Officers were all forced to go, and no army sent to reinstate them or to punish the persecutor and the oppressor. Oh, ye rulers of the land! Look at your injustice! When the innocent cried to you for help, when the persecuted, for conscience sake, implored your fatherly interference, and with tears of blood, said to you, “help us lest we perish” you then said that our cause was just, but you had no power. But now that the wicked and guilty profligate cries to you to protect him in his corruption and force him upon us contrary to our wishes, you find yourselves invested with all the power necessary to urge an unhalloved warfare against the very people whom you refused to protect. Oh Lord God Almighty! In the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, I ask thee to let the Arm and Sword of thy justice interpose, and decide this matter according to thy righteousness, and get to thyself honor and a name that shall never be forgotten.

It may be said that sovereign, independent States are different from a dependent territory. This is a door through which many specious technicalities are sought to be introduced in justification of the present action and former neglect of the general government. But ‘Mormons’ care nothing about such technicalities. They hold the Government responsible, and so also does the God of Nations and of Armies. Therefore, however strongly it may be urged that the general Government’s intentions are good towards us, this singular people will not believe a word of it until said Government shall redress their wrongs in Missouri and Illinois. What ever explanation may be given to the present movement of troops for Utah, is immaterial. It will stick to the present administration in its true light and character, like the mark of Cain, Nero and Herod; *A religious persecution against an innocent patriotic people who know their rights and dare assert them.* Though every ‘Mormon’ in America should be slain, it will only add to the enormity of the present administration.

As well might we be mad to believe that the student could solve every problem of Euclid who had never learned simple addition, as to believe the Government our impartial friends while they decline to redress our wrong. The conduct of the “Unjust Judge” towards the “poor widow” might raise the blush of shame upon our national cheek if the nation possessed as fine sensibilities and as much discernment as that unjust Judge. He saw that his own peace, ease and happiness depended upon his avenging the poor widow. And if the peace, ease, and happiness of these United States, in future, do not depend upon their redressing ‘Mormon’ wrongs, (though they in a not fear God, neither regard man) then the Lord does not speak by me. The nation will soon find out whether “wrath and indignation come upon the people in the shape of earthquakes, thunderings and lightnings, tempests—the waves of the sea heaving themselves beyond their bounds; and all things being in commotion, while fear comes upon all people.” The nations may have occasion to consider the treasures of hail and snow reserved for the last days—even the day of battle for the controversy of Zion. They may yet learn that the nation and kingdom that will not serve Zion shall perish; yea, that such nations shall be utterly wasted.

The prophetic glass before the eyes of the ancient Seers, brings the rays of Jehovah’s power to a focus, on this Earth, in these our days. For Kings and rulers to manage their responsibilities in these critical times, is an affair which no servant of God, truly enlightened, covets or desires. It will soon be known who are guilty of treason and rebellion against the only true Sovereign of Earth and Heaven. It may be necessary for the alien enemies to establish a precedent in relation to treason. Then the judgment with which they judge, may be dealt out to them in equal measure, pressed down, &c. We unto the world because of offences! They must come to try the Saints, and to establish a rule by which the Saints, in turn, may judge the ungodly.

The Kingdom and Government of God are the only legitimate jurisdiction that ever did exist.—All other kingdoms and jurisdictions stand before God in the same light that many divorces stood in the days of Moses. “For the hardness of your hearts, Moses wrote you this precept: but from the beginning it was not so.” For the hardness of men’s hearts, God has suffered them to exercise temporary jurisdiction. But does this temporary jurisdiction authorize them to oppose him when he begins to take to himself his great power and to reign. No! “The little stone cut out of the mountains without hands, will roll and fill the whole Earth;” while the great image will be broken and fall, and the kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of our God. Now, therefore, Oh ye kingdoms of this world! Resist the decree of Jehovah if you can, and if you will. Fall upon this little stone cut out of the mountains without hands and be broken if you wish. But know ye that the way of the transgressor is hard, and his final cup is bitter. God bless the meek and pure: Amen.

DISCOURSE

By Elder Lorenzo D. Young, Tabernacle, Oct. 25, 1857.

[REPORTED BY GEO. D. WATT]

I can truly say that I feel like a little child in relation to the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God, which are wisdom, knowledge and righteousness revealed to man.

I have been comforted while hearing my brother speak; his words have been truthful. His admonition has been good to the Saints and his exhortation has been such as we should all reduce to practise in our future lives.

When I stand before the Saints I can only feel to thank the Lord and bless the name of Israel’s God; why? Because he has led his people in the way they should go for their salvation. While contemplating upon the scenes the Latter Day Saints have past through and those through which the Saints in former ages have past, I discover that there is a striking resemblance between the two. Indeed they are of one family, they have embraced the same principles and are trying to carry out the doctrines taught and practised by the Prophets and by Jesus Christ our Redeemer and Elder Brother, when he said, the kingdom of heaven is like seed cast into the ground and some of it took root, but long since has the Master taken his journey into a far country and the vineyard has been let out to husbandmen, and thank God that we live in the time of harvest, because I always find the time of harvest more joyful than the seed time.

