

DESERET NEWS,

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and Watch Ties, &c., &c.

THE WAY I MADE MY FORTUNE.

Three of us were sitting in a small room, and complaining of the hardships of our destiny.

"What money one can do nothing," said George; "were I to hit upon a speculation that would have done honor to a Rothschild, coming from a pauper like myself, no one would think it worth attending to."

"I," said Albert, "have actually finished a work which would establish my reputation as an author if I could only find a bookseller to buy it."

"I have petitioned my employer for an increase of salary," I exclaimed, anxious to contribute to the chorus of lamentation; "and he told me that for forty years he had never had a clerk that he wanted."

"It would not so much matter," said George, thoughtfully, "if besides being poor, we did not seem poor. Could one of us only be thought rich—"

"What is the use of the shadow without the substance?" I asked.

"Of every use," said Albert. "I agree with George—the shadow sometimes makes the substance. The next best thing to capital is credit."

"Especially," returned George, "the credit of having a good fortune. Have none of us a rich uncle in India?"

"A cousin of mine went to Jamaica or Martinique, I forget which," I said, innocently, "and he never came back."

"Capital that is all one requires," exclaimed George. "We will conjure up this cousin of yours—or could we not kill him? Yes, James Meran, of Martinique, deceased, leaving a sugar plantation, a hundred negroes, and a fortune of a hundred thousand louis to his well-beloved cousin Louis Meran."

We laughed at the joke, and I thought no more of it; but George and Albert—slightly excited by the fumes of a bowl of punch which I had sent for to do honor to the testator—lost no time in concocting and afterwards publishing a full account in a local newspaper of the fortune that had been left me.

The next day, sundry friends dropped in to compliment me. Of course, I endeavored to undeceive them, but they would by no means take a denial. In vain I assured them it was a hoax; it was of no use. Several people remembered my cousin James very well, and had seen him at Nantes before he embarked in 1789. Among others came my tailor, to whom I owed a small sum which it was not quite convenient for me to pay at that moment. No doubt the rumor of my cousin's decease had sharpened his memory. I wished my two friends at a place that shall be named hereafter.

"Good morning, Mr. Mayer, I suppose you are come for those fifty francs?"

"I hope, sir, you don't think I came for such a trifle as that. No, sir, I came to take your orders for a suit of mourning."

"A suit of mourning,"

"Yes, sir, mourning. Dark bronze frock, for mourning wear, black trousers and waistcoat."

"At the present moment, Mr. Mayer—"

"I hope, sir, I have done nothing to forfeit your patronage."

"But repeat I have received no money at all."

"I hope, sir, you won't mention such a thing, there is no sort of hurry," exclaimed the tailor, who busily employed himself in taking my measure with slips of paper.

After all, my wardrobe did want some additions, and I said nothing more.

"My dear sir," said the next visitor. "I have a very great favor to ask of you. Buy my house—"

You are very rich; you must be on the look-out for safe and lucrative investments. Sixty thousand francs are nothing for you—a mere fraction of your wealth. With me the case is different. I thought Mr. Felix had made up his mind to purchase the premises, and now I hear he has changed his intentions. What is to become of me? I have heavy demands to meet, and I don't know where the money is to come from."

"I buy your house? Why, it would be madness to think of such a thing."

"Madness? No such a thing; you could not find a better investment anywhere. In two years, with trifling repairs, it will be worth double its present value; you will never see such a good opportunity again. Say 'done,' and I'm off."

And he was off, without leaving me time to put in a word.

Two hours after, in walked Mr. Felix, evidently not in the best of tempers.

"Really, sir," he began; "you have taken me quite by surprise. That house is indispensable to me; I reckoned on it as if it were mine, and offered fifty thousand francs because the owner is embarrassed, and I felt sure that he would be obliged to take them. With you, sir, the case is different; so I come to ask if you will let me have it for seventy-five thousand francs."

Fifty thousand francs, dropping all at once into the lap of a poor fellow who had to work hard to gain eight hundred francs a year! I could hardly believe my ears.

