

## PRESIDENT GEO. A. SMITH.

DEDICATED TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

A friend of God—A friend of man—a kind  
And loving husband, father, brother, saint,  
Has gone!

The deep, sad sense of loneliness,  
Felt in the soft and soothing whisperings  
Of twilight zephyrs as they gently move,  
And seem in mournful requiem to chant  
The solemn fact, speaks volumes to the  
heart.

He is not dead; yet, death has done its  
work:

It came, but not in ghastliness—it as  
A kindly porter set the "Gates Ajar,"  
And he stepped forth, leaving the tenement  
A breathless corse, that slumbers in the  
tomb;  
'Twas worn and weary and it needed rest.  
No faith, nor prayers, nor the heart-yearnings  
Of  
The loving and beloved, could longer bind  
That mighty spirit in an earthly form.

The wreath which mem'ry twines for  
him, around  
The warm affections of the saints of God,  
Will still be bright, and fresh with fra-  
grance, when  
The tallest, proudest monumental spires  
That grace the tombs of earthly royalties  
Have crumbled 'neath the withering stroke  
of Time.

He made his mark in honor's upward  
path;  
And his example is, to those he loves,  
The richest legacy he could bequeath.

With firm integrity, unflinchingly  
He's "fought the fight of faith." He's nobly  
fought  
The powers of darkness—stem'd the foam-  
ing tide  
Of ignorance, prejudice and bigotry,  
Combined in force against Eternal Truth,  
And now, disrobed of frail mortality's  
Encumbrances, he joins the mighty host  
Of valiant veterans of the cross, who're all  
Co-operating with the saints on earth;  
And with the band he'll shout triumphant  
strains.

Here, he was humble as a little child,  
And yet, as boldest lion, he was bold  
And brave. Unflinchingly he ever dared,  
What is no ordinary daring in  
This fawning, sycophantic age; he dared  
To speak the truth. He verily is one  
Of God's best specimens of genuine  
Nobility, I. e., AN HONEST MAN.  
We're proud to know he was and is our  
friend.

"Peace to his ashes." His loved memory  
Needs not of mortal praise. His works  
abide;

And he, with all whose lives are fashioned  
by  
The unadulterated Gospel's mould,  
Will live eternal where God shall reign.

E. R. SNOW.

Salt Lake City, Sept. 11th, 1875.

—Woman's Exponent.

## THE "MORMONS" AND THEIR ENEMIES.

A Letter from President George A. Smith.

To the Editors of the Evening Post.

The press of late has been comment-  
ing on an atrocious massacre  
perpetrated by a combined force of  
Indians and outlaws in Utah eight-  
teen years ago, one of the whites  
having been arrested and brought  
to trial.

Travelling extensively in that  
region during the last two years, I  
have in various publications placed  
before the public facts and impres-  
sions concerning the country and  
people, which I have endeavored to  
write out with impartiality. That  
these essays have been criticised  
was to be desired, inasmuch as a  
spirit of inquiry has been elicited;  
and that every passage favorable to  
the great majority of the inhabi-  
tants among whom I sojourned has  
been made the groundwork of per-  
sonal abuse by a journal in Salt  
Lake City, which assumes to be the  
organ of the minority, was natu-  
rally expected. For animadversions  
coming from a Mormon source I am  
grateful, as they afford proof that a  
middle path has been pursued, the  
missiles coming from both sides of  
the road.

I offer no apology for the length  
of the enclosed communication. It  
was addressed to me last winter by  
Mr. George A. Smith, a prominent  
"apostle" of the Mormon church,  
who, but for his unexpected death  
yesterday, might perhaps have  
been the successor of Brigham  
Young. I have before referred to  
him as a man of "unimpeachable  
integrity."

His paper is interesting in vari-  
ous particulars. That part of it  
devoted to railroad enterprises will  
commend itself to gentlemen en-

gaged in those undertakings; the  
romance of frontier life will gratify  
others; the enthusiasm of religious  
belief will call to mind the tales of  
the old Covenanters; and the de-  
fence of Mormonism by one of its  
most sincere supporters, whose con-  
scientious services the Mormon  
system has just lost, is at least en-  
titled to the consideration of the  
curious. J. C.

