

Latter-day Saints. Brethren and sisters, I anticipate seeing the day when a motion, an expression of the countenance will convey more to the minds of the Saints than language now can. Then our language will be perfect perhaps, and we shall be better able to convey our ideas as we wish; but, at present, we must be satisfied to improve upon what we have, and thank God for every blessing we enjoy and for every improvement we can make, being constantly humble to wait upon Him.

May the Lord bless you: Amen. +

THE JOURNEY OVER THE PLAINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DESERET NEWS:

"Ubi est Libertas, ibi est Patria."—CICERO.
[Where liberty is, there is my country.]

SIR:—Being advised that an account of the Emigrants' journey over the Plains, would be acceptable to many of your intelligent readers, I respectfully submit to their perusal, the following narration of a company's procedure under the supervision of Captain William S. Warren; and as I am a member of the Church of England, the statement by a "Gentile" may on that account be deemed impartial, respecting the judicious arrangements made for the Emigrants' welfare.

The "Agent of the Emigration," at Wyoming, Joseph W. Young, Esq., furnished the Emigrants with excellent provisions. The flour, hams, bacon, rice, sugar, apples, beans, etc., were the very best that money could procure; and the Emigrants generally concur with me in feeling grateful to that gentleman, for supplying them so well. En passant, it seems not irrelevant to add, for the benefit of future Emigrants, that those who roasted the beans, then ground them into powder, and used it as coffee, were preserved from Diarrhoea, which attacked others, and proved fatal to some; as might naturally be expected among several hundred persons, in a journey of 1,100 miles, and occupying upwards of ten weeks. "Tell me," said the Irishman, "the place where people don't die, and I will go and end my days there." The "Commissary" carefully superintended the distribution of the provisions, every alternate week; and saw that "every one had his portion of meat, etc., in due season." With such good provision for the body, the wants of the soul were not neglected. The "Chaplain" called us together, mornings and evenings, for public worship. The Prayers appropriate for the occasion, nullified the latter part of the following statement, which recently appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*: viz. "the Mormons believe in Joseph Smith, but do not believe in Jesus Christ!" Whether this latter clause proceeded from a penny-a-liner's gross ignorance of their religion; (which a perusal of any of their books, or an attendance upon any one of their services would promptly remove); or from his base pandering to the morbid antipathy against the "Mormons," and was overlooked by the intelligent Editors; it was very reprehensible in a public journal, and discreditable to its respectable conductors. Many of the Hymns sung, being compiled from Wesley, Watts, etc., were familiar to me; and I enjoyed the singing, especially of that fine old Doxology:

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

Which reverberated on the extensive plains of Acadia; and why not? Divine worship should not be confined to human buildings: the Universe is God's temple; the dome of heaven its lofty roof; the plane of earth, its wide basis; sun, moon, and stars its glittering ornaments; every devout heart, an altar; every upright man, a priest; and prayer and praise, the incense, which arises to heaven with acceptance, and draws down a gracious benediction. "Guards" were regularly set, morning and evening, for the protection of the passengers, Cattle, Wagons, etc.; and thus, like the ancient Israelites under Nehemiah; "we made our prayer unto God, and had a watch set, night and day." In describing the various Officials, the "Teamsters" should not be overlooked. Coming, as many of them did, from various countries of Europe, the Teamsters' knowledge of the English language, was remarkable to an experienced Tutor, long accustomed to educate Scholars and train Teachers in English, inter alia. I remember, at Bourbon College in France, when I was Professor there, a Parisian studying English, exclaiming, one morning, "some thieves stole Mr. Durand, last night: they robbed his watch, and other articles;" instead of "some thieves robbed Mr. Durand, last night; they stole his watch, etc." No

such error was made by the Teamsters, as was made by that Collegian. Their correct pronunciation too was gratifying. In adjacent wagons, were two young men, each eighteen years old; one was a native of Norway, who had been in Utah, six years; the other was a North Briton, who emigrated from Scotland this year. The Norwegian's pronunciation of English was correct, and intelligible. The North Briton's was in the broad Scotch dialect; which (like the Irish brogue) is difficult to be understood by the English or Americans. The superiority of the foreigner's pronunciation of English is to be ascribed to his long residence in Utah; for the Americans' orthodoxy is remarkably good. Of course, well-educated Englishmen and Americans speak alike; but taking the vast majority of the people of Great Britain and America, the superiority of American's pronunciation is obvious; and forcibly impressed my mind during the last three years that I taught Private Families and Public Schools in Illinois, and held a "first-grade Certificate of Qualification." The Americans have no "patois," (as the French term it); they never say "I wud" and "you shud;" they never speak of "hegs and hattles," "houses and 'orses;" "virtue and winegar;" "this vicked var," etc; which dialects and provincialisms disfigure the pronunciation of many Britons. The "Captain" ably superintended the whole; and at times seemed almost ubiquitous; and he was "here, there, and everywhere," when his presence was requested; and by wisely tempering authority with benignity, secured for himself general respect.

