

stone at Mormonism nor escape that disintegration of the family and that degradation of womanhood which is the most serious symptom in the social life of America to-day."

These are brave words from a well known champion of modern "Christianity." It is true indeed that "the most serious symptoms in the social life of America" is the looseness of the family bond, and that contempt for virtue in practice while it is exalted in theory, which prevails in all ranks and taints all circles of society.

Whether the cession to women of those political rights to which she is equally entitled with man in a government constituted like ours, would be effective in purifying society, is a little doubtful. It would, in time, perhaps result in the enactment of laws punishing gross crimes against women with something like due severity. But it would not reach the root of the matter. It would not touch these theories that have spread among women as well as men, concerning the relations of the sexes that are usually designated as "free-lovism." It would not establish any more exalted ideas of the marriage state nor lighten the ties that hold the family together. It would only serve to protect women somewhat from the violence and intrigues of brutal men.

The lax sentiment on marriage, its duties and obligations, and the encouragement given to divorce, are greatly to be deplored, and are beyond the reach of political influences. They are deep down in the heart of society, and are rapidly increasing and extending. The degradation of marriage to the plane of a mere civil contract, however, has much to do with the growing disregard of its higher claims upon the parties, and indifference to the consequences of its dissolution. If a contract of wedlock is no more in law than an agreement to buy a horse or sell a house—which it is not, on the principle now prevailing in the world—there need be no surprise that the sanctity which should surround the matrimonial bond is nothing in many instances but a name, and in others not even that. Marriage is rightly a matter of religion. Its ceremonies belong to the Church. It was of old under the regulation of Divine authority, and should be so to-day. Laws that tend to sever the relations of mankind to their Maker are injurious to the community, for they strike at the very foundations of the social structure upon which the political fabric itself is based.

Mr. Abbott is right in his pointed thrust at the disclaimers against "Mormonism." Supposing that the world's estimate of that system were correct, there is no stone which they have a right to cast at it, if governed by the Christian rule. But in making this statement the gifted writer shows that he shares the common error in relation to the subject. He evidently makes "Mormonism" synonymous with polygamy. He takes the "Mormon" doctrine of plural marriage which is but a small part of the system, to be the whole of it. More than that. By coupling the subject of "Mormonism" with his reflections upon offences against womanhood in his consideration of the seventh commandment, it is evident that he regards polygamy in the light of adultery. In both these views he and the vast number of people who think as he does on this subject are in error.

A stone cast at plural marriage, even if it should reach its mark, would only touch one of the many principles that go to make up what is commonly called "Mormonism." That is a name people have given to a system of theology and church government, so comprehensive in its principles and bearings that they who are acquainted with it cannot forbear a smile, when they see intelligent people assail "Mormonism" and polygamy as identical.

Neither is "Mormon" polygamy adultery. It is not so either in essence or in practice. It is not conceived in the spirit of adultery, it is not allied to it in fact. The seventh commandment was given to a people who were not only permitted to have a plurality of wives, but who, in some instances, could not possibly obey laws which were just as much a part of the Mosaic code as it without taking more wives than one. Any person familiar with the "Five Books of Moses," as they are called, knows that to be true.

The seventh commandment was flung against a sexual connection formed in violation of marriage vows, having the very essence and

intent of sin, and bearing fruits of shame and dishonor to the parties and evil to the community. Plurality of wives was sustained by the authority which declared against adultery, was practised under the ceremonies of the law, and with the understanding and consent of all interested parties, was acknowledged in the community and its offspring counted as of equal legitimacy and honor with monogamous in rease. The first named was a crime, the latter an honor. The one was cursed of God, the other was blest of Him. When David married wives of his own he served God, who not only blessed him in his family relations, but added to him the wives of the dead and rejected Saul. But when he took another man's wife he served Satan, and God cursed him for the deed, and the offspring of the sin was also under the ban. In his case polygamy was honored and adultery debased. As strong a contrast between the two is here exhibited as can be made with diametrically opposite things. Scripture declares that no adulterer shall enter the kingdom of heaven. Yet Christ declared that many should come from various parts, and "sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven," and two at least of those worthies were practical polygamists.

We are not making here a general plea for polygamy, we are merely showing that it is not adultery. In one case a man marries wives, in the other he cohabits with some one not married to him. In one case he believes he is doing right, in the other he knows he is doing wrong. In one case he is acting under Divine law, and the sanction of religious ordinances, in the other he is violating Divine law and setting at naught the ceremonies and covenants of such marriage as he has contracted. They are widely apart, proceed from different motives, and produce diverse results.

The marriage principle in "Mormonism" is sacred, holy and eternal. There is nothing in it impure or of a sensual character. It is governed by the highest obligations and looks to permanent and stable consequences. It does not loosen but draws close together the family tie, and seeks to perpetuate it for ever. It aims to elevate not degrade womanhood, and none but those who have souls capable of lofty sentiments and dispositions firm enough to resist sin and error, can accept it and live according to its spirit and intent. It is the true system of social regeneration and redemption, and some day it will be so understood by those who now misunderstand and therefore misrepresent it. We are confident of the issue.