New York, Sept. 2, 1875.

ST. GEORGE, Utah,  
December 4, 1874.

John Codman, Esq., Salt Lake City:

Dear Sir: Your letter of Novem-  
ber 20 is received, and also your  
book entitled the "Mormon Coun-  
try." I have hastily read it with  
great pleasure, as I had never  
had the privilege of doing so  
before. I should have been pleas-  
ed if you could have visited this  
country. I was glad to learn that  
your tour through Sevier, Millard  
and Juab counties was agreeable  
and instructive.

You ask for information respect-  
ing railroad routes to connect the  
Union Pacific with the Southern  
Pacific. There are two natural  
routes from Santaquin. The road  
should go by Tintic mines, if the  
divide is not too high. If this is  
impracticable, the road should go  
by Nephi, Chicken Creek, and the  
lower Sevier Valley, passing through  
Star and other mining districts, on  
the desert to Panaca, Lincoln  
county, Nevada; thence down the  
Meadow Valley Wash and Muddy  
Valley, down the Rio Virgen to  
where it empties into the Colorado.  
There is a good place to cross the  
Colorado, and an easy grade to get  
out on the other side. Then skirt  
the west side of the San Francisco  
Mountains through to Prescott,  
and connect with the southern  
road. The advantages of this road  
are, that it connects with the rich  
silver, lead, copper and iron mines  
of western and southern Utah and  
southeastern Nevada.

The other route, and in some res-  
pects more preferable, would be  
through Salt Creek Canyon, Juab  
County, to the coal and iron mines  
of Sanpete, taking in the lead and  
salt mines at the base of Mount  
Nebo, and through the rich grain  
fields of Sanpete and Sevier valleys;  
thence up the Sevier to Panguitch  
and up to the rim of the basin,  
which, I think, can be crossed  
without a tunnel, through im-  
mense forests of pine timber, and  
on a gradual descent to the Ki  
Babbi, or Buckskin Mountains,  
where Major Powell discovered an  
excellent place for a suspension  
bridge across the Colorado, where  
the river runs in a narrow, deep  
canyon, and the bridge would be  
very high above water; skirt the  
San Francisco Mountains on the  
east, and connect with the South-  
ern Pacific. The advantages of  
this route would be to develop the  
stone quarries, coal fields, iron and  
copper mines, and grain and lum-  
ber regions, and grazing lands of  
Sanpete and Sevier valleys and  
Upper Kanab. I believe there is  
no difficulty on this route but what  
can and will be easily overcome  
with time, labor and capital. I  
understand these to be substantial-  
ly the routes designed by President  
Young for the Utah Southern  
road.

I believe another feasible route,  
and in some respects superior to  
either of those mentioned, would  
be to leave the Sevier at Fort San-  
ford, crossing the Wasatch range,  
up Bear Creek and down Fremont's  
Pass, through Little Salt Lake Val-  
ley, passing near Paragonah and  
Parowan to Iron City. From Iron  
City through Mountain Meadow  
Pass, down the Santa Clara to St.  
George. From there in a southerly  
direction, to the mouth of the  
Grand Gulch, where there is a good  
crossing of the Colorado; thence out  
on the plateau described by Lieut.  
Wheeler, who describes the route  
from St. George south on page 74 of  
his book of explorations for 1871.  
The advantages of this route are  
that it will pass through one of the  
greatest iron, coal and copper re-  
gions in the known world, which  
has not been successfully work-  
ed yet to any great extent for want  
of railroad facilities.