"I cannot give you an answer just now, sir," I said, "but if you will take the trouble to call again at five, I'll see what I can do."

At a quarter to five Mr. Felix made his appearance. I spoke to him with candor—

"I should tell you, sir, that I had no idea of buying the house, till the owner prevailed upon me to do so. You say you want it, and therefore you will suit me equally well, so I accept of your terms."

"You shall have a draft on Paris for the amount in a fortnight," replied Mr. Felix, who bowed and withdrew, apparently enchanted at my way of doing business.

A draft upon Paris? The circumstance appeared so unusual to me that I thought I ought to send it to Paris to get it cashed. I wrote accordingly to Messrs. Flanges and Bergeret, the only firm I knew there. I was in the habit of receiving through them the interest of a small sum, that had been lent me by an uncle, a friend of mine, who had died some years ago.

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DESERET NEWS.

Truth and Liberty.

VOL. 3. GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, U. T., SATURDAY, FEB. 5, 1853.

[NO. 6]

arrangements are ended you should find some difficulty in getting good interest for so large a capital. With the hope that you may entertain a better opinion of German securities than you do of Spanish, we hand you a prospectus for establishing a bank at Gruningen. You will please to observe, sir, that no deposits required, and that, as calls are only made at long intervals, it will be easy for you to sell your shares, should you change your mind, without your having occasion to make any payment. We have placed fifty to your credit, and have the honor to remain, &c.

Eighty thousand francs. The amount was a perfect mystery to me; no doubt the clerk had made some mistake in the figures. My position was becoming embarrassing. Congratulations poured in from all quarters, especially when I made my appearance in black from head to foot.—The *Journal de Gruningen* thought it right to publish a biographical sketch of my cousin, and the editor wrote to me asking for further particulars. Ladies connected with all sorts of societies, begged that my name might be added to their list of subscribers, and the money I had to pay for postage was somewhat alarming. To escape from this avalanche of inquiries I hastily departed for Paris. Directly I got there, I called on my bankers, by whom I was received as heirs to a large property generally.

"Sorry that you have such a poor opinion of the Spanish stock," said Monsieur Bergeret, "there has been a great rise; however, we only sold out half your parcel."

"Would you have the goodness to let me know what the present value of the remainder might be?" I replied.

"Certainly, sir, ten thousand piastres stock at seventy (the piastre being at five francs, thirty-five centimes) the sum already paid being—If you sell out to-day you will, with the proceeds of last sale, have from two hundred and two hundred and ten to twenty thousand francs."

"Very well. You said something about a German bank, I think?"

"Yes; the Government made some difficulty about granting a charter, but it is all settled now, and the promised shares have risen considerably."

"Can I sell out?"

"Certainly; you have fifty, at four hundred and fifty francs profit, that will bring you about sixty thousand francs."

"Without any calls to pay?"

"None whatever."

"That seems strange, but you are, no doubt, well informed. I should like to find a secure investment for those sums; would you have the goodness to tell me what would be the best?"

"You cannot have anything better than our own five per cents. I know of nothing more secure at the present price of that stock; you get six per cent, for your money. I can easily understand that you should be worried by such trifling details as these; you will soon have more considerable sums to look after."

"Then, if I invest the combined produce of the German and Spanish stock in the five per cents, what should I get a year?"

"Let me see. Three hundred thousand francs—funds at eighty—eighteen—twenty—yes, twenty thousand francs a year."

"Ah! twenty thousand francs a year! And when can the investment be made?"

"To-morrow morning, that is, if you will allow our firm to conduct the transaction."

"Certainly; in whom could my confidence be better placed?"

The banker made a polite bow.

"And now," I continued, "I should feel obliged if you would have the goodness to advance me a few francs, as I am rather short of cash."

"My dear sir, all the cash I possess is at your service. How much do you want—two hundred—four hundred—"

"Thank you, fifty will be quite sufficient."

"May I hope," added the banker, when I rose to take leave, "that our firm may be favored with the continuance of your patronage?"

"Certainly," I replied.

There are few moments of my life on which I look back with more satisfaction than those occupied in my interview with M. Bergeret. I doubt if I should have believed in the twenty thousand francs a year, if it had not been for the fifty Napoleons.