There is a great harvest to be performed and the Elders of Israel have been engaged in that harvest for many years past, and some of the wheat has been gathered out and placed in the garner of the Lord.

I have contemplated, while sitting here this

morning, as to what would have been the condition of the Latter Day Saints, supposing we had been let alone in Kirtland. Every meditating mind can contemplate at a glance the situation this people would have been in to-day.

Supposing we had been left to ourselves in the pleasant groves of Missouri, which we shall, thank heaven’s King, by and by occupy and none to disturb us—but the time has not come yet—I say, had we been permitted to stay there, could the Lord have fulfilled the words of the Prophets, which were spoken by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, concerning this people in the latter day? Verily no.

Suppose we had been permitted to remain in the city of Nauvoo, Illinois, could the words of the Prophets have been fulfilled concerning this people in our day? No. But the Lord, by his unseen hand and outstretched arm and by his wisdom, which is beyond the comprehension of finite beings, led his people to this place, prepared and reserved by him as chambers of safety for his Saints in fulfillment of the words of all the holy Prophets since the world began.

You that are acquainted with the words of the Prophets can remember that the Lord has promised, through them, that He would hide his people in the last days while his wrath and indignation should pass through the wicked nations of the earth.

What is the testimony of the Elders of Israel in relation to the situation and circumstances of the nations of the earth, where they have travelled for the last few years? Does it not portray to us the most horrible scene of suffering? Abominations of the lowest cast are practised among those nations that bear the fair title of Christian nations and they have sunk the deepest of all others in degradation, wickedness and wretchedness.

Is the Lord vexing the nations? Yes, and there is no place where the Lord could better secure his people than in these valleys, behind these towering bulwarks which his enemies cannot throw down; powder and ball cannot move them; behind these the Lord has securely planted his little flock where he has nourished and cherished it by Prophets and Apostles and watered it with the dews of heaven, strengthening it with manna, the bread of heaven, inspiring the hearts of his servants to give unto it that nourishment that is necessary to make it grow and prosper, until its branches run over the wall, and Zion becomes terrible to her enemies when they shall come up to war against her.

The Prophets have truly spoken of this day and looked upon it with admiration. When I call to mind that I have the honor of being a member of that church which the Lord Almighty has planted in the latter day, it fills my heart with sensations of joy and gladness which language fails to express or communicate.

My brother said his heart leaped with joy on the 24th of July, when the declaration of independence was declared. My meditations and sensations were, no doubt, something like those of the fathers who fought for the liberty and independence we ought now to enjoy. They were glad of the dawning privilege of worshipping God in their own way and of worshipping that God they chose to worship, whether it was the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, or none at all.

Did they not have to fight for that liberty? Yes. Should any of the sons of Zion fall in the contest for similar privileges in our day, thank heaven’s King, they will have the privilege and honor of sealing their testimony with their blood and of becoming martyrs in the latter day to heaven’s cause. Will their mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters have any reason to mourn because their son or brother has died a martyr to heaven’s cause? No, for they will wear a martyr’s crown, which makes it more desirable for us to go out in the defence of heaven’s cause and lose our lives to establish this kingdom and help to sustain it upon the earth, or to dwindle away in sickness, hunger and thirst brought upon us from the ungodly conduct of our enemies.

Have not a great many already fallen victims to their cruelty? Yes. Have not I seen many women and children consigned to the silent grave because of their cruelty? I have, and all because we are the friends of God. Were we standing in open defiance of the mandates of king Immanuel, would they be our enemies? No. They are the enemies of Jesus our Elder Brother, who has for a long time withdrawn himself, as he said in the parable when he compared the kingdom of heaven to a man who let out his vineyard and took a journey into a far country. Jesus has taken his journey, but thanks be to heaven’s King, to God our heavenly Father, he has said in these last days, “My Son, take to yourself the kingdom, because it is yours, for Lucifer has borne rule long enough on that planet; now you go to work and revolutionize that planet and purify and sanctify it from the wickedness and abominations that exist upon it, that it may be prepared and brought back to my presence.”

This is the work in which we are now engaged. If there should be a man or woman of the character that has been spoken of this morning that wishes to go away from this people I wish they would go. Every honest Latter Day Saint has felt and prayed and his prayer has been in the morning, at noon, in the evening and at midnight, that God would sweep his vineyard and purify it and prune it of all the dead branches, that they may be burned and blown away by the wind, like the chaff of the summer threshing floor.

