

Prosecuting Attorneys Howat, Richards and Whittemore.

Respectfully submitted,

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Foreman.

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### THE GLEANING IN TENNESSEE.

CARYVILLE, TENN., Nov. 18, 1895.

"I know," said a reverend gentleman of the city of Bristol, "that Joe Smith was an imposter. You can't delude these people; you had better go home and enter into a more peaceful occupation. Smith was a false prophet and you are false teachers. I know I know God has told me so. I am in constant communication with Him and can get any answer I want."

Our answer to his long-continued slanders and disrespectful language was: "Perhaps your God answers you, but the God of heaven answers those only who ask Him, and that in consistency. As it would be unappreciated and unprofitable to an idle man to give him that which he can earn by honest labor, so is it equally unprofitable, as well as foreign from God's policy, to give man information which is obtainable by his own observation. Hence the words of the Savior, 'By their fruits ye shall know them, are comforting to us—the fruits of Mormonism are the greatest evidence of its divine origin.'"

It gives us great satisfaction, as defenders of Zion, to be able to stand before the world and truthfully declare before the world that nowhere upon the face of the globe is there so perfect an organization, much less such unity as exists among the Latter-day Saints; that nowhere among the so-called Christian sects can there be found so beautiful a system of Sunday schools, not speaking of the Primary and Mutual Improvement associations, the Relief society, etc., which the world knows nothing of; that nowhere among the religious, political or social bodies of the earth can be found 800 or 1,000 of such physical and intellectual giants as now form the travelling ministry representing the Mormon people; who use neither tea, coffee, tobacco nor whisky, thus being "an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity;" that nowhere under the canopy of heaven can be found so great a number of virtuous and honorable young men and women as now beautify the valleys of fair Utah—being among the foremost in education and the last in criminal offenses.

Again we ask, where among the Latter-day Saints would it be unsafe, or rather intruding to ask a child, "Who is your father?" Where among the Mormon settlements can be found the house on the hill surrounded by a half dozen ragged and starving children whose features plainly exhibit the characteristics of their six different fathers, white or black the case may be and yet the inquirer hears the shocking news, "We have no man here." Where is the Mormon boy who would boast of having ruined so many women? In fact, where is a people over whom Satan has so little power as

over the Latter-day Saints? "By their fruits therefore ye shall know them."

Elder J. H. Hubbard and myself labored in the above named city for one month, being promised all necessary protection by Mayors Anderson and Emitt. The Tennessee and Virginia line separates the two corporations which contain 11,000 inhabitants including colored. We were royally entertained by a young man whose wife, Molly Dalton, has many relatives in Utah; we also had a pleasant conversation with John Bailey, attorney-at-law, whose wife is a relative of Bishop Preston, of whom they spoke very favorable.

While laboring in Sevier county, we were successful in getting the courthouse in which to hold meeting, which was effective in the way of making friends of influential parties. Rev. Hall, of the Baptist church, after reading the Book of Mormon and duly considering, said: "If this message be true, why was it not delivered to a man whose character was better known, one of the lights of the age?" The gentleman had forgotten that the Savior was of all men most meek and humble and from that despised section of the world called Nazareth; like wise the ancient Apostles—many of them were none less than humble fishermen. He had conceived the prevailing idea that, having "poured out His spirit upon all flesh," making the present an enlightened age, God's power had diminished and His love for mankind had vanished, that He would not speak to him face to face as He did to Moses. Yet the Lord, looking down to the present age and seeing the iniquity which would abound, said: "Therefore, behold, I will proceed to a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder; for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid," which was evidently fulfilled by the wide spreading ideas evolved through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

The reverend gentleman has been so perfectly skilled in the modern system of spiritualizing, that to him no prophecy of the Scripture had a literal fulfillment, though there are many in the same unenviable condition.

Since May last I have labored in Campbell county with several different companies. Here we were kindly entertained by Rev. John Reid, ex-state legislator. Said he: "These women are afraid of you Mormons as a result of the many false reports, but I have no fight for you, neither shall I say anything against your cause."

On the 5th inst. we had a pleasant interview with August Shuller, a well-known jeweler of Coal Creek, Tenn., who always speaks well of the people of Utah, having visited that section in 1860.

Having labored harmoniously with eight different companies, my mission has been a most pleasant one. During the past twenty-two months I have walked 4,500 miles, visited 4,000 families, held 50 meetings, assisted in baptizing 8 persons. Too much praise cannot be given the Southern people for their kindness and hospitality.

Elder John C. Bertoch is my present companion, Caryville, Campbell Co., Tenn., being our mission address. We are grieved to report the

fast failing condition of "Uncle" John Housley, aged 84, at whose bedside we are waiting. He has been a friend to the Elvers for 15 years. We feel grateful for your interesting paper which reaches us regularly.

I am your brother in the Gospel,  
WALTER CHRISTENSEN.

### DAVIS STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of Davis Stake was held at Kayesville on Saturday and Sunday, December 7th and 8th, 1895. On Saturday there were present on the stand, President Geo. Q. Cannon, of the First Presidency of the Church, Elder A. H. Cannon, of the Twelve Apostles, the presidency of the Stake, High Councilors and Bishops of wards.

Saturday, 10 a. m.—After the opening exercises the following brethren gave a brief report of their wards: Bishop R. E. Egan, of the South Bountiful ward; Counselor David Staker, of East Bountiful; Counselor M. B. Randall, of Centerville; Bishop J. M. Secrist, of Farmington; Bishop P. Barton, of Kayesville; Counselor John Thornley, of Layton; Bishop D. E. Layton, of West Layton, and Bishop David Cook, of South Hooper. All gave very favorable reports of the Saints over whom they preside, organizations and associations doing well, especially the Sunday schools and Relief societies. President John W. H. reported the Stake. Speaking of the labors of himself and counselors amongst the people, he said from his own knowledge he believed the Bishops had given true reports.

President Geo. Q. Cannon spoke for a few minutes on the influence of the Holy Spirit and its effect on the Saints or God.

Saturday, 2 p. m.—After the usual exercises Elder John W. H. spoke on the need of being subject to the laws of God and overcoming our weaknesses.

President Geo. Q. Cannon addressed the congregation, giving timely counsel and instructions to the Saints, pointing out the path that they must pursue to be Saints of God, showing that we cannot expect His blessing if we yield to the temptations of Satan.

Elder A. H. Cannon spoke against the spirit of faultfinding; said speaking against the Lord's anointed, fighting against the Priesthood, would bring darkness and apostasy.

Sunday, 10 a. m.—In addition to the Stake and local authorities we were blessed with the presence of Elders F. D. Richards, H. J. Grant, J. W. Taylor and A. H. Cannon, of the Council of the Twelve, and Elder Geo. Reynolds, of the Council of Seventies. Elders George Reynolds, H. J. Grant and J. W. Taylor addressed the Saints during the morning service, speaking on the evils in our midst; how to guard against them, the law of tithing, Word of Wisdom, etc. They urged the Saints to uphold the hands of the presiding Priesthood and listen to the counsel they might give.

Sunday, 2 p. m.—After the opening exercises and the administering of the sacrament, Elder H. J. Grant presented the general and Stake authorities, who were unanimously sustained. Elder A. H. Cannon spoke on the spirit of forgiveness, etc. Elder F. D. Richards dwelt on the great things