DISCOVERY OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES.

LONDON papers report an important discovery of ancient Egyptian relics, which are expected to make quite a revolution in Egyptology. It appears that the Bedouins were offering for sale last June, in the province of Keneh, in Upper Egypt, a large quantity of antiquities at such small prices as indicated a plentiful supply from some unknown store. Inquiries were instituted by the Governor of the province, and it was ascertained that the treasures came from a hiding place in a gorge in the mountains to the east of Thebes. Further investigations disclosed a pit about thirty-five feet deep, cut in the solid rock, and a secret opening led from this into a gallery about two hundred feet long, and this was filled with relics. It is supposed that they were removed from Thebes for concealment when Egypt was invaded by Cambyses. Nearly six thousand important and interesting objects were conveyed from this depository to the Boulak Museum. Among them were nearly three thousand mortuary statues bearing royal cartouches and inscriptions, and thirty-six royal sarcophagi containing the mummies of kings, queens, princes, princesses, high priests, &c., of the seventeenth to the twentieth dynasties. Among them the remains of Aahmes I. (Amosis), first king of 18th dynasty, reigned B. C. 1700 (about); Amenhotep I. (Amenophis), second king of 18th dynasty, reigned B. C. 1686 (about); Thothmes I., third king of 18th dynasty, reigned B. C. 1633 (about); Thothmes II., fourth king of 18th dynasty, reigned B. C. 1600 (about); Thothmes III., (the Great); fifth king of 18th dynasty, reigned B. C. 1600 (about); Ramses I., first king of 19th dynasty, reigned B. C.

1400 (about); Seti I., second king of 19th dynasty, reigned B. C. 1366 (about); Ramses II., (the Great), third king of 19th dynasty, reigned B. C. 1333 (about); Pinotem, third king of the 21st dynasty, reigned B. C. 1033 (about); Raskhenen, (dynasty and date of reign unknown); Queen Ra-ma-ka (Hatasou?); Queen Aahmes Nofert Ari.

The most valuable of the antiquities, however, are four large papyri elaborately illuminated, containing the ritual for the dead and the cartouches of royal persons. A royal tent of blue leather was also found in splendid preservation after the lapse of three thousand years, the inside being covered with hieroglyphics, beautifully executed in brilliant colors which are still fresh and bright.

It is expected that new light will be shed upon Egyptian history and mysteries when the papyri are unrolled and deciphered. Dr. Henry Brusch, who has charge of the archaeological excavations in Egypt, has identified the mummies above described and anticipates that much information will be derived from this extensive discovery.

It will be remembered that the Book of Abraham was translated by the Prophet Joseph Smith, from papyrus found in a mummy brought from Egypt. It contains some very valuable history and the declaration of many important facts and principles, and can be found in that excellent little work called "The Pearl of Great Price."

We are living in "the dispensation of the fullness of times," and the period of "the restoration of all things," when the secrets of the past will be unfolded and the dealings of God with all nations will be disclosed. And every fresh discovery in the ancient kingdoms of the world will aid in the work of revelation, and in each will be found something to add to the testimonies of scripture concerning the purposes of the Almighty, and aid in the manifestation of eternal truth. The Latter-day Saints will watch with as much interest as any people the further development of Egyptian as well as all other antiquities, for in them will be found corroborations of the revelations of God to His servants in these latter days.

CONFERENCE IN MINNESOTA.

A conference was held in Mr. Woodbury's Hall, St. Francis, Anoka County, Minnesota, on the 3d and 4th of September, 1881.

Saturday, 10 a. m.

Present on the Stand: Wm. M. Palmer, of the north-western mission, as also President Mads Anderson, of the Minnesota Conference; local Elders, Jacob Jacobsen, Jens Frandsen, Denmark Jensen, Wm. Barker and James Godfrey; Thomas J. Steed, Christian Wallentine, of Wisconsin Conference.

After singing and prayer Prest. Palmer spoke from the text found in the Second Epistle of John, 9th verse, quoting from many other passages from which he showed the consistency of the gospel of Jesus Christ, as taught by its authorized expounders, and exhorted the people to comply with the requirements of Peter, Acts 2nd chap, 38 ver.

President Mads Anderson addressed the congregation in the Danish Language (as quite a number of the congregation did not understand the English). He spoke of the pre-existence of man and the duties that are enjoined upon us in this mortal sphere; substantiated the same from holy writ, bearing testimony to the same.

President Palmer spoke of the marvelous work of the gospel as reported in the latter days. Adjourned to 2.30 p. m.

2.30 p. m.

After the opening services Elder Steed testified that the gospel is upon the earth and he was willing to defend it according to the best of his ability. Then expounded the pure principles of the gospel of Christ, bearing a faithful testimony to the same.