With such physical and spiritual provision; under such able guardianship; and with the beneficent protection of our heavenly Father, we at length arrived at this far-famed city; and here my expectations were completely surpassed. Much as I had read about Utah and its inhabitants, from the elaborate and masterly work of Captain Stansbury, (one of the earlier and best books on the subject,) to the recent publication of Captain Burton, I was impelled to exclaim with one of old, "the half has not been told me," and was reminded of the inscription on the tomb of Sir Christopher Wren, in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and its celebrated Architect. That inscription is, "si monumentum queris, circumspice," i. e. "if you seek his monument, look around;" see the cathedral he has erected, &c. So, to any one desirous of knowing what the calumniated "Mormons" really are, I would say, "come hither, and look around." See the beautiful city, they have built; see the extensive fields they have cultivated; see the rich productions they have raised; see how they have made the wilderness and the solitary place to be glad for them, and the desert to become "DESERET," and to rejoice and blossom as the rose. Surely such a people; so industrious, as surrounding objects indicate; so religious as their crowded Bowery evinces, eminently deserve to have their "Territory" formed into a "STATE." For maintaining this truth in Illinois, I was assailed, defamed, maligned, and as the climax of my opponents' vituperation, I was called a "Mormon;" but the only answer I received was, "perhaps it would be made into a State, but for its peculiar institutions." Irrespective of the declaration, "Congress shall pass no law respecting religion, or the exercise thereof,"—(which concerns Americans exclusively, and might be deemed presumptuous for a foreigner to intermeddle with)—I contended for the broad, grand doctrine that with "Institutions," whether "peculiar" or general, which emanate from Christian principles, no Government has any right to interfere. While as an Englishman, I readily concur with Dr. Watts,

"Let Caesar's dues be ever paid
To Caesar and his throne,"

As a Christian, I cordially add, with that poet,

But consciences and souls were made
To be the Lord's alone."

"Conscience," said an eminent judge, "is not amenable to human laws, nor subject to human tribunals." All that governments have a right to require is, that the inhabitants should properly perform their duties; and then they are justly entitled to possess their rights, as denizens of a Free State. The maligned "Mormons" have nobly discharged their duties; and therefore pre-eminently merit to enjoy their privileges, as citizens of the FREE STATE OF "DESERET." I cordially rejoice in the prosperity of the Latter-day Saints, although, like the former day Saints, they are every where spoken against; (thus proving what Dr. Paley terms an "undesigned coincidence," that Mor-

monism and Christianity are identical, by each meeting with the same reception;) and I heartily wish that their future progress may resemble "the shining light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

I am, sir, yours respectfully,

J. W. P. STANNARD,

Professor of Languages and Mathematics.

G. S. L. City, Oct. 13th, 1864.

Miscellaneous.

THE CIRCASSIAN EXILES.—The Rev. R. Philpot, writing from Constantinople on the 6th instant, describes the condition of the hapless Circassian exiles. He says:—"Our first meeting with them was at Czernavoda. The rays of the setting sun fell upon a crowd of 20,000 men, women, and children lying upon the short grass of the mountain slope close by the Danube, reminding us affecting, though on a rougher and smaller scale, of the encampment of the Israelites in the wilderness. After landing, our captain stood out into the middle of the river, being warned that his vessel would soon be covered by swarms of starving creatures crying out for help. On landing at sunrise to take the rail at Kusendji, we found that the Pacha had already turned to account every available means of provision for the benefit of these poor emigrants, and had ordered all the carriages that could be found, including some hundreds of cattle trucks, to be applied to the conveyance of the crowds gathered at Kusendji to different places on the shores of the Danube. We passed one long train of them on our way; but of the scene which lay before us on arriving at the Black Sea it would be in vain to attempt any description. Dense masses of ragged men, women, and children literally covered the sea-shore. All looked wan and hungry. Many were all but naked. Several lay dying; and fair delicate girls, with their heads reposing on their mother's bosoms, seemed only to be waiting for those mother's hands to close their eyes in death. Several women were washing their children in the sea, for Nured Pacha had considerably ordered several tons of soap to be at once distributed among them. Mostly the clothes were washed upon them, and so left to dry upon them in the sun. Numbers are still on their way from the Caucasus, and it was only last evening that a vessel full of them entered the Bosphorus; but the quarantine officer, learning that fever and small-pox prevailed on board, immediately ordered the vessel back, and the captain was told to bury the 150 dead on board in the Black Sea."

A BALEFUL MARRIAGE.—Married, sometime about the year 1856, by his Satanic Majesty, Mr. Copperhead Democracy to Miss Rattlesnake Slavery, both of the United States. Slices of the wedding cake were sent to all the Loco-foco editors, in consequence of which they have never ceased to puff the above union.

