

the Constitution belonged to the black man just as well as to the white. Does it need any argument to convince the Saints who still live and remember those times in Missouri of this fact?

In the Senate of the United States, March 4, 1860, Senator Charles Sumner made a most elaborate, searching and telling speech against

"THE BARBARISMS OF SLAVERY."

In that speech are various quotations from the statute books of the slave States, and standard authors who have written in defense of slavery.

"Unhappily," says Mr. Sumner, "there is barbarism elsewhere in the world; but American slavery, as defined by existing law, is the greatest organized barbarism on which the sun now shines. It is without a single peer. Its author after making it, broke the die."

As quoted in this speech I will insert the following from "Stroud's Law of Slavery," p. 23:

"The cardinal principle of slavery—that the slave is not to be ranked among sentient beings, but among things—is an article of property—a chattel personal—obtains as undoubted law in all of these (slave) States."

Commenting upon these various laws Mr. Sumner says:

"Nor is there anything within the limit of life, inflicted upon a beast that may not be inflicted on the slave. He may be marked like a hog, branded like a mule, yoked like an ox, hobbled like a horse, driven like an ass, sheared like a sheep, maimed like a cur, and constantly beaten like a brute; all according to law."

Putting bloodhounds upon his trail when fleeing from the most galling and oppressive slavery; pulling out his toe nails with pluckers, one for the first offense of running away, two for the second, and four for the third, etc., dropping blazing wax on his bare back, and pulling maddened and infuriated cats by the tail over it, were among the many

REFINED TORTURES

inflicted, and allowed by law to be inflicted by the slave-owner upon his slaves.

Here, then, are the "laws of the land," as defined and interpreted by Joseph Smith and his very dear brethren of the Reorganization; God being made by the commander of the Saints to keep, support and uphold these most infamous, inhuman and barbarous laws!

Where, in heaven's name, were the eagle eyes of Clark Braden in his debate with Kelly, that they didn't see this? What a can of nitro-glycerine this item would have been in his argument! I delight in the great truths of "Mormonism," and its overwhelming ability to sustain itself against any odds; but once convince me that the Prophet Joseph or any other Prophet, has commanded the Saints to sustain uphold and keep the laws of the land upholding the great Upas tree of American slavery, I would then spurn it from me with eternal contempt.

But I have not the slightest or most distant thought that any of the Prophets ever did anything of the kind or ever will. And I regard, on the other hand, any set of "Mormons" who accuse the Prophet Joseph of teaching or commanding the keeping, sustaining or upholding of the unholy and diabolical laws of slavery, or any other law that violates either the spirit or letter of the Constitution of the United States, as blasphemers of the Most High, in a very high degree.

TO BLASPHEME THE GOD OF HEAVEN is to blind men and lead them to hate Him and disregard His counsels.

Second—The Almighty in 1830-32 told the Saints that he had given the Bible in connection with the Book of Mormon to be his law to govern his Church; adding very emphatically that he that did according to these things should be saved, and he that did them not should be damned, if he continued to disregard them. See that given October, 1830, par. 3. Feb. 1831, 16. Sep. 22 and 23, 1832: 8. That being the case then, we turn to these scriptures and find it written thus:

"Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee, he shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates where it liketh him best: thou shalt not oppress him." (Deut. 24: 14.) There are at least fifty other things written in the Holy Scriptures of equal force and importance with this against the

OPPRESSION OF SERVANTS,

or of any other human being; and many of them have the most severe penalties of God's judgment attached to them. And now when the Almighty, with the rest of the holy Scriptures, gave these things to the Saints, had he been asleep or drunk that he did not know what he was about? When he commanded us in 1832 not to break "the laws of the land," did he really command us in so many words, to be slave catchers, and slave oppressors in the interest and behalf of a body of men the most brutish and inhuman that ever trod the earth, or did he only mean the plain and just constitutional laws of the land? If the latter, then he is in harmony with himself in all that he has commanded to be written from beginning to end, but if on the other hand, according to the

INTERPRETATION OF THE JOSEPHITES, the Almighty has commanded us to sustain and uphold and keep all State and national laws, no matter what they may be, and regard the Supreme

Court of the nation as infallible like the Popes of Rome or the old British kings, who could do no wrong, what are we then and where are we? I'll tell you where we are then as well as I can. We are in an eternal hunt after Paddy's flea. That is all; simply and plainly that when you get your finger on your duty you may be satisfied that "it isn't there."

By the way, is it not a very grand discovery to find that the Supreme Court of the United States is infallible? Can the Saints differ long upon questions of theology now, when they have an unerring court to appeal to for an unerring solution of their very knotty questions?

Lord bless us, why has no religious body thought of this before?

And there is Joseph Smith, the martyr! he actually went and inquired of the Lord to settle all great and important questions arising in the Church in his day, instead of referring such questions to that infallible and unerring court.

Yes, sir, church after church has been divided, and subdivided, and then divided again and again upon one question and another arising in or out of their religious views in these latter days, and in not a single case have they ever carried their differences up before that court for settlement. It must be that they have never been informed in relation to the power and prerogatives of that great and wise body of men.

