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## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PAGE 89.—Poetry: Gospel Song.—History of Joseph Smith.  
PAGE 90.—History of Joseph Smith, continued.—Remarks by Elder W. Woodruff, April 9.  
PAGE 91.—Elder Woodruff's Remarks, concluded.—Remarks by Elder C. H. Bassett.—Discourse by Elder Jacob Gates, May 3.  
PAGE 92.—Elder Gates' Discourse, concluded.—Editorial: Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society.  
PAGE 93.—Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, concluded.—Explanation.—Return of the Governor and his party.—Lawyers and Doctors.—A Singular Report.—Reported Departure.—United States' Army.—The Wheat Crops.—City Creek.—City Items.  
PAGE 94.—Kentucky Rifleman.—Electricity applied to Clock.—The Evil of the Age.—The Form and Uses of Paper.—Blue Stocking.—Facts and Figures.—Frenchmen.—A Lady.—To Young Men.—A Moral and Example.—The New Key.—A Singular Fish.—Mutual Forbearance.—Transfer of the Hermitage to the United States.—Grammar.—Lotteries.—The Progression of Coronations.—The Female Lobby at Washington.—A Good Weather Anecdote.—A Narrow Escape.—John Adams' Consistency.  
PAGE 95.—French and English Farming.—Steel Plate.—French Wars.—Wire Cables.—Cutting Sheet Metal.—Pistols.—Live for a Purpose.—Welding Sheet Iron.—Counting Knuckles.—Did Right.—True Benevolence.—Item.—Advertisements.  
PAGE 96.—Missionary Meetings.—Editorial continued: Too late.—Festival.—Thanks.—Old Opinion.—New Advertisements.

## SONG.

AIR.—"Partant pour la Syrie."

The Gospel standard high is raised  
On Zion's sacred shore,  
Rejoice ye Saints, our God be praised,  
Satan's long reign is o'er:  
The bright Millennium dawns at last,  
The faithful shall be free,  
Christ will reward their trials past  
With immortality.

Earth to proud loveliness restored  
Shall echo back the strains  
From thousand heavenly choirs pour'd  
When Christ in triumph reigns:  
Refulgent in the beams of love  
Their Savior's presence given,  
The Saints on earth with Saints above,  
Shall share the rest of heaven.

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## HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

FEBRUARY, 1844.

The government has once flourished under the guidance of trusty servants; and the Hon. Mr. Monroe in his day, while speaking of the Constitution, says, "Our commerce has been wisely regulated with foreign nations, and between the States; new States have been admitted into our Union; our Territory has been enlarged by fair and honorable treaty, and with great advantage to the original States; the States respectively protected by the national government, under a mild paternal system against foreign dangers, and enjoying within their separate spheres, by a wise partition of power, a just proportion of the sovereignty, have improved their police, extended their settlements, and attained a strength and maturity which are the best proofs of wholesome laws well administered. And if we look to the condition of individuals, what a proud spectacle does it exhibit? on whom has oppression fallen in any quarter of our Union? who has been deprived of any right of person or property? who restrained from offering his vows in the mode which he prefers, to the Divine Author of his being? It is well known that all these blessings have been enjoyed in their fullest extent; and I add, with peculiar satisfaction, that there has been no example of a capital punishment being inflicted on any one for the crime of high treason." What a delightful picture of power, policy and prosperity! Truly the wise man's proverb is just: "Sedaukanh teromain gov, veh-ka-sade le-u-meem khah-maut." Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

But this is not all. The same honorable statesman, after having had about forty years experience in the government, under the full tide of successful experiment, gives the following commendatory assurance of the efficiency of the magna charta to answer its great end and aim: to protect the people in their rights. "Such, then, is the happy government under which we live; a government adequate to every purpose for which the social compact is formed; a government elective in all its branches, under which every citizen may, by his merit, obtain the highest trust recognized by the Constitution; which contains within it no cause of discord; none to put at variance one portion of the community with another; a government which protects every citizen in the full enjoyment of his rights, and is able to protect the nation against injustice from foreign powers."

Again, the younger Adams, in the silver age of our country's advancement to fame, in his inaugural address, (1825) thus candidly declares the majesty of the youthful republic, in its increasing greatness, "The year of jubilee since the first formation of our union has just elapsed; that of the declaration of independence is at hand. The consummation of both was effected by this Constitution.