First born.—In the summer of 1857, Lecompton, Border Ruffian, son of Hon. Copperhead Democracy. This unsightly child born six months after the above marriage, after a few months sickly existence died of a peculiar disease called *Free States*.

Second born.—Born at Charleston, S. C., in the year of grace, 1860, Mr. Secession Pro-Slavery Rebellion, true son of Mr. C. and R. S. Democracy, Jimmy Buchanan acting Granny. This child, which looks so much like its "daddy," is now going on three years old. Its infancy was marked by so much precocity, that it is universally believed that the darling babe is "too smart to live." Its backbone was broken at the fall of Vicksburg, its face was horribly burnt in the fire at Gettysburg, and one of its feet was amputated in Ohio.

The old man they say is "raving mad" through fear that this young man will die. The old lady is also in a "dreadful pucker" and some of the friends have got the "sympathetic fits."

Third born.—Born in New York City, in July 1863, Mr. Patrick Riot, third son of Mr. C. and Mrs. R. S. Democracy. This monster baby came very near being still-born, but by the aid of Dr. Seymour and his "friends," it lived about five days, though under the continued influence of McClellan and Jeff Davis loyalty, which seemed to agree with its constitution.

The fatality which has attended these children, shows that no child of such parents can live any length of time, yet they survive long enough to cause great trouble. And as long as the old folks live there is danger of an "increase in the family." The people will rejoice

and cry amen at the extinction of the race.—[Alton (Ill.) Telegraph.]

BILLINGS ON THE DRAFT.—There are some nice points in drafting operations which are extensively discussed in the red-ribbon circles. The most lucid explanation of a few of these is given by Josh Billings:

Widder wimmen and their only son is Xempt, provided the widder's husband has already served 2 years in the war and is willing to go agin; I believe the supreme corte has decided this thing forever.

Once more: If a man should run away with his draft, he probably wouldn't ever be allowed to stand the draft agin; this looks severe at first site, but the more yu look at it the more you can see the wisdom into it.

Once more: Xempts are those who have been drafted into the stait prizzen for tryin to get an honest living bi supporting 2 wives at onst; also them people who air craze and unsound on the goose; also all noospaper correspondents and fools in general.

Once more: agin: No substitute will be axcepted who is less than three or more than ten feet high; he must know how to chaw tobacco and drink poor whiskee, and musn't be afeerd of the itch nor rebels. Moral charakter aint required, as the government furnishes that and rashuns.

Conclusively: No persod can be drafted but twice in 2 different places without his consent; but all men have a right to be drafted at least onst; I don't think even a rit of habeas corpus could deprive a man of his last blessed privilege.

Varieties.

—The town of Mount Washington in Massachusetts, has neither church, post office, clergyman, lawyer, doctor, income, license, carriage nor plate, and pays not a cent to the Internal Revenue Department.—[Ex.]

Query: is there any house there? Or is it one of those towns that exist only in the brain of some land shark?—[ED. NEWS.]

—A young man, blessed with the name of Isaac, says that if he is drafted, Abraham will be offering up Isaac as a sacrifice.

—Tom Thumb was recently robbed of \$1,267 at Whitehall, New York, and consoles himself by saying he never had a good opinion of the place.

—S. B. Hill, an ingenious workman at Chicopee, Massachusetts, has invented a hospital bedstead, which the medical men of Chicopee, Springfield and Boston, pronounce a great improvement upon anything of the kind now in use. The frame is wholly of sheet iron, and constructed so as to be very strong and light.

—The cloak of religion is to be known sometimes by the *fine nap* it has during sermon time.

—Among the wounded rebel prisoners taken by Sherman at Atlanta were two women. The sex of one was discovered during the amputation of her leg. The other was mortally wounded through the breast with a grape shot.

—A convict was lately tracked into the service of a young married couple in England, where he was officiating as a very pretty lady's maid, and had been doing all the duties of his role for three months. The horror of the young married lady, and still more of the husband, may be imagined when the policeman said "That young woman is the man I want."

—Sir Robert Peel says that the farmers of Ireland have £14,000 sterling in banks.

—About seven million one and two cent pieces were coined in July.

—A wife full of truth, innocence and love is the prettiest flower that a man can wear next his heart.

—Happiness is like a pig with a greasy tail, which everybody runs after, but nobody can hold.

—Religion is an insurance against fire in the next world, for which honesty is the best policy.

—What is more beautiful and poetic than the child's idea of ice—"Water gone to sleep?"

—Whiskey is hereafter to be a permanent item in our army rations. The rebels will be more anxious than ever to capture our supply trains.—[Prentice]

—Cutting off two feet from a man is making short work of him.