In the mean time, my two friends were shocked at the success of their story, and were not a little alarmed at my sudden journey to Paris, which was attributed by others to legal business. George and Albert then began to fear that I really believed in the authenticity of the invention they had concocted.

Three days after my return, they came in to see me with long faces.

"My dear Louis," said George, "you know your cousin is not dead!"

"I cannot be sure of that," "for I am by no means convinced of his existence."

"Well, but you know that this inheritance is only a hoax?"

"To tell the truth, I think we are the only people who are of that opinion."

"We have been very wrong to originate such a foolish invention; for which we are very sorry."

"On the contrary, I am very much obliged to you."

"But it is our duty to contradict it, and to confess how foolish we have been."

Truth cannot remain long concealed; people began to wonder why no news came from Martinique; the wise and prudent shook their heads ominously when my name was mentioned.

"The most ludicrous feature in the case is," said one, "that he has ended by believing in the truth of his own invention. For my part, I must say that I was always rather sceptical about that inheritance."

"And I also," said Mr. Felix, "though it has cost me fifteen thousand francs."

On seeing a dozen letters on my table one morning, I guessed that the bubble had burst—Their contents were much alike for instance—

"Mr. Mayer's respects to you, Mr. Meran, and having heavy payments to meet, will feel obliged by a cheque for the amount of the enclosed."

My replies dismissed all doubts of my perfect solvency.

"Mr. Meran's thanks to Mr. Mayer for having at last sent his account, and encloses a cheque for the amount."

My cool and unconcerned demeanor kept curiosity alive for a few days longer.

"What a lucky fellow!" said one.

"Luck has nothing to do with it," rejoined another; "he has played his cards well, and has won."

Once or twice, I confess, I felt compunction of conscience; but a moment's reflection, convinced me that my own exertions had no share in my good fortune, and that I owed all to a universal public worship of the Golden Calf, and to the truth of Albert's axiom, "the next best thing to capital is credit."

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH

JANUARY, 1837.]

Elders Goodson and Richards arrived in Bedford on the 2nd, and were joyfully received by the Rev. Timothy R. Matthews, to whom they had letters of introduction from his brother-in-law, Joseph Fielding, and were invited to preach in his chapel in the evening to his congregation.

Friday 4th, elder Kimball baptized Jonnetta Richards, at Preston, daughter of the Rev. John Richards of Walkersfield, Chidgley, 15 miles from Preston and confirmed her at the water side. This was the first confirmation in England, sister Richards returned home the day following, Saturday 5th, and persuaded her father to write to elder Kimball to come and preach in his chapel.

The same day August 5th, the Presidency, High Council, and all the authorities of the church in Missouri assembled in council at Far West, and unanimously resolved to go on making timely investments; lest, when the legal arrangements are ended you should find some difficulty in getting good interest for so large a capital.

With the hope that you may entertain a better opinion of German securities than you do of Spanish, we hand you a prospectus for establishing a bank at Gruningen. You will please to observe, sir, that no deposits required, and that, as calls are only made at long intervals, it will be easy for you to sell your shares, should you change your mind, without your having occasion to make any payment.

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moderately and build a house upon the name of the Lord in Far West; as they had means, and appointed Edward Partridge Treasurer, to receive all the donations and subscriptions for the erection of the house of the Lord, Isaac Morley to be his Secretary; also voted, that the Committee, viz, Jacob Whitmer, Elisha H. Groves, and George M. Hinkle stand until President David Whitmer goes to and returns from Kirtland; also that the building Committee of the House of the Lord have no store, connected with building the House, but that every firm or individual that embarks in that business, have, own, and claim such property as their own private individual property, and stewardship.

The elders at Bedford continued to lecture in the basement of Mr. Matthews chapel, from evening to evening, with the most flattering prospects, until this evening, when elder Goodson, contrary to the most positive instructions of President Kimball; and without advising with any one, read publicly the vision from the Doctrine and Covenants, which turned the current of feeling generally; and nearly closed the door in all that region—Mr. Matthews wished the meetings to be removed from his house, but continued to attend the meetings occasionally, and investigated the subject to considerable extent.