You say in your letter: "I send  
you a copy of that (book) with the  
request that, although we cannot be  
expected to agree on religious mat-  
ters, you will kindly set me right  
as to the facts where I am in error."  
Page 4 reads: "The former policy  
of this people was seclusive, and  
consequently strongly opposed to  
all railroad enterprises; but when in-  
evitable fate pushed the Union

Pacific and Central Pacific lines  
across the continent, directly  
through their territory, they wise-  
ly concluded to make the innova-  
tion profitable, as it was unavoid-  
able." This declaration somewhat  
surprised me. If you will read the  
memorial to Congress, approved  
March 3, 1852, you will learn that  
Brigham Young, then Governor of  
Utah, and the Legislature of Utah,  
were the first legislative body who  
took action concerning a railroad  
across the continent. The memo-  
rial will be found in the first vol-  
ume of Utah laws. The original  
was signed by Brigham Young,  
Governor, as well as by the officers  
and members of the Assembly. It  
reads as follows:

"MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS FOR  
THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GREAT  
NATIONAL CENTRAL RAILROAD  
TO THE PACIFIC COAST. AP-  
PROVED MARCH 3D, 1852.

"To the Honorable the Senate and  
House of Representatives of the  
United States, in Congress assem-  
bled:

"Your Memorialists, the Gover-  
nor and the legislative assembly of  
the Territory of Utah, respectfully  
pray your honorable body to pro-  
vide for the establishment of a na-  
tional railroad from some eligible  
point on the Mississippi or Missouri  
river to San Diego, San Francisco,  
Sacramento or Astoria, or such other  
point on or near the Pacific coast  
as the wisdom of your honorable  
body may dictate. Your memori-  
alists respectfully state that the im-  
mense emigration to and from the  
Pacific requires the immediate at-  
tention, guardian care and foster-  
ing assistance of the greatest and  
most liberal government on the  
face of the earth. Your memorial-  
ists are of the opinion that not less  
than five thousand American citi-  
zens have perished on the different  
routes within the last three years,  
for the want of proper means of  
transportation. That an eligible  
route can be obtained your memori-  
alists have no doubt. Being exten-  
sively acquainted with the coun-  
try, we know that no obstruc-  
tion exists between this point and  
San Diego, and that iron, coal, tim-  
ber, stone and other materials exist  
in various places on the route, and  
that the settlements of this territo-  
ry are so situated as to amply sup-  
ply the builders of this road with  
material and provisions, for a con-  
siderable portion of the route; and  
to carry on an extensive trade after  
the road is completed.

"Your memorialists are of opin-  
ion that the mineral resources of  
California and these mountains can  
never be fully developed to the  
benefit of the people of the United  
States without the construction of  
such a road; and upon its comple-  
tion the entire trade of China and  
the East Indies will pass through  
the heart of the Union, thereby  
giving our citizens the almost en-  
tire control of the Asiatic and Pac-  
ific trade; pouring into the lap of  
the American states the millions  
that are now diverted through other  
commercial channels; and last,  
though not least, the road herein  
proposed would be a perpetual  
chain or iron band which would  
effectually held together our glori-  
ous Union, with an imperishable  
identity of mutual interest, thereby  
consolidating our relations with  
foreign powers in times of peace,  
and our defence from foreign inva-  
sion by the speedy transmission of  
troops and supplies in times of war.  
The earnest attention of Congress  
to this important subject is solicited  
by your memorialists, who in duty  
bound will ever pray."

When this memorial was pre-  
sented to Congress by Mr. John M.  
Bernhisel, Utah's delegate, he was  
told by the members that we were  
one hundred years ahead of the age.  
He humorously invited them, when  
the road was done, to come and see  
him, and some of them have done  
so, twenty years afterwards. The  
legislature have repeatedly sent  
memorials to Congress, keeping the  
subject continually before them,  
until they enacted a law on the  
subject. The memorials of 1855-56  
point out the Bitter Creek route,  
but recommended the Timpanogas  
Pass, or Provo route, instead of the  
Weber. In the spring of 1856 a  
mass meeting, held at Salt Lake  
City, passed resolutions urging the  
necessity of immediate action of  
Congress for a national railroad.  
So far, then, from our people being  
opposed to railroad enterprise, they  
were among the first to bring the  
question before Congress, and kept  
continually calling their attention

to the subject until it was made ef-  
fectual.