Since that period, a population of four mil-

lions has multiplied to Twelve. A Territory, bounded by the Mississippi, has been extended from sea to sea. New States have been admitted to the Union, in numbers nearly equal to those of the first confederation.

Treaties of peace, amity and commerce, have been concluded with the principal dominions of the earth. The people of other nations, the inhabitants of regions acquired, not by conquest, but by compact, have been united with us in the participation of our rights and duties, of our burdens and blessings.

The forest has fallen by the axe of our woodsmen; the soil has been made to teem by the tillage of our farmers; our commerce has whitened every ocean.

The dominion of man over physical nature has been extended by the invention of our artists. Liberty and law have marched hand in hand. All the purposes of human association have been accomplished as effectively as under any other government on the globe, and at a cost little exceeding, in a whole generation, the expenditures of other nations in a single year."

In continuation of such noble sentiments, Gen. Jackson, upon his ascension to the great chair of the chief magistracy, said, "As long as our government is administered for the good of the people, and is regulated by their will; as long as it secures to us the rights of person and property, liberty of conscience, and of the press, it will be worth defending; and so long as it is worth defending, a patriotic militia will cover it with an impenetrable ægis."

General Jackson's administration may be denominated the *acme* of American glory, liberty and prosperity, for the national debt, which in 1815, on account of the late war, was \$125,000,000, and being lessened gradually, was paid up in his golden day; and preparations were made to distribute the surplus revenue among the several States; and that august patriot, to use his own words in his farewell address, retired, leaving "a great people prosperous and happy, in the full enjoyment of liberty and peace, honored and respected by every nation of the world."

At the age, then, of sixty years, our blooming Republic began to decline under the withering touch of Martin Van Buren! Disappointed ambition, thirst for power, pride, corruption, party spirit, faction, patronage, perquisites, fame, tangling alliances; priestcraft and spiritual wickedness in high places, struck hands, and reveled in midnight splendor.

Trouble, vexation, perplexity and contention, mingled with hope, fear and murmuring, rumbled through the Union, and agitated the whole nation as would an earthquake at the centre of the earth, the world heaving the sea beyond its bounds, and shaking the everlasting hills; so, in hopes of better times, while jealousy, hypocritical pretensions, and pompous ambition, were luxuriating on the ill-gotten spoils of the people, they rose in their majesty like a tornado, and swept through the land, till General Harrison appeared, as a star among the storm clouds, for better weather.

The calm came; and the language of that venerable patriot, in his inaugural address, while descending upon the merits of the Constitution and its framers, thus expressed himself: "There were in it features which appeared not to be in harmony with their ideas of a simple representative democracy or republic. And knowing the tendency of power to increase itself, particularly when executed by a single individual, predictions were made that, at no very remote period, the government would terminate in virtual monarchy."

It would not become me to say that the fears of these patriots have been already realized. But as I sincerely believe that the tendency of measures and of men's opinions, for some years past, has been in that direction, it is, I conceive, strictly proper that I should take this occasion to repeat the assurances I have heretofore given, of my determination to arrest the progress of that tendency, if it really exists, and restore the government to its pristine health and vigor.

This good man died before he had the opportunity of applying one balm to ease the pain of our groaning country, and I am willing the nation should be the judge, whether General Harrison, in his exalted station, upon the eve of his entrance into the world of spirits, told the truth or not: with acting President Tyler's three years of perplexity and pseudo whig-democrat reign, to heal the breaches, or show the wounds, *secundum artum*, (according to art.)

Subsequent events, all things considered, Van Buren's downfall, Harrison's exit, and Tyler's self sufficient turn to the whole, go to show, as a Chaldean might exclaim, "Beram etai elauh beshmayayh gauhah rauzeen?" (certainly there is a God in heaven to reveal secrets.)

No honest man can doubt for a moment, but the glory of American liberty, is on the wane; and that calamity and confusion will sooner or later, destroy the peace of the people. Speculators will urge a national bank as a savior of credit and comfort. A hireling pseudo priesthood will plausibly push abolition doctrines and doings, and "human rights," into Congress, and into every other place, where conquest smells of fame, or opposition swells to popularity. Democracy, whiggery and cliquery will attract their elements and foment

divisions among the people, to accomplish fancied schemes and accumulate power, while poverty driven to despair, like hunger forcing its way through a wall, will break through the statutes of men, to save life, and mend the breach in prison glooms.