In the August number of the "Messenger and Advocate" was published a prospectus for a new paper to be published at Kirtland, Ohio, called the "Elders Journal" of the Church of Latter Day Saints, to commence in October, edited by Joseph Smith junior.

Elders Kimball and Hyde, and brother Fielding, having continued their labors in Preston, elder Hyde preached to a great multitude in the market place Sunday the 6th of August, opposed by one Reverend gentleman who was quickly confounded by the spirit of truth; and in the evening they met at the house of sister Ann Dawson, and conferred between forty and fifty, who had been baptized, most of whom had been members of Mr. James Fielding's church; so mightily grew the work, this being only the third Sabbath in Preston. Mr. Fielding persecuted and called the elders "thieves, sheep stealers," &c., acknowledging them good judges, having "stolen all the best of his flock." Sister Dawson (a widow) kindly received the elders into her house and lodged them, which was a great blessing to the brethren, as they were quite destitute, most of the people extremely poor, and lodgings scarce; while they went from house to house as invited, to procure their daily meals.

Elder Kimball having received a letter from Mr. Richards inviting him to preach in his chapel repaired to Walkersfield, where he was most hospitably received and the day following preached three times in Mr. Richards pulpit.

Elders Goodson and Richards baptized five at Bedford among whom, and the first was Mrs. Ann Bradlock, a widow, who was obliged to support her family by her industry; she also received the elders and lodged them.

Tuesday 15th, the quorum of High Priests organized at Far West Missouri this day.

Timothy R. Matthews, having investigated the work acknowledged the truth, and having previously borne testimony of the same to his church in public, and urged them to go forward, agreed with Goodson and Richards to meet them on the bank of the River Ouse, one hour before Sun set, and be baptized. The hour and the elders arrived, but Mr. Matthews was not there, he had gone out in the country to preach. Elder Kimball preached on Monday and Wednesday evenings in Mr. Richards' chapel at Walkersfield, and on Thursday baptized six individuals. Mr. Matthews baptized himself in the river and then went to baptizing his people, denouncing the elders as false teachers, and the doctrine of the Latter Day Saints as having come from hell, while he went to preaching the same doctrine, baptizing all, even infants, and laid out hands for confirmation.

Charles C. Rich, was ordained President of the High Priests quorum in Missouri, and Henry Green President of the Elders in Caldwell County, August 20th. The same day William Wilford W. Woodruff and Jonathan H. Hule landed at Vinland, on north Fox Island, and commenced preaching.

In the August number of the Advocate I published the following caution to the brethren and friends of the Church of Latter Day Saints. I am disposed to say a word, relative to the bills of the "Kirtland Safety Society Bank." I hereby warn them to beware of speculators, renegades, and gamblers, who are duping the unwary and unsuspecting, by palming upon them, those bills, which are of no worth here, I discountenance and disapprove of any and all such practices, I know them to be detrimental to the best interests of society, as well as to the principles of religion.

JOSEPH SMITH, junior.

In this month elder Russell succeeded in establishing a small branch in Alston, England.

While I was engaged in visiting the churches in Canada, preaching, baptizing, and blessing the saints, strengthening the things that were, I returned to Kirtland about the last of August, and wrote the following letter, which I sent by the hand of Thomas B. Marsh:

Kirtland, Geauga County, Ohio September 4th, 1837. Joseph Smith junior President of the Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints in all the world; to John Correll and the whole church in Zion, sendeth greeting. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed you with many blessings in Christ, and who has delivered you many times from the hands of your enemies, and placed you many times in an heavenly or holy place; my respects and love to you all, and my blessings upon all the faithful, and true hearted in the New and Everlasting Covenant; and forasmuch as I have desired for a long time to see your faces, & converse with you, & instruct you in those things which have been revealed to me pertaining to the kingdom of God in the last days, I now write unto you offering an apology. My being bound with the cord of affliction by the workers of iniquity, and by the labors of the church, endeavoring in all things to do the will of God for the salvation of the church, both in temporal, as well as spiritual things.