I crossed the plains with Brig-  
ham Young on his pioneer journey  
in 1847. We were looking for a  
railroad route as well as a wagon  
road, and in company with him I  
made many a detour from the  
wagon road to find passes where a  
railroad could be constructed  
through the mountains. We then  
expected that ten or fifteen years  
would be sufficient to complete the  
road. The memorial of March 3,  
1852, is almost prophetic. Brigham  
Young and the people of Utah's  
efforts were probably the cause of  
his being appointed one of the  
original directors of the Union  
Pacific road.

I was reared rigidly a Presbyte-  
rian. Our people have never been,  
in any particular, as seclusive as  
my Presbyterian ancestors were.  
This may be somewhat singular,  
considering the rigid modern  
Christian training that our people  
have received since the organiza-  
tion of the church, embracing forty-  
seven vexatious lawsuits against  
Joseph Smith; and notwithstanding  
any amount of perjury, not one  
of them were successful, though it  
cost more than one hundred thou-  
sand dollars to defend them.

Joseph Smith and his counsellor  
were tarred and feathered, in the  
spring of 1832, as a piece of modern  
Christian discipline, two Christian  
(?) ministers presiding on the occa-  
sion. A child sick with the meas-  
les died from the exposure caused by  
breaking into the house and tearing  
Joseph Smith out of bed. In 1833  
the Rev. Isaac McCoy, a Baptist  
clergyman, and the Rev. D. Pixley,  
Presbyterian, were foremost in ad-  
ministering Christian discipline to  
the Latter-day Saints in Jackson  
county, Missouri, aided by lesser  
lights in the Christian faith, tore  
down houses, destroyed printing  
offices, pillaged goods, whipped,  
tarred and feathered; killed, wound-  
ed and drove fifteen hundred people  
disarmed and destitute to perish in  
the wilderness; burned two hun-  
dred and sixteen of their houses,  
which stood upon lands for which  
they had paid their specie to the  
United States treasury. The same  
Christian discipline, in a milder  
way, was again administered in  
Clay county. They were driven to  
the naked, uninhabited prairies of  
Caldwell county, their enemies  
ever declaring that it was such a  
worthless country, and so destitute  
of timber, that the Mormons were  
welcome to it. Two years of in-  
dustry and enterprise, with great  
faith on the part of our people,  
made Caldwell one of the most  
flourishing counties in that State.

Here the Rev. Sachael Woods, a  
Presbyterian minister, and the Rev.  
Samuel Bogard, a Methodist, assist-  
ed by ministers of other denomina-  
tions, and their aiders and abettors,  
renewed the system of religious  
tyranny by beating, stabbing, rob-  
bing, plundering, house-burning,  
ravishing, and finally extermina-  
ting and driving about five thou-  
sand people from the State of Mis-  
souri in midwinter. Every one of  
them that was driven was repeat-  
edly urged, and many solicited to  
stay, if they would renounce their  
religion—not polygamy, for we  
were then rigid monogamists, but  
our church organization. Major  
General John W. Clark, a Metho-  
dist, in enforcing the extermina-  
ting order, said: "You must  
not meet in council meetings  
or in conferences; and if you ever  
organize again with bishops and  
presidents, the people will be  
upon you, and you utterly de-  
stroyed." Our benevolent Christian  
friends of Missouri followed many  
of these exterminated people with  
vexatious demands upon the Gov-  
ernor of Illinois for extradition for  
violation of Missouri laws. I  
believe that a record cannot be  
found in the State of Missouri  
wherein a criminal judgment is  
entered against one of our people,  
though the administration of the  
law was entirely in the hands of  
our enemies. One especial lesson in  
Christian charity was administered  
at the meeting ground near the  
missionary camp, where several  
women were lashed to benches and  
\* \* \* \* \* While Joseph  
Smith and his fellows were in pris-  
on and in chains, they were told  
that a party of those men had gone  
for the purpose of administering  
the same Christian training to their  
wives, but they returned without  
accomplishing their purpose, as  
they found the families so well  
guarded as to make the attempt  
unsafe.

