

## SIMILARITY OF PAST AND PRESENT APOSTASY.

AN examination of all the apostate schemes which have been concocted for the division and overthrow of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints reveals the curious fact that they all bear the marks of a common origin. The lapse of years and the change of men make no difference in this respect. If the programme of the apostates from the Church in Kirtland, and that of the apostates in Nauvoo and that of those of later days be compared, the similarity is most striking. If they were the production of one brain, they could not be more alike. Even the language in some points is almost identical. In Kirtland the doctrine which Joseph had taught, the organization which he had perfected and the ordinances which he had administered were all divine, so said the apostates; but *he had fallen*, and was no longer a prophet. He had transgressed, they said, and because of this, his power and authority were taken from him.

The Nauvoo apostates took precisely the same ground. Everything that Joseph had taught and done up to a certain point, even including the acts and policy which their predecessors, the apostates at Kirtland, had objected to, was correct; but they affirmed that he had fallen, because of something which he had just then done. He began to teach false doctrine, they said; the possession of power had spoiled him, he had become so intoxicated by it that he did not yield that respect to others which was justly their due; in fact, instead of being the Prophet of God which he once had been, they declared he had become a tyrant. The prospectus of the paper which they started at Nauvoo stated that its publishers had, as their object in publishing it,

"To restrain and correct the abuses of the UNIT POWER, to ward off the rod which is held over the heads of the citizens of Nauvoo and the surrounding country, to advocate unmitigated DISOBEDIENCE TO POLITICAL REVELATIONS," &c.

"To advocate and exercise the freedom of speech in Nauvoo, independent of the ordinances abridging the same,—to give toleration to every man's religious sentiments, and sustain ALL in worshipping their God according to the monitions of their consciences, as guaranteed by the Constitution of our country, and to oppose with uncompromising hostility any UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE, or any preliminary step tending to the same," &c.

The cunning of these apostates is apparent in every line of this prospectus. Its writers knew the views of the enemies of the Church, and they artfully worded their prospectus to appeal to them, pandering to their prejudices, and thinking, thereby, to evoke their sympathies and to obtain their attention and support. Yet none knew better than they that to establish a "unit" or "one-man power," in the sense which they wished it understood, or to effect a "union of Church and State" was not the aim of Joseph Smith or the people of the Church.

In the *Expositor* itself appeared half-a-dozen columns of "Cards" and "Manifestoes," in the shape of a preamble, resolutions and affidavits of the publishers and their fellow-apostates. But with all these, they wished the public to know that they were still Latter-day Saints; in fact, the only pure Latter-day Saints; for they said:

"As for our acquaintance with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we know no man nor set of men can be more thoroughly acquainted with its rise, its organization, and its history, than we have every reason to believe we are. We all verily believe, and many of us know of a surety, that the religion of the Latter-day Saints, as originally taught by Joseph Smith, which is contained in the Old and New Testaments, Book of Covenants, and Book of Mormon, is verily true; and that the pure principles set forth in those books are the immutable and eternal principles of Heaven, and speak a language which when spoken in truth and virtue sinks deep into the heart of every honest man."

We never look for consistency in apostates from this Church; for of all people, they are the most illogical and inconsistent. The prospectus of the *Expositor* and the contents of its first and only number are but fair specimens of this inconsistency. In one breath calling Joseph a prophet, the doctrine and religion which he taught the immutable and eternal principles of heaven, and in the next denouncing him as guilty of everything that is low and vile, and clamoring for his blood! Napoleon, we believe, it was who said that there was only one step from the sublime to the ridiculous. We never knew an apostate from this Church to undertake to defend his own course and to assail the presiding authority in the Church who did

not take this step. A complete illustration of this is afforded in the case of these apostates at Nauvoo; yet, the language and conduct of men of this class were the same previous to those days, are the same to-day and will be so as long as Satan can entrap dupes and make them his willing tools.

The publishers of the *Expositor* were seven in number, and around them rallied the corrupt and the disaffected to the number of nearly as many more. They probably did not number twenty, all told, yet they had the cool assurance to try and persuade the people that they were the Church, and while claiming the doctrines which God had revealed through Joseph as their own, they declared that he and those who followed him were all wrong, and that if they ever did get right, it would have to be through their reforming and reconstructing agency! They were not apostates; Oh, no. It is true, they had been cut off from the Church; but what difference did that make with men who believed the religion of the Latter-day Saints as "originally taught?" How curiously history repeats itself! They only said what other apostates, years previously, had said, and what other apostates, years subsequently, are saying to-day; and doubtless what apostates will iterate and reiterate in years to come; that is, if men continue to yield to corrupt and iniquitous influences.