Elder Frandsen spoke in the Danish language, related some of his early experience when first investigating this work. Spoke of the antiquity of the gospel and its reestablishment in this dispensation.

Elder Wm. Barker expounded the first principles of the gospel.

Pres. Palmer made a few remarks. Adjourned till 7 p. m.

7 p. m.

Elder Wallentine spoke of the apostasy after the death of the Apos-

ties, which had continued for nearly 1,800 years. When the gospel was restored, it was by the administration of a holy angel from heaven.

Elder Jensen bore testimony to the work of the Lord, as revealed to the Latter-day Saints. Spoke of the slackness of the people in general in investigating its truths.

Elder Jacobsen spoke upon the redeeming power of the gospel; referred to many of the principles of the gospel and the words of the Savior and His Apostles.

Sunday, 10 a. m.

President M. Anderson spoke in the Danish language on the system of human salvation, related much of his experience, spoke of spiritual gifts and all blessings which the gospel guarantees.

Elder Godfrey spoke upon the first principles of the gospel, bore testimony to its truths, and gifts and blessings.

President Palmer spoke of the spurious modes of sectarian baptism, quoted much Scripture to substantiate his remarks.

2.30 p. m.

The meeting was opened in the usual manner, and the Sacrament was administered. President Palmer read the 20th and 21st verses of the 3d Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, from which he delivered a powerful discourse.

7.30 p. m.

President Palmer spoke upon the mission of Joseph Smith and the divinity of the Book of Mormon, quoting many passages from Scripture to prove its authenticity.

The General Authorities were sustained as at the last Annual Conference.

Wm. M. Palmer was sustained as President of the North Western Mission, Mads Anderson as President of the Minnesota Conference. William Barker, James Godfrey, Jens Frandsen, Denmark Jensen, Jacob Jacobsen as traveling Elders in the State of Minnesota. E. H. Riggs and G. W. Riggs, Jun., were appointed traveling Priests in the Minnesota Mission. G. W. Riggs, Senr, was sustained President of the Monticello Branch, and eLvi Durham was appointed his Assistant. S. W. Clement was sustained President of the St. Francis Branch. Joseph Nokes as President of the Princeton Branch. Brother Jens Hansen as Presiding Priest of the Linden Branch, and H. R. Williams Teacher in the same Branch. Thos. J. Steed and Christian Wallentine as Traveling Elders in the State of Iowa. J. O. Stephens and D. M. Stephens as Traveling Elders in Illinois. William Barker was appointed Clerk of the Conference.

A priesthood meeting was held Sept. 5th, when excellent instructions were given concerning our duties as ministers of the gospel to the people. It was also decided that we get 2,000 or 3,000 copies of Brother Morgans tracts, Nos. 1 and 2, printed in the Swedish language. We had a good, enjoyable time, one that will long be remembered. The spirit of the Lord was in our midst, and nothing occurred to mar our peace.

WILLIAM BARKER, Clerk.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

ESTATE OF SARAH CUNNINGHAM, DECEASED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE undersigned, Executor of the Estate of Sarah Cunningham, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit them with the necessary vouchers, within four months after the first publication of this notice, to the said Executor at his office, at the General Tithing Office, Salt Lake City, in the County of Salt Lake.

Dated at Salt Lake City, Sept. 3rd, 1881. LEONARD W. HARDY, Executor of the Estate of Sarah Cunningham, deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

ESTATE OF HENRY LOVESY, DECEASED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE undersigned, Executors of the Last Will and Testament of Henry Lovesy, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit them with the necessary vouchers, within ten months after the first publication of this notice, to the said Executors at their respective residences in Salt Lake City, in the County of Salt Lake.

Dated at Salt Lake City, August 22, 1881. J. M. BENEDICT, EDMUND S. LOVESY, Executors of the Last Will and Testament of the said deceased.

No Such Opportunity has ever been offered to buy

CHEAP THRESHERS!

—I HAVE—

2 SMALL THRESHERS:

ONE A

20 INCH CYLINDER;

ONE A

24 INCH CYLINDER;

Both APRON Machines and Both Complete with

PITT'S POWER.

These Machines are rather small for General Custom Work, but are just the Machines for a Small Community, or for one or two Large Farmers, and I will SELL THEM from

\$100 to \$200

Less than List Price

AND ON THE

BEST TERMS!

Apply at once to

JOHN W. LOWELL,

Ogden or Salt Lake City.

JNO. W. LOWELL,

AGENT,

SALT LAKE CITY AND OGDEN,

I carry a full assortment of

SCRAPERS, TENTS, GRADING PLOWS, AND OTHER Contractors' Supplies.

FISH WAGONS, ALL SIZES.

TWO CAR LOADS

SPRING WAGONS & BUGGIES, Just Arrived!

—THE—

"Favorite" Hay Press

Cane Mills, Evaporators, Cider Mills, Plows and Seed Drills.

Wagon Stock, A LARGE SUPPLY.

Steel Barb Fence Wire.

SEND FOR PRICE LISTS.