

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - SEPT. 19, 1877

"HONOR TO WHOM HONOR."

THE young people of Utah, rejoicing in comfortable homes and the numerous blessings which daily surround them in this once desert land, and the immigrants from various parts of the earth, who come here with almost the speed of the wind, cannot realize the labors of those who pioneered the way through the wilderness, the vicissitudes encountered in opening these wastes to colonization, nor the wisdom, patience and determination exhibited by the GREAT MAN who under Divine inspiration led, directed and perfected the march of modern Israel.

The Government and people of the United States are equally oblivious to the services in behalf of the nation, rendered by the Mormon Battalion in assisting to settle the war with Mexico, by which a large amount of Territory, including that now known as Utah, was ceded to the United States, and to the fact that the counsel and authority and patriotism of President Brigham Young formed the power which moved that Battalion to take its wonderful and successful march into a hostile country.

When the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum the Patriarch were assassinated for the truth of the gospel, it seemed as though all the powers of evil were combined for the overthrow of the Church and the dispersion of the people. No sooner had the Twelve, with President Brigham Young as their leader, demonstrated the fact that the body did not die with its earthly head, but was just as powerful as before the slaughter at Carthage, than organized efforts were made for the extermination of the Saints. But under the inspiration of the Almighty those schemes were frustrated, and the thousands who were compelled to leave their beautiful city of Nauvoo, rallied under the leadership of Brother Brigham, and, leaving their persecutors behind, travelled on till they camped by the shores of the Missouri at Winter Quarters.

It was here and under the cruel trials incident to their expulsion and journeyings into this frontier country, where they were surrounded by the savages that roamed the prairie, that the demand was made by the Government for five hundred able-bodied men, the strength of their camp, and naturally their main dependence for protection and to provide supplies.

There were no doubt some persons interested in this requirement who intended good and not harm to the persecuted and driven "Mormons." But the proof is ample that Senator Benton and others conspired in this to destroy the Saints. If the demand was complied with it was expected the defenceless people left would become a prey to the Indians. If they refused, it was arranged that United States troops should attack and punish them as rebels and traitors to the Government.

It was President Brigham Young who procured the enlistment of those five hundred gallant men and boys who turned their backs on wives and mothers, and started out to sustain the flag of their country after being denied its protection when hounded by ruthless "Christian" mobs. Their long and weary march, half fed and without water, over trackless deserts, and their services in Mexico, have been related; they are matters of history, and ought to win for them and the people of which they formed a part the admiration and respect of the nation, and should silence for ever the charge of disloyalty preferred against them and President Young so frequently and thoughtlessly from press and pulpit.

When the Mormon Battalion, after a march without parallel, entered California; Fremont was holding it with a mere handful of men, and it was through the reinforcement he received from these "Mormon" defenders of their country that he was able to maintain his position, and thus keep Great

Britain from seizing and appropriating that rich and productive region.

When the Pioneers, with President Young at their head, settled in the spot now made beautiful and attractive by this city of 25,000 inhabitants, with its private and public buildings, fruit and shade trees, commerce, wealth, conveniences and luxuries, the Stars and Stripes were unfurled to the breeze, and the houseless pilgrims who had been driven from the confines of civilization for their religious convictions, were still loyal to the flag of their country.

This was Mexican soil. The "Mormons" first took possession of it as American citizens, and held it until it was ceded to the United States by treaty. This service has never been acknowledged, but the nation has always been ready and eager to listen to any story, however absurd, repeated by characterless adventurers, which branded this people as treasonable and rebellious. Veneration for the institutions of our country was always taught by our departed leader, and to him, under Divine Providence the country is indebted for the services rendered in the Mexican war, the discovery of the mines in California, the holding of this Territory for the nation, and the opening up of the surrounding regions to civilization and development.