If the Almighty really requires His people to obey the

VILE AND UNSCRIPTURAL LAWS

of this land, it is only right that He should have required them to submit to such laws in other lands; but what do we find written in those scriptures as an example? At the risk of his life Daniel and his fellows opposed and disregarded the laws of the government on two different occasions. Constitutional (?) and just, (?) too, they were; for the supreme court of that day and the Josephites and Christians of those times all insisted that they were, and were firm and determined that they must be obeyed, or the penalty must follow.

When charged with their disloyalty, and a refusal to obey the law, they were admonished and re-threatened with a most dreadful death if they did not obey. Their answer was, "We are not careful to answer thee in this matter," and that they would not obey the august mandate, whether God would deliver them from the fiery furnace or not. When threatened with the lion's den it was just the same. You will perceive that the laws they disregarded in these two cases were of the highest authority.

Look at the

TERRIBLE JUDGMENTS

pronounced upon Israel for keeping "the statutes of Omri"—a king of the lineage of David. Let one turn to Micah 6: 14, 15, 16 and read. Why did not Mordecai and Esther and the Jews bow down to and honor Haman according to the custom and laws of the land in their day? What great harm was there in that? But to save their lives they would not do it. Why did the midwives of Egypt refuse to obey the royal statute—"the laws of the land" of that day? Did not the increase of the Israelites threaten the existence of Egypt as a nation? Should not the king do something for its safety? But the midwives would not hearken to the royal decree. They saw innocent blood on their hands on the one hand, with all its bloody consequences, and the wrath and ferocity of the king on the other, and they preferred the fear of God to all the laws of all earthly kings. Therefore it is written that God made these good women houses; or in other words made them princesses over great households.

In these last days there is to exist a great power, that like, all the vast number of the past, will undertake to enact laws against the laws of the Almighty and enforce obedience thereto by

PENALTY OF DEATH.

"O, it can't be that that power is the United States, so enlightened and refined as it is! Faugh! It is always when a nation imagines itself very wise, and very refined, or at any rate wise enough to discard the laws of God, and prefer their own that they do such things as this. The Adventists interpret this scripture as referring to the United States; and for my part I think they give very good reasons for such interpretation. See Rev., chap. xiii, 11-18, 14, 9-11.

IN SODOM

the people became very enlightened in their own estimation. They were finally led to discard the marriage tie as a sort of thralldom too slavish for enlightened people to practice, and became a nation of free lovers. Another of their enlightened customs was to very politely rob any stranger that came among them and send him away without a penny or anything that was of any value to him. How far the divorce laws of the United States and the vast bodies of communists organizing over the States are from this high degree of enlightenment and civilization, one can't accurately say; but the very rapid strides making in the last few years in those directions may afford a clue to the curious. No one need be in doubt as to the character of the requirements of the power, beast, or nation above referred to. It is self-evident that they will be opposed to the counsels of God. Yet God instead of commanding His people to bow to these

UNHOLY REQUIREMENTS,

these "laws of the land," pronounces the most terrible judgments on those who obey them.

The reorganization, and all their pious friends everywhere have altogether forgotten these most important examples and teachings of holy writ. Blind as the owl and the bat at noon-day, they are fast filling up the measure of their evil, like all their predecessors of the past; and all entreaty, and admonition seems to be lost upon them.

I have often wished in the past that the position of Joseph Smith was such that I could endorse and follow it. I have endeavored to cherish the best feelings towards him; but in spite of every effort they are becoming day by day threadbare. Possessing naturally as it were the mildness of a lamb, he speaks like a dragon to the Utah "Mormons," their poor wives and children. O, if he imagines that God will not hear the cries of these broken-hearted wives and children, and that the anger of God will not wax hot, and will not make the wives and children of their most heartless oppressors widows and fatherless, he is most grandly mistaken.

Respectfully,

W. W.

THE DIGNITY OF SACRIFICE.

Self-denial and sacrifice are the price of advancement and exaltation. They are the highest and noblest trials of humanity; the most dignified and exalted exhibition of manhood.

SACRIFICE

is the surrendering of something precious and highly valued for some worthy purpose without hope of remuneration.

There must be an element of keen appreciation to constitute a sacrifice; there must be present loss; and the loss and inconvenience must be felt. The widow's mite is a sacrifice; the rich man's purse of gold is simply an inappreciable donation.

A person must possess something he values before he can make a sacrifice. A willing slave cannot sacrifice freedom. A trumpeter cannot sacrifice virtue, neither can you make the hypocrite and the impostor face the dungeon and rack for his pretensions.

The highest type of sacrifice is self-devotion to the interest of others; to suffer pain and loss in order that others may be benefited.

One of the most obvious features of sacrifice is

SINCERITY,

which is a pure motive. A well-defined distinction separates the self martyrs from the captured, resisting criminal. The quality of criminal acts is largely by motive. Intention is the dividing line between guilt and innocence. The man-slayer is not a murderer unless he desired and tried to kill his victim. No action is criminal, in fact, whatever it may be in law, if the motive which prompted it was to effect good, and if good is the actual result. The path of progress and civilization is strewn with victims who have suffered for conscience' sake, and time has invariably proved the martyr's justification and their persecutors' disgrace and condemnation.

