

may be, is sent out on the hunt for a mate, but if no one of the family can assume the responsibility, an aged, experienced person is engaged to act the *taraf*, and when the object of the search is found the parents of the two parties come together and the *taraf* acts as umpire. These are the only instances where the contracting parties do not quarrel. They are excused; shame forbids the man being seen in the street where his intended lives, and she hides every time there is alarm at the door, for fear of being seen. She is indeed "given in marriage."

In religious matters it is much the same. One can now better understand the term used in the Scripture, that "he was baptized with his whole house." That same spirit is extant even today. When men of repute will listen or lead out, many will follow, having great confidence in such men. Until these do step forward they will make many excuses, and stand off until a sufficient number is collected to make a good front.

From this observation it will be seen that the independence of character of many of this people is dormant. The fact of their having no confidence in their own acts, nor, in fact, in themselves, has long since undermined the people for future worth, until some healing influence be thrown around them. In business they are tedious and parsimonious, and are apt to look upon the world as gloomy. They live in a state of lethargy and consider that life is governed by fate to a great extent. Progress in such a stupor is next to impossible. To extricate the willing ones from this condition will take patience and time. They must come in closer contact with the true spirit of progression, and the changes must be begun by setting before them examples which will tend to correct the moral foundation and infuse moral courage, which will gradually give man a better understanding of his own being and the value of a well-spent life.

The spirit that has reached here through the so-called Christian sources is not that of progress proper; it is more the spirit of greed and destruction, under the pretense of liberating the people from their bonds of ignorance. True, the people are in bonds to their own ignorance, and to assist them is a noble work, especially when prompted by a pure desire to do good; but the effort should be clothed in a mantle of morality, calculated to correct evil rather than increase it. In this way only can the effort be successful. Our western civilization may attempt to come east to civilize the Orientals, but they themselves need first be moralized and have the "beams removed" from their own eyes, so that they may more easily and with less danger "remove the mote" in eastern countries.

Well may we thank the Turk for his stubborn refusal to amalgamate with Christendom as he is forced to see it. He has been a true door-keeper, by land, to the east. His mind is not very expansive, his aspirations are not very many nor lofty, so far as temporal progress is

concerned. He has been firm against the evils that are to lay distracting Christendom. The Mohammedans have steadily refused to bow down to the idols and pictures with which the Christian churches are filled; they adhere strictly to this truly inspired sentence of the prophet Mohammed: "It is not fit for a man that God should give him a book of revelations, and wisdom, and prophecy, and that then He should say unto men, 'Be ye worshippers of me, besides God;' but he ought to say, 'Be ye perfect in knowledge and in works, since ye know the scriptures and exercise yourselves therein.' God hath not commanded you to take the angels and prophets for your Lords." (Koran, 3rd chapter.) The above is a severe rebuke by the Prophet; it is enough to cause any Christian idolator to call him a false prophet.

The scriptures teach us that during the millennium there will be other nations besides the Saints, and no doubt Islam is planted to ward off the Satanic fruits of the "abominable church." As sure as the Catholics will never, as a body, give up their limited knowledge of Christ and return to heathenism, and the Protestants in a body will not become Catholic, above all, that the Latter-day Saints will never, never, return to the mire of Christianity, because it would be serious retrograding, just so sure the Mohammedans will never become identified with Babylon. They are not beyond recovery. In all instances where they have heard a little of the truth as revealed by God in this dispensation, they have felt its force; and the truth, and the truth only, will ever reform these people. The word of God is quiet but powerful. FRIS.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Sept. 19, 1889.

DYER'S COMPENSATION.

The examination into the value of the services of Receiver Dyer, in the Church cases, with a view to fixing compensation for the year ending Nov. 9, 1889, commenced before Supreme Court Clerk Bache Oct. 15. There was no such interest as accompanied the investigation a year ago, and when the hour for beginning had arrived, only Clerk Bache and Hon. F. S. Richards, attorney for the defendants, were in attendance. Half an hour later Mr. Varian strolled in, and soon Mr. Dyer and his attorney, Mr. Williams, presented themselves. Before the session was ended Mr. Brown also put in an appearance.

RECEIVER DYER

was sworn and said, in reply to Mr. Williams—I was appointed Nov. 7, 1887, and have been allowed compensation for one year; I now desire the fixing of compensation for the year commencing Nov. 7, 1888; in October, 1888, the Supreme Court entered a final decree, and there was a lull in affairs, so that there was not much to do; in December, 1888, I spent some time looking after a coal mine; it had been leased to Mr. Robinson by Angus M. Cannon; a good many persons came to

me to re-lease it; I made a demand on Mr. Cannon, but the lease was good, and I only received \$188, the royalty on the half interest which belonged to the Church; I did not know of the lease when the property was first turned over to me; during January I collected rents, etc.; in February a suit was brought by Carl P. Carlson, and I spent considerable time in looking up evidence in that suit, which was an attempt to steal so much out of the fund; the matter referred to was over 20 years old, and it took considerable time to get the evidence together; the writ was tried in March, and went against Carlson; a good many other little things came up during March, April and May; in June the court met, and I made a showing of the property on hand; I was ordered by the Court to loan the money to the banks; I received no bids; I went to see them personally, and finally Zion's Savings Bank borrowed \$75,000; I was several days in making this loan; I also made a report to the Court of the condition of the Deseret Telegraph Company's affairs, and while the Court made no order, the judges told me they had no authority to direct me to transfer the stock; I got a report from the Deseret Telegraph secretary that the line was being run at a loss, and I did no more with the matter; it was guaranteed that the receiver should not be responsible for debts contracted; the secretary gave the report of the company's affairs at my demand; I did want to put in a board of directors, but could not, and no election has yet been held; I hold 4732 shares, and the remainder, 268, are held by different parties; in June or July I communicated with the court on the subject of sheep, and the court ordered me to advertise them for lease, which I did; I received bids, and the court let them, requiring bonds; it was also ordered that if any bidders failed to give bonds, the receiver was ordered to lease as he could; less than 5000 were taken on the court's order, and I leased over 7000 to Mr. Hunter; at the next sitting of the court I was told to do the best I could; I had an offer from reliable parties for 22½ cents per head, and accepted; upon further consideration, however, they declined to take the sheep because of the impending decision of the U.S. Supreme Court; I was then ordered to herd them, which I am now doing; since the matter was taken up in June, I have had this matter in hand every day; there were a great many applications, and took up most of my time; during the past year there has been no time when the business did not require attention; I also leased the Church farm, about which there was considerable negotiation; I have about \$260,000 in cash in my custody, \$80,000 worth of g s stock, 30,000 sheep, the Gardo House, Tithing office, Church Farm, and Historian Office; altogether property worth \$1,000,000. Property has increased in value since it was taken possession of by the receiver. I think that, considering all things, the time, the responsibility, and the nature of the property, I should