Now, was it not the prayer of every faithful Saint that God would set his furnace in Zion and burn out the chaff and the branches which are withered up and dried, that nothing but the bearing branches might be left—the pure in heart—that there might be no jarring strings, no backbitings, slander, stealing, or any evil thing among the Saints of God who dwell in Zion? We have seen such things here to a certain extent. I feel glad in my heart and feel as though I could jump up and cry hallelujah and glory, like a Methodist,

because the kingdom of God is set up and given to the Saints of the Most High. The yoke of oppression is broken off and independence is given to us as far as is now necessary and required, that the kingdom of God may advance on the earth. Why not rejoice and be glad?

There are some appendages to all this, and one little item drops into my mind now, one of the simplest things in the world, that is, for the sisters, if they have not the privilege of knitting mittens and stockings, to go to work and make pieces of patchwork or anything that will keep the brethren warm that are out in the mountains. No doubt but we shall see tight times, but the Lord will guide his servants and his kingdom will prosper and every Saint will learn how to appreciate blessings when we have them; but there is no occasion for any person to be afraid.

There have been a great many things prophesied here in the way of common conversation. I suppose that a good many of the Saints think that when the old Prophets Jeremiah, Isaiah and others prophesied, they used to get down on a bench and kneel before the congregation, or get into a dark closet where they could speak through a knot hole and have their scribe write it, or perhaps, have a coffee sack covered over their heads and ashes sprinkled over that.

I have heard men prophecy here every Sabbath day, and in a thousand years after to-day, when we read over their prophecies, the prophecies spoken by the old Prophets will sink into insignificance and will be forgotten; even as the wonders of the last days, in gathering Israel, will throw into the shade of forgetfulness the mighty miracles at the Red Sea and in the wilderness, so it will be a thousand years hence, when we read over the prophecies delivered in the year 1857. Why? Because there is a great deal more pending now than formerly.

We now see our brethren called to go into the mountains and this people are expending much to defend the cause of Zion.

We acknowledge br. Brigham Young as President of this church; we have long acknowledged him as such; also br. Heber C. Kimball as his first and br. Daniel H. Wells as his second Counselor. This quorum constitutes an embodied power. Where does it centre? In the head, and it compares with the triune Godhead, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Are these three men, who compose the First Presidency, one? They are. God has ordained them on earth to fulfil his purposes, build up his kingdom, cast down Babylon, establish righteousness on the face of all the earth, cleanse this planet from corruption and prepare it for a dwelling place for immortal Saints.

Has not the Lord embodied all the priesthood and power of his kingdom in the head of the first quorum of his church? Yes. Where should the power of this people be centred? In that personage whom God has ordained to lead his people, and, as I have prayed myself, not that the Lord would tell me anything particularly about the armies of the enemies of God, but make it known to his servants Brigham, Heber and Daniel; that he would give such counsel to his servant Brigham as would be necessary for the advancement of his kingdom, the destruction of satan’s empire and the downfall of Babylon, the spread of truth and the universal reign of peace on this planet, until the land of Joseph is purified and the people of God return and go back with pure hearts and contrite spirits to Jackson county, according to the words of the servants of God, and build the great Temple of the Lord, according to the words of the Prophet Joseph.

Well, here we are, a free people; we are at liberty to go out in the defence of Zion, which we never could do before. The Elders have been to the nations and besought the people to repent and leave off their wickedness, to reform and be baptized and be saved, crying as John the Baptist did, “the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Had the nations opened the door to the servants of God to freely preach among them, before this time the gospel would have been sounded in every ear, and when that is done, Jesus says the end shall come. When the olive tree begins to put forth its buds know ye that summer is nigh. The stone that is cut out of the mountains without hands has begun to roll and it will fall on the feet, toes and legs of the image and crush great Babylon to pieces; by its power the nations will be broken.

I have long prayed that the Lord Almighty would destroy the nation that gave me birth, unless the rulers thereof repent; yes, I pray that it may be broken to pieces and become like an old vessel that is broken and thrown out to rot and to return to its native elements.

Let us keep the commandments of God and a I will be right. I want to say a word in relation to our present position. It becometh you and I to be valiant for the truth. All the Latter Day Saints have said, they are willing to stand up in defence of the cause of truth.

The old Methodists used to say, when they got up in the pulpit to speak as I have to-day, that they were ready to defend Zion’s cause at any risk. They knew but little about Zion and her cause and the principles of eternal truth. But they have been revealed and taught to us from the stand, Sabbath after Sabbath. No people have been blessed with the privileges of the gospel of the Son of God as we have.

We are free, for Christ has made us free, and the Apostle says, “whom the Son makes free is free indeed.” If you are free by the blood of the covenant, and have redeemed yourself by its requirements, see that you bring no spots upon your garments, betray not your trust, but be constant to the truth and stand a witness for it under every circumstance in which you may be placed.

Will the Lord give strength? Yes. and all the power, victory and glory we need. The Lord has courageous men and women in the last days, and I believe there is as much courage among the women as there is among the men. I want them to have courage enough to pray for their husbands