Among the advertisements in the *Expositor* was one, which, to the uninitiated, was full of gushing philanthropy. The publishers did not say that the *Expositor* was "no personal speculation;" but two of them did what they thought would be equally effective: William and Wilson Law, who as merchants and millers had fleeced the people and defrauded them by means of false scales in their mill, offered to grind the grist of the needy Saints one day in the week toll-free! But even this philanthropic dodge failed. With all their efforts they never secured enough followers to make it difficult for a child to count their number on his fingers. The whole scheme collapsed, and all their belief and knowledge "of a surety that the religion of the Latter-day Saints is verily true," suddenly disappeared, to be heard of no more.

## Correspondence.

AMERICAN FORK, December, 7th, '69.

*Editor Deseret News.*—Sir:—Last week we had a very interesting meeting for the purpose of taking into consideration whether it would be better to pay a tax to raise means to pay our school teachers, and thereby keep our schools running in a manner that all our children, rich or poor, may be provided with an education becoming that of Latter-day Saints, and notwithstanding that some thought they had no right to be taxed for such a purpose, a sufficient number of votes were gained to set the thing in motion, and now our School Trustees are determined that no pains shall be spared on their part to see that good and efficient teachers are provided.

The common rudiments of education are not the only things occupying the minds of the people here, but everything they believe they have a right to know they are striving to make themselves acquainted with. Colonel Washburne Chipman has opened a military school, which is running in very good order and bids fair to be a benefit to the militia of this place.

Music is receiving considerable attention here. Our brass band, under the leadership of Bro. William Grant, is a credit to this or any other country. Our choir numbers about twenty members, nearly all music readers, so that with them there is no difficulty in keeping pace with the times. There is another class of juveniles, numbering forty, whose ages range from eight to eighteen, who have been under the care of Ebenezer Hunter, leader of the choir, meeting once a week for four months, and now are able to take ordinary hymn tunes and sing at first sight; they are taught free of charge. In addition to this every effort is used by our enterprising and energetic Bishop to provide them with books, free of cost, so that nothing may stand in the way of this place being made able to cope with any other settlement in the mountains.

BASSO.

## A VISIT TO BEAR LAKE.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 6, 1869.

*Editor Deseret News.*—Dear Sir:—The late call of missionaries to settle in Bear

Lake Valley has caused many to feel an interest in that locality, hence a brief description of that section of the Territory may not be undesirable to some of your readers.

On the journey, by what is called the Northern or Cache Valley, road, there is much in the scenery to gratify the admirer of the grand and sublime in nature. Shortly after leaving Franklin the traveler enters a country of undulating slopes and rolling hills that stretch away all around as far as the rising grounds permit the eye to reach. On the way meandering mountain rivulets, fringed with fresh verdure and clumps of willows and brush, help to relieve the monotony of the scene, which appears as if a turbulent sea of huge waves had been transfixed by some great unseen power. About twenty-five miles north of Franklin the traveler has to climb the side of a high mountain; as this mountain is approached and the road is seen winding up to its summit it appears as if it would be next to impossible for a team, even with an empty vehicle, to make the ascent; but like the hills and difficulties of life, the obstacle appears of the greatest magnitude when viewed from a distance. As the top of the ascent is neared the surrounding scenery becomes more grand and wild; he who can gaze unmoved upon such sublime pictures is to be pitied. Mountains around, above and below, covered here and there with tall pines, knarled, withered and fallen trees, huge piles of rugged rocks, clumps of brushwood of variegated hues, and, away beneath, the deep dark ravine and the little mountain stream winding its way like a little tiny thread. At last the summit is gained and the traveler enters North Creek Canyon, the sloping sides of which are covered with excellent timber.