In 1844 a handsome city had  
grown up in Hancock county, Illi-

nois, called Nauvoo. A charge of  
treason against Joseph and Hyrum  
Smith caused their arrest. Know-  
ing the intention of his persecutors  
to murder him, Joseph Smith ob-  
tained from the Governor of the  
state a pledge of the faith of the  
state for his protection from all vio-  
lence, and a fair trial; but he and  
his brother were murdered in jail,  
while awaiting examination, by a  
party of men with blackened faces,  
led by a Baptist minister; ministers  
of other denominations taking part.  
In 1845 one hundred and seventy-  
five houses were burned in different  
parts of Hancock county by parties  
led by Christian ministers; and  
culminated in driving the entire  
people in winter, numbering many  
thousands, homeless and destitute,  
into the wilderness, leaving the  
hard toil of six years, their magni-  
ficent temple, mills, factories,  
farms and neighboring villages a  
prey to their Christian tutors.  
But they faithfully promised  
that the few helpless and desti-  
tute might remain in the city.  
The Rev. Thomas Brockman, and  
about fifteen hundred of his pious  
confederates, after several days'  
siege, and three days' bombard-  
ment with artillery, succeeded in  
setting across the river the last six  
hundred men, women and children,  
helpless and destitute. A descrip-  
tion of this suffering camp was  
given by Colonel Kane, who visited  
them. He says, "Dreadful, in-  
deed, was the suffering of those  
forsaken beings, bowed and cramp-  
ed by cold and sunburn, as each  
alternate day and night dragged on.  
It was the fourth week of Septem-  
ber, 1846." (For extract from Col-  
onel Kane's description, see Answers  
to Questions, page 12.) This short  
reference to points of our history  
would be sufficient to satisfy the  
kind, generous and impartial his-  
torian, that when added too by the  
years of hardship, toll and suffer-  
ing incident to forcing our way  
into these mountains and contend-  
ing with Indians, wild beasts and  
the sterility of an unknown desert,  
solely for the enjoyment of religi-  
ous liberty, the whole Mormon peo-  
ple ought to have become, in the  
most eminent degree, thoroughly  
possessed of all the meek, quiet,  
peaceful, humane and liberal prin-  
ciples of true Christianity.

We fed the Indians; we fed the  
emigrants who came here hungry  
by the thousands; dug them out of  
the snow in the mountains, and  
nursed them when sick; and al-  
though thieves and robbers among  
them plundered our ranges of the  
most valuable cattle and horses, we  
extended to them the protection of  
our laws. Some of them were  
taken, tried and imprisoned, were  
retrieved by Governor Young in  
the spring and aided on their jour-  
ney. The rights of no apostate or  
stranger were compromised while  
he was governor. We had success-  
fully contended with two grasshop-  
per wars, far more destructive than  
the present one in Kansas, and one  
cricket war, till on the 24th day of  
July, 1857, the news arrived, while  
we were engaged celebrating that  
memorable day at Big Cottonwood  
Lake, that Brigham Young had  
been removed from being Governor;  
that 2,500 infantry, two regiments  
of cavalry and two batteries of ar-  
tillery were ordered to Utah; and  
that their outfit was the most com-  
plete ever furnished to an Ameri-  
can army; the command to be given  
to General Harney, who was known  
in Utah by the name of "Squaw  
Killer," and whose very name  
carried with it among our people  
a feeling of horror; and what  
was more significant, all the  
administration papers and many  
others were filled with threats  
of extermination, blood and slaugh-  
ter. Even our old friend Sen-  
ator Douglas, in a speech, re-  
quested the administration to cut  
out the loathsome ulcer, meaning  
Utah; and what was even more  
significant, the United States mail  
was stopped. The people strugg-  
ling with the desert said in their  
hearts, "This means bloodshed."  
When the mob began operations in  
Jackson county the United States  
mail was stopped. When like op-  
erations commenced in Clay coun-  
ty the United States mail was  
stopped. At the commencement  
of mob interference in Caldwell  
county the United States mail was  
stopped. As soon as the distur-  
bance began that brought about the  
assassination of Joseph and Hyrum  
Smith, the mail was stopped. The  
commencement of house burning  
in Hancock county in 1845 was  
simultaneous with the stoppage of  
the mail; and if the government  
has stopped the mail, we need ex-