For all these labors the "Mormons" should receive that credit from the nation to which they are entitled, and those who now come to Utah and see this once bald and barren desert smiling with plenty, and dotted with thriving and growing villages, teeming with cattle and horses and the fruits of the soil, traversed by railroads and marked by telegraphic wires from north to south and from east to west, should reflect upon the work that had to be done in order to bring about these marvellous changes, and upon the wisdom, forethought, prudence, perseverance and constant watchcare that were manifested through the man now gone to rest, who in the hands of the Almighty was the presiding genius through all these labors and changes, and wonderful triumphs over uncultured nature, in the midst of so many forbidding circumstances. Let due praise be given to whom it is due, and to God be all the glory.

THE TREATY OF GUADALUPE-HIDALGO.

MENTION is frequently made among our people, and by those not connected with us who are interested in the affairs of Utah, of the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo. But there are very few who know anything definite concerning this treaty, and therefore many mistakes are made in reference to it. We have been requested to give some particulars in relation to it for the benefit of the general public.

The treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was a consequence of the war with Mexico. The war with Mexico was a result of the annexation of Texas. The Territory covered by that State was acquired originally from France, but was ceded to Spain in 1819 and formed part of Mexico after her revolt from Spanish rule. In 1836 Texas threw off the Mexican yoke and subsequently became a State in the Union. And in achieving independence, claimed, as an integral part of the new State, Coahuila, which, under the Mexican government had been united with Texas as one province. Mexico disputed this, and the United States offered to settle the matter by negotiation. The Mexican Government peremptorily refused, and war was the consequence.

Under the Texan view of the case, the boundary line between the two nations was the Rio Grande. Soon after Gen. Zachary Taylor advanced with an army towards that river, a body of Mexicans attacked a company of Americans on the east side of the Rio Grande, killed and wounded sixteen men, and made prisoners of a number more. This occurred April 26, 1846. It aroused the country. Congress appropriated \$10,000,000 for war purposes, volunteers were called for and sent to the front, and the army was divided into three divisions for a grand invasion of Mexico. The Army of the Centre was placed under Gene-

ral Scott, commander in chief, to march into the interior, the Army of the Centre, under General Taylor, to operate on the Rio Grande, and the Army of the West, under General Kearney, to cross the Rocky Mountains and seize and hold the northern provinces of the enemy's dominions. It was in this division the Mormon Battalion served, making that terrible march to Santa Fe, cutting the way through the Sierra del Madre, tramping the desert to the Gila, crossing the Colorado river, and the Big Desert of the Colorado, ninety miles without water, and halting at San Diego on the Pacific coast.

The war was successful. Mexico was thoroughly subdued. A series of victories brought the American troops to the capital of the conquered country, which was evacuated by Santa Anna and his thoroughly demoralized forces, and the negotiations formerly refused were gladly accepted. Ambassadors met at Guadalupe-Hidalgo, where the Mexican Congress had assembled after the capitulation of their capital, and the treaty was entered into which turned the territory now called Utah, as well as other portions of Mexico into the domain of the United States, and settled the boundary line of Texas as at first demanded.

The treaty was made and signed Feb. 2, 1848, by Nicholas P. Trist, on behalf of the United States, and by Luis G. Cuevas, Bernardo Conto, and Miguel Atristain in behalf of Mexico. It established "firm and universal peace" between the two countries, withdrew the United States troops from Mexico, restored all forts, castles, arms and other captured public property; fixed the boundary line of the two countries to commence in the Gulf of Mexico, opposite the mouth of the Rio Grande, following up its deepest channel to the southern boundary of New Mexico, thence westward along that boundary to its western termination, thence northward along the western line to the point nearest to the first branch of the River Gila, thence down the middle of that river to the Rio Colorado, thence along the dividing line between Upper and Lower California to the Pacific Ocean; and gave free passage to American vessels by the Gulf of California, and the Colorado River to the Gila. In consideration of the territory acquired, it gave \$15,000,000 to Mexico as compensation.