On emerging from this canyon the first glimpse is caught of Bear Lake Valley. On proceeding southward the scene widens and expands until the traveler finds himself in one of the most beautiful and picturesque valleys in the Territory. The first settlement approached is Liberty. This is a small but thrifty place, and possesses inducements for new comers in the shape of some available and yet unreclaimed farming lands. About seven miles further south, Paris is entered; this is the headquarters of Rich county. It is the largest settlement in Bear Lake Valley, and is situated on the north-west side. Were it not for the rolling and uneven nature of the ground upon which it is built, the situation might be considered unexceptionably pleasant. On traversing the streets of this town I was surprised to see the many improvements that had been made since my last visit, a year ago. The dingy looking mud-roofed log cabins are being replaced by neat frame houses and shingled roofs; not only is private enterprise increasing among the citizens of this place, but public improvements are being entered into and pushed ahead with a vim. Suitable materials are being collected with which to erect a neat and commodious meeting house, to take the place of the long, squatty, low-roofed school house in which meetings have hitherto been held. I understand that it is the intention of Elders C. C. Rich and D. P. Kimball to divide the town into several wards, and to build a school house in each ward. In order to give this idea shape brother Kimball, at his own expense, has already got together part of the material necessary to build a school house in the part of the town in which he resides.

Under the united presidency of Elders C. C. Rich and D. P. Kimball, I do not entertain any doubts but that this Stake of Zion will become one of the most flourishing in the Territory. The facilities for it becoming so are excellent. I do not consider that it is equalled, as a stock raising country, by any other part of the Territory, and as the winters are gradually becoming less rigorous and severe, its advantages in this respect are improving.

There is an excellent range for stock, large tracts of good hay land, also extensive tracts of eligible farming land that are yet untitled and unreclaimed. There is room enough for several thousands of families to settle in this Valley and secure to themselves homesteads and lay a foundation for future comfort and temporal prosperity. The climate of Bear Lake Valley is salubrious. Since its first settlement there has been but little sickness amongst its inhabitants at any season of the year.

Bloomington and St Charles are situated, the first two, and the other six, miles south of Paris; both settlements are well situated, commanding as they do a fine view of the Valley, St Charles having the advantage of a view of the

Lake. These settlements, like Paris, are being materially improved and built up. The same can be said of Montpelier and every other settlement in the Valley.

The Lake and its surroundings present a most enchanting picture, whether seen at early sunrise, when the king of day peeps over the eastern mountains, chasing away with the radiance of his countenance the sombre shades of night, whilst the beautiful lake reflects him from its placid face a welcome greeting; or in the full blaze of noon day, when the clear surface of the lake and surrounding mountains, whose bases seem to dip into the waters, are flooded in light; or when the sun is tipping the giant peaks of the Western mountains with rich golden tints, and causing a part of the lake to appear like a mixture of copper and gold, which combined with the deep shadows in the nooks and hollows of the mountain sides, forms a magnificent picture, well worth travelling some distance to see. Nor is the scene less striking when it is lit up by the queen of night, casting her delicate, shimmering light on the placid bosom of the lake, giving the scene the appearance of a picture conjured by the efforts of imagination rather than one of reality.

Bear River Valley lies at a distance of about thirteen miles, in an easterly direction, from the south end of the lake. This is an extensive valley, being about twenty miles in length, and, as far as I was able to judge, in viewing it from the hills by which it is bounded on its western side, about three miles in width, at an average. As I did not descend into the valley I was unable to determine the nature and quality of the soil; I have no doubt, however, but the valley contains many thousands of acres of rich land, which invite the husbandman to till, cultivate and bring forth from it the good things of the earth; and it required no great stretch of the imagination to picture that, at present, desolate region peopled with thousands of busy and prosperous inhabitants in the due course of human events.

The early settlers of Bear Lake Valley have had their share of the trials, inconveniences and hardships attendant upon settling a new country. In past years, what with early frosts, grasshoppers, etc., the grain crops have been very meagre. In the present year, however, good crops have been raised nearly all over the valley, and no grasshoppers' eggs have been deposited there, so that, by the blessing of the Almighty, should the summer frosts be subdued, the prospects for another year are excellent.

Respectfully,

JOHN NICHOLSON.



## B. YOUNG'S COTTON FACTORY AT WASHINGTON,

IS MAKING

Cotton Yarn from 9 to 18,

ALSO

CARPET, STOCKING & CROCHET YARN,

And COTTON BATTING. Also making with Power Looms,

FACTORY, DENIMS,

HICKORY, BED TICK,

COTTON and WOOLEN JEANS,

And LINSEYS,

Which we intend shall not be justly complained of, and which we will exchange for COTTON, WOOL or WOOLEN YARN, spun at the Factories to better advantage than it can be woven at home.

We will also exchange for CATTLE, SHEEP, WHEAT, FLOUR, BUTTER, EGGS, &c., at corresponding prices to our Goods.

Call and see us, and you will realize the advantage of Home Production.

J. BIRCH,

AGENT.

s2w41-1f