A still higher grade, of what the "nobility of nations" call "great men," will dally with all rights in order to smuggle a fortune at "one fell swoop;" mortgage Texas, possess Oregon, and claim all the unsettled regions of the world for hunting and trapping; and should a humble honest man, red, black, or white, exhibit a better title, these gentry have only to clothe the judge with richer ermine, and spangle the lawyer's finger with finer rings, to have the judgment of his peers, and the honor of his lords, as a pattern of honesty, virtue and humanity, while the motto hangs on his nation's escutcheon: "Every man has his price!"

Now, oh! people! people! turn unto the Lord and live; and reform this nation. Frustrate the designs of wicked men. Reduce Congress at least two thirds. Two senators from a State, and two members to a million of population, will do more business than the army, that now occupy the halls of the national legislature. Pay them two dollars and their board per diem (except Sundays); that is more than the farmer gets, and he lives honestly. Curtail the officers of government in pay, number, and power, for the Philistine lords have shorn our nation of its goodly locks in the lap of Delilah.

Petition your State legislatures to pardon every convict in their several penitentiaries, blessing them as they go, and saying to them in the name of the Lord, *Go thy way, and sin no more.*

Advise your legislatures, when they make laws for larceny, burglary, or any felony, to make the penalty applicable to work upon roads, public works, or any place where the culprit can be taught more wisdom and more virtue, and become more enlightened. Rigor and seclusion will never do as much to reform the propensities of men, as reason and friendship. Murder only can claim confinement or death. Let the penitentiaries be turned into seminaries of learning, where intelligence, like the angels of heaven, would banish such fragments of barbarism: imprisonment for debt is a meaner practice than the savage tolerates with all his ferocity. "Amor vincit omnia." Love conquers all.

Petition also, ye goodly inhabitants of the slave States, your legislators to abolish slavery by the year 1850, or now, and save the abolitionist from reproach and ruin, infamy and shame.

Pray Congress to pay every man a reasonable price for his slaves out of the surplus revenue arising from the sale of public lands, and from the deduction of pay from the members of Congress.

Break off the shackles from the poor black man, and hire him to labor like other human beings; for "an hour of virtuous liberty on earth, is worth a whole eternity of bondage." Abolish the practice in the army and navy of trying men by court martial for desertion; if a soldier or marine runs away, send him his wages, with this instruction, that his country will never trust him again; he has forfeited his honor.

Make HONOR the standard with all men; be sure that good is rendered for evil in all cases; and the whole nation, like a kingdom of kings and priests, will rise up in righteousness; and be respected as wise and worthy on earth; and as just and holy for heaven, by Jehovah the author of perfection.

More economy in the national and State governments, would make less taxes among the people; more equality through the cities, towns and country, would make less distinction among the people; and more honesty and familiarity in societies, would make less hypocrisy and flattery in all branches of the community; and open, frank, candid decorum to all men, in this boasted land of liberty, would beget esteem, confidence, union and love; and the neighbor from any State, or from any country, of whatever color, clime or tongue, could rejoice when he put his foot on the sacred soil of freedom, and exclaim; the very name of "American," is fraught with friendship! Oh! then, create confidence! restore freedom! break down slavery! banish imprisonment for debt, and be in love, fellowship and peace with all the world! Remember that honesty is not subject to law; the law was made for transgressors; wherefore a Dutchman might exclaim, "Ein ehrlicher name ist besser als Reichthum," (a good name is better than riches.)

For the accommodation of the people in every State and territory, let Congress shew their wisdom by granting a national bank, with branches in each State and Territory, where the capital stock shall be held by the nation for the mother bank; and by the States and Territories, for the branches; and whose officers and directors shall be elected yearly by the people, with wages at the rate of two dollars per day for services; which several banks shall never issue any more bills than the amount of capital stock in her vaults and the interest.

The nett gain of the mother bank shall be applied to the national revenue, and that of the branches to the States, and Territories' revenues. And the bills shall be par throughout the nation, which will mercifully cure that fatal dis-

order known in cities, as *brokerage*, and leave the people's money in their own pockets.