It provided that Mexican citizens in the newly acquired territory, should elect within a year whether they would become citizens of the United States or retain their fealty to the Mexican Government, and that if they did not so declare within that time they should be considered to wish to become citizens of the United States. If they remained Mexican citizens they were guaranteed the same property rights as American citizens. And those who elected to become citizens of the United States were guaranteed the "free enjoyment of their liberty and property, and secured in the free exercise of their religion without restriction."

It solemnly agreed to forcibly restrain incursions of Indians into Mexican territory; provided for the payment of certain claims decided against Mexico by a former agreement, and absolved it from all claims of United States citizens not previously decided; arranged for the prevention of unlawful imports and exports during the occupancy of the country by United States troops, agreed in case of future disputes to settle them if possible by negotiations, and in case of war to respect private and individual rights, to treat properly prisoners of war; and pronounced the treaty indissoluble by the state of war.

These are the points of the treaty given in brief. It contains no other provisions of any consequence to us or the general public. Arguments may be raised in regard to the scope and intent of some portions of the treaty, but it appears to us that they are sufficiently clear, if not wrested from their plain integrity, to preclude all dispute as to their meaning.

All the valuable territory now included in Utah, Nevada, California and the country immediately surrounding, became a portion of the United States through the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo. That treaty was made possible through American prowess, endurance and military skill. And it must not be forgotten that one of the greatest feats of that war of conquest was performed by the "Mor-

mon Battalion," in its wonderful march from the banks of the Missouri to the shores of the great Pacific Sea.

"MORMONISM" NOT SENSUAL.

THE last issue of the *Woman's Journal* contains an article entitled "The Death of the Mormon Leader," by S. W. B. It is unusually bitter and remarkably inconsistent. It has no good word for the great man who serves it for a subject, except that "he had energy and ability." It says he "lacked in every moral and religious quality which makes up a founder of a new faith;" that his religion was gross, sensual and utterly degrading, and that it had its "roots in the passions and was fanned by superstition," and yet it admits that "his followers were industrious and thrifty," that "they changed the virgin prairie into a cultivated garden," and that in all they have accomplished "we see the impress of his guiding mind."

Why will so many writers for the press descend upon subjects of which they know next to nothing? They simply display their ignorance and accomplish no praiseworthy object. Here are a people, admitted by S. W. B. to be "industrious, thrifty and energetic," and to have accomplished wonders in redeeming the wilderness and in bringing their friends from abroad, who travel with "military order and the precision of a regiment" and "enter upon their new home with the sanctions of religion," and yet the man who has led them to the accomplishment of these worthy objects has no redeeming qualities, and the religion which he taught and that influenced them in their labors is all "passion and superstition," a "monstrous moral excrecence" and "an accursed system."

A sensual people, governed only by the baser passions of humanity, could not have accomplished what has been done in Utah. Licentiousness brings physical and moral weakness. Lechery and labor are incompatible. The force, energy, skill, patience, perseverance, self-sacrifice, devotion and heroism exhibited by the "Mormon" people in all their travels, journeyings, colonizations, proselytism, temple building, and works of love for the salvation of mankind, the living and the dead, have proven to the satisfaction of all reasoning people, who know anything of their history, that principle and not passion has been the power that has moved them forward to the successes they have achieved in the face of a world's opposition.

Yet there are many, being unacquainted with the facts and having read nothing upon the subject but such unjust strictures and gross misrepresentations as those of S. W. B., who conscientiously think that sensuality and indulgence of passion are the chief characteristics of the "Mormon" creed. They measure us by their own standard. They cannot see in our marriage system anything but the gratification of carnal desire. Is not this because that is the prime motive which prompts them in their sexual relations?

A plurality of wives does not necessarily involve excess of lust. The facts do not bear it out. And if isolated cases can be cited which favor such a view of the subject, it cannot be shown that they are the consequence of our system of plural marriage. Its theory, teachings and influence are opposed to sensuality. They who revel in lust violate its rules, diverge from its path and lose sight of its object. It inculcates self-control, enlarges those responsibilities which are a curb on animal appetites, surrounds the matrimonial condition with the sanctity of religious influences, restrictions and obligations, and places duty before inclination and regard for others above selfishness and individualism.

