

# The Deseret Weekly.

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, . . . EDITOR.

Saturday, . . . March 9, 1889.

## GENERAL CONFERENCE.

THE Fifty-ninth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will commence at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, April 6th, 1889, in the Tabernacle, in Salt Lake City.

The officers and members of the Church are cordially invited to attend.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,

In behalf of the Twelve Apostles.

## AN OUTRAGE.

A FEW days ago, as our readers will probably remember, an association dispatch was published giving an account of a brutal outrage alleged to have been committed upon two "Mormon" Elders. The *Laramie Boomerang* of a late date purports to give a fuller account of the affair than appeared in the dispatches. These more recent details were probably gleaned from reports in other papers.

According to the latest statement the two men who were so ferociously attacked were proselyting in Indiana, and claimed to be able to perform miracles, such as healing the sick. The mobocratic part of the populace demanded a sample of their power in that respect, and brought to them an old lady who was blind, clamoring that her sight be restored to her. The result was a failure on the part of the unfortunate victims of mobocratic hate. In consequence the men were seized by White Caps while holding a meeting, taken to an adjoining wood, and given fifty lashes each upon the bare back. Added to this barbarous treatment was the command for them to leave that part of the country within a certain number of hours, on pain of being put to death.

The effects of the whipping upon these poor fellows was terrible. They wandered away for the purpose of finding some place where

they would be free from such inhuman attacks. One of them traveled twenty miles before stopping, and his sufferings were so great that his mind had become affected. The other was left by the wayside, and probably perished.

One would suppose that, without respect to who the victims of this outrage might be, the story of their sufferings would be sufficient to move the sympathy of a rhinoceros. It could hardly be expected that a man with sufficient intelligence to edit even a low-grade newspaper would condone such doings. Yet such is the case. The editor of the *Boomerang* thus claps his clammy hands over the exploit of his congenial spirits—the White Caps:

"This incident is simply one of the many indications that the Mormons use the most unfair and dishonest means to secure converts to their abomination. They make their way upon false representation. They deceive, they utter falsehoods, they make extravagant pretensions; and then they wonder why a liberty loving people look upon them with such just hatred. These things they do in the name of religion and such treatment as they received in Indiana, although severe, was richly deserved."

All this indicates that the man who penned such an atrocious article might learn sense, sympathy and originality from a government mule. In the first place he accepts the story of the miracle business as strictly accurate, and even if it were true, it would afford no justification for the lawless outrage perpetrated upon the White Caps' victims. It is not the first time that "a wicked and adulterous generation" have asked for a sign and no sign has been "given them." These sign-seekers, like their counterparts in the days of Christ, were murderers in their hearts, and it is no stretch to imagine they were also capable of being adulterers. Sign-seeking is one of the indications of that status. He also accepts the statement that the unfortunate men subjected to horrible maltreatment were "Mormon" Elders. This is exceedingly improbable. The name of one of them is given as Williams, and there is no Elder of the Church by that name at present laboring either in the Northern or Southern States. This we have ascertained by reference to the list of those now in the field. This unlikelihood is strengthened by the fact that no official or direct information as to the outrage has reached this point.

It is not improbable that the men

who were abused were "Josephites." There is no special reason why we should look upon the members of that sect as friends, but be that as it may, and without regard to who or what the victims were, the attack upon them was a lawless, cruel and brutal outrage, the perpetrators of which were a lot of murderous mobocrats, and those who applaud the latter are of the same stripe.

It does not follow that those who are persecuted are always right, but it is an infallible fact that the persecutors are invariably wrong.

The *Boomerang* man headed his article "Mormon Monsters." In order to cap the climax of absurdity he should have introduced a sub-head characterizing the assailants of the victims of the assault as "White Cap Mobocratic Angels."

## GILSON'S TICKET.

SAM GILSON'S Federal ticket is causing a good deal of comment in the community. That notorious individual is tramping about the streets and going from door to door presenting the office-seekers' appeals to the citizens. The selection or acceptance of such an engineer to propel the project is of itself somewhat ominous. He goes at his work, however, with a zeal and energy worthy of a better cause. He can be seen on the more frequented thoroughfares with his hat, after his usual custom, hung on his bump of philoprogenitiveness, in imminent danger of dropping on the sidewalk. Lately his eyesight must have become impaired, and as a consequence he has taken to wearing glasses, so that he might the more readily perceive the victims whose signatures he proposes to catch.

Sam's ticket seems to be somewhat in the nature of a reflection upon the judgment of the incoming President of the United States. The list is made up mostly of ex-Federal officials, who were appointed to the stations they formerly held by the late President Arthur. Now, why should there be any question with respect to the ability of General Harrison to nominate for himself those who are able and willing—there are many like Barkis—to fill vacancies that may occur? Why should he be under the necessity of relying upon a predecessor, now defunct, for nominations, when he might surely originate them for himself, even without the aid of the gentlemen