Give every man his constitutional freedom, and the President full power to send an army to suppress mobs; and the States authority to repeal and impugn that relic of folly, which makes it necessary for the Governor of a State to make the demand of the President for troops, in case of invasion or rebellion.

The Governor himself may be a mobber and, instead of being punished as he should be for murder or treason, he may destroy the very lives, rights, and property he should protect. Like the good Samaritan, send every lawyer as soon as he repents and obeys the ordinances of heaven, to preach the gospel to the destitute, without purse or scrip, pouring in the oil and the wine: a learned priesthood is certainly more honorable than "an hireling clergy."

As to the contiguous territories to the United States, wisdom would direct no tangling alliance: Oregon belongs to this government honorably, and when we have the red man's consent, let the Union spread from the east to the west sea; and if Texas petitions Congress to be adopted among the sons of liberty, give her the right hand of fellowship; and refuse not the same friendly grip to Canada and Mexico; and when the right arm of freemen is stretched out in the character of a navy, for the protection of rights, commerce and honor, let the iron eyes of power, watch from Maine to Mexico, and from California to Columbia; thus, may union be strengthened, and foreign speculation prevented from opposing broadside to broadside.

Seventy years have done much for this goodly land; they have burst the chains of oppression and monarchy; and multiplied its inhabitants from two to twenty millions, with a proportionate share of knowledge, keen enough to circumnavigate the globe, draw the lightning from the clouds, and cope with all the crowned heads of the world.

Then why? oh! why! will a once flourishing people not arise, phoenix like, over the cinders of Martin Van Buren's power; and over the sinking fragments and smoking ruins of other catamount politicians; and over the wind-falls of Benton, Calhoun, Clay, Wright, and a caravan of other equally unfortunate law doctors, and cheerfully help to spread a plaster and bind up the burnt, bleeding wounds of a sore but blessed country?

The southern people are hospitable and noble; they will help to rid so free a country of every vestige of slavery, whenever they are assured of an equivalent for their property. The country will be full of money and confidence, when a national bank of twenty millions, and a State bank in every State, with a million or more, gives a tone to monetary matters; and make a circulating medium as valuable in the purses of a whole community, as in the coffers of a speculating banker or broker.

The people may have faults, but they should never be trifled with. I think Mr. Pitt's quotation in the British parliament of Mr. Prior's couplet for the husband and wife, to apply to the course which the King and ministry of England should pursue to the then colonies of the now United States, might be a genuine rule of action for some of the *breath made men* in high places, to use towards the posterity of this noble daring people:

"Be to her faults a little blind;  
Be to her virtues very kind."

We have had democratic Presidents, whig Presidents, a pseudo democratic whig President, and now it is time to have a *President of the United States*; and let the people of the whole Union, like the inflexible Romans, whenever they find a *promise* made by a candidate, that is not *practised* as an officer, hurl the miserable sycophant from his exaltation, as God did Nebuchadnezzar, to crop the grass of the field, with a beast's heart among the cattle.

Mr. Van Buren said in his inaugural address, that he went "into the presidential chair the inflexible and uncompromising opponent of every attempt, on the part of Congress, to abolish slavery in the district of Columbia, against the wishes of the slave holding States; and also with a determination equally decided to resist the slightest interference with it in the States where it exists."

Poor little Matty made this rhapsodical sweep with the fact before his eyes, that the State of New York, his native State, had abolished slavery, without a struggle or a groan. Great God, how independent! From henceforth slavery is tolerated where it exists, constitution or no constitution, people or no people, right or wrong; vox Matti—vox Diaboli, "the voice of Matty"—"the voice of the Devil;" and peradventure, his great "sub-treasury" scheme was a piece of the same mind; but the man and his measures have such a striking resemblance to the anecdote of the Welshman and his cart-tongue, that, when the constitution was so long that it allowed slavery at the capitol of a free people, it could not be cut off; but when it was so short that it needed a *sub-treasury*, to save the funds of the nation, it could be split! Oh, granny, granny, what a long tail our puss has got! (As a Greek might say, *hysteron proteron*; the cart before the horse; but his mighty whisk through the great national fire, for the presidential chesnuts, burnt the locks of his glory with the *blaze* of his folly!)