Brethren we have waded through a scene of affliction and sorrow thus far for the will of God, that language is inadequate to describe, pray ye therefore with more earnestness for our redemption. You have undoubtedly been informed by letter and otherwise of our difficulties in Kirtland, which are now about being settled, and that you may have a knowledge of the same, I subscribe to you the following minutes of the Committee of the whole church in Kirtland, the authorities &c., referring you to my brother Hyrum, and brother Thomas B. Marsh for further particulars; also that you may know how to proceed to set in order, and regulate the affairs of the church in Zion, whenever they become disorganized.

Minutes of a Conference assembled in Committee of the whole church on Sunday the 3rd

of September 1837. At 9 o'clock in the morning George W. Robinson was called upon to take the minutes of the Conference, Sidney Rigdon then presented Joseph Smith junior to the church to know if they still looked upon, and would still receive, and uphold him as the President of the whole church, and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative. President Smith then presented Sidney Rigdon and Frederick G. Williams as his Counselors, and to constitute with himself the three first Presidents of the church; voted unanimously in the affirmative, except for F. G. Williams which was not carried. President Smith then introduced Oliver Cowdery, Joseph Smith senior, Hyrum Smith, and John Smith for assistant Counselors. These last four, together with the first three, are to be considered the heads of the church; carried unanimously.

Voted that Newel K. Whitney hold his office as Bishop, and continue to act as such in Kirtland, and that Reynolds Cahoon, and Vinson Knight, continue to act as counselors to the Bishop. The Twelve Apostles were then presented one by one, when Thomas B. Marsh, David W. Patten, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Orson Hyde, Parley P. Pratt, Orson Pratt, William Smith, and William E. McLellin were received unanimously in their Apostleship. Elder Boynton (who was the only one present at the time) arose and endeavored to confess, justifying himself in his former conduct by reason of the failure of the Bank, &c.

His conduct was strongly protested, by elder Brigham Young, in a plain and energetic manner, stating various reasons why he could not receive him into fellowship until a hearty repentance and confession was manifested.

Elder Young was followed by elder Marsh, who acquiesced in testimony and resolutions.

President Rigdon then addressed the assembly shewing the cause of the difficulty with elder Boynton and Johnson, in leaving their calling to attend to other occupations. Elder Boynton, again arose and still attributed his difficulties to the failure of the Bank, stating that he understood the Bank was instituted by the will of God, and he had been told that it should never fail men do what they would.

President Smith then arose and stated that if this had been declared, no one had authority from him for so doing; for he had always said that unless the institution was conducted on righteous principles, it would not stand. A vote was then taken to know if the congregation was satisfied with Boynton's confession, carried in the negative. Conference adjourned for one hour.

Conference assembled at 2 o'clock in the afternoon opened by reading, singing, and prayer. The President then arose and said he would call upon the church to know if they were satisfied with their High Council, and should proceed to name them individually.

John Johnson, Joseph Coe, Joseph Kingsbury, and Martin Harris were objected to, also John P. Green, but his case was put over until he should be present. Noah Packard, Jared Carter, Samuel H. Smith, were voted to retain their office, Oliver Granger, Henry G. Sherwood, William Marks, Mayhew Hillman, Harlow Redfield, Asahel Smith, Phinehas Richards, and David Dort were chosen to fill the places of those objected to, (and Thomas Grover having moved west John Smith chosen one of the Presidents of the church, and Orson Johnson having been excluded from the church, (all having belonged to the High Council.)

The President then called upon the congregation to know if the recently appointed Presidents of the Seventies, should stand in their calling. Voted that John Gaylord, James Forster, Salmon Gee, Daniel S. Miles, Joseph Young, Josiah Butterfield, and Levi Hancock, should retain their office as Presidents, of the Seventies; John Gould was objected. The President then arose and made some remarks, concerning the former Presidents of the Seventies, the callings and authorities of their Priesthood, &c., &c. Voted that the old Presidents of the Seventies, be referred to the quorum of High Priests, and also, that if any members