This is a delicate subject to handle in a public newspaper. But if a journal edited by and written for the gentler sex takes it up, there cannot be any more impropriety on our part, than theirs in looking at it and explaining it openly. The truth is, just governs the majority of mankind in their sexual associations. Listen to the remarks and jests of men in the world when any of their acquaintances contract ma-

trimony. See the unnatural methods adopted so extensively in this Christian (?) land to avoid the consequences of cohabitation, to prevent that increase which is one of the primal objects of the institution of marriage. Consult physicians and physiologists on the nervous and other disorders to which women living in monogamic marriage are a prey, and get them to state truthfully the cause. Find out the secret patrons of the *maison de joie* and the haunt of the harlot, and learn that they are chiefly married men. Hear the great social curse of the country designated, generally, as "a necessary evil." Learn the nature and extent of those secret vices described by Fowler and regarded by social scientists as the great leakage of vital force, sapping the strength and vigor of the race. Travel through the world and feel the influence which surrounds the people of high and low degree, and say if the spirit of voluptuousness and sensuality does not enter into, breathe out of and pervade the body of humanity, particularly in the great cities of Christian civilization.

For this reason the truth in relation to "Mormon" plural marriage, its objects, its restraining principles, its self-sacrifice, its government of the passions, its diffusion of the benefits of marriage, in its most sacred sense, to that sex whose highest earthly joy is in the chaste delights of maternity, its cares and responsibilities, its enlargement of the affections and the capacities to plan and manage for the comfort, improvement and happiness of others, with the necessities it creates for the exercise of the highest virtues of the immortal mind, cannot be reached by the world at large; for, the soul steeped in animalism cannot comprehend the purity of the system nor understand the motives of its votaries, but judges them by the feelings that prompt the lustful mass of humanity of which it is a component part.

S. W. B. is greatly mistaken, both in the man and the principles she attacks. He was a religious leader with the loftiest sentiments. Our plural marriage is at war with sensuality and opposed to lust. And while it does not attempt to pluck up "the roots of passion," it trains the plant which springs therefrom, cultivates its blossoms and puts its pleasures to legitimate uses. And if some erring mortals who have accepted its principles and adopted its practice wander into the lower path of lust and licentiousness, they descend to the level of general humanity, and their grossness is of the world instead of the system that receives the blame, and which God has revealed for the purification and exaltation of both sexes, whom it binds together with ties of love that are holy, heavenly and eternal.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, SEPT. 17.

Desperate Fight with the Convicts.—The other day it was stated in the News that William Park and John Gordon, son-in-law and son of Mr. James Gordon were in pursuit of the escaped convicts, Eli Lee, Charles Wells and Idaho Bill, and had tracked them as far as the Big Mountain. From there they were accompanied by a sheep herder, and, turning into East Cañon they were met by David Micklejohn, who was sent out by Mr. Bryant, owner of the curly team, stolen by the convicts. The four men, on Tuesday afternoon, followed the tracks of the convicts, and at sundown they came in full view of the tent and cabin of Mr. Jennings' cattle rancho, about four miles from Heneferville, and there stood Lee, who immediately got his shotgun and called to the other convicts, who also got their arms and came out.

A consultation was held by the pursuing party, Micklejohn being strongly in favor of attacking the desperadoes. He agreed to lead the charge if the others would follow, so the brave fellow dashed forward, dismounted at sixty yards distant from the enemy. The fight now commenced hot and thick. Lee raised his shot-gun and called to Micklejohn to drop his gun, "I'll drop it on you," said the latter. Lee and he then had a shot gun duel, each firing two shots, Lee getting in the first. Park was wounded, by Lee, in the wrist,