People do not surrender life's felicities, and choose disgrace, bondage and death for the sake of doing wrong. There is ample scope and liberty for wickedness without becoming martyrs for it.

CONSCIENCE

is the voice of divinity in the soul. Those who suffer for conscience' sake are always in the right; their persecutors are always in the wrong.

Conscience is not, as some aver, a creature of education. Conscience cannot be educated; neither is conscience a creature. Conscience is the Spirit of God, which is given to every soul born into the world. It is a portion of light and intelligence which every spirit brings with it when it comes from the eternal world to tabernacle in the flesh. As long as the soul retains its innocence and purity that light and intelligence remains; and no matter if the man be Christian, heathen, Greek or Jew, that man will never sanction cruelty or wrong either in himself or others. Such persons, and only they, have consciences. When sin defiles the flesh and leads the spirit into darkness the light is quenched or distorted and broken up into mere colors and shades; then there is no conscience; what is left are the wild vagaries and uncertain speculations of a spirit groping in the dark. Erroneous education warps the judgment; wickedness corrupts the pure spirit; and defilement distorts clear perception of right and wrong.

SHAKESPEARE WAS IN ERROR

when he said that "conscience makes cowards of us all." It is for conscience sake that men make sacrifices; conscience makes martyrs, and no coward will be a martyr.

Another prominent feature of sacrifice is certainty of success. All great reforms, both in social and religious economy, have been achieved through sacrifice. All failures, collapses and defeats can be traced to waning interest and to the lack of that zeal which knows no abatement and cannot be subdued till the last scintilla of energy is ruthlessly stamped out.

The history of "Mormonism" is a recital of fifty years of

UNPARALLELED SACRIFICE.

The foundation stones of the Church were embedded in anguish of spirit and cemented with the shed blood of its devotees, and after the lapse of half a century the demand for sacrifice is still more clamorous and emphatic.

Nevertheless, nobody will deny that "Mormonism" has held its own; so far it is a success. The results of "Mormonism" are before the world. The preacher has been followed by the practical worker; and theory has materialized into substantial actuality.

There is something so real, ponderous and potential in "Mormonism" that even its most bitter opponents more than half believe that it will succeed. Hence their perturbation and alarm.

The dishonest steward fears the coming of the auditor. The "Mormon" system is a standing rebuke to the wickedness of the world. It has no terrors for the innocent and honest in heart; but it is formidable as law to the wicked, and dreadful as the voice of the judge to the evil-doer.

The "Mormons" know what they are sacrificing for. As a religious teacher and moral reformer the "Mormon" Elder is champion of the world. Since Orson Pratt smote

THE NATION'S DIDACTIC GOLIATH

in the forehead with the Bible no other champion has come forth. The peaceable and respectable weapons of honorable contest are no longer used; it is by the implements of brute force, and the hot, noisy breath of slander and vituperation only that the Saints are now assailed. The little army having effectively silenced the enemies' batteries of argument and reason, the volleys of mud and filth, and the vicious arrows of spite and defamation will be heroically withstood.

Much has already been achieved. The "Mormons" have emblazoned the nineteenth century with

THE HALO OF SACRIFICE

for conscience' sake. They have given the impress of immortal renown to its passing years with the blood of martyrs shed in the interest of human rights. They have taught the world a system of ethics which cannot be reasoned away even in this age of gigantic energy of intellect.

They have crystallized theories of political and social reforms into real models and structures, whose workings are the marvel of the age; and though jealousy may sneer and pride refuse recognition, yet the system stands and operates, and its beauty and potency cannot be gainsaid.

The object and labor before the Latter-day Saints is the reformation and regeneration of a mis-ruled and sin-stained world. They know the immensity of the task; they realize the tremendous responsibilities and count the self-denial and labor demanded by their high mission, and the faithful are ready and willing to perform the work and to make the sacrifice.

JOHN H. KELSON.

The Increase of Insanity.

Boston supports 800 insane, says Mr. T. B. Sanborn, not 75 of whom will recover!

This is frightful! Insanity has increased 40 per cent in a decade and most of the cases are incurable. Whatever the individual cause may be, the fact remains that Uric Acid blood sets the brain on fire, destroys its tissues, and then comes some form of fatal lunacy.

Nothing is so pitiable as a mind diseased. Most brain troubles begin in the stomach; then if the blood is filled with uric acid, caused by failure of kidney action, and the consequent destruction of blood life—albumen—you have the fuel and the flame and a brain in full blaze as when one raves, or in slow combustion, as in milder forms of insanity. Rev. E. D. Hopkins, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., a few years ago was confined in an asylum. He took a terrible cold while aiding in putting out a fire in a neighbor's burning house, and for twenty-five years that cold was slowly filling his blood with uric acid and finally the deadly work was done. The case looked hopeless but he happily used Warner's safe cure and recovered. That was three years ago and having rid his blood of all surplus uric acid, he has remained well until this day.

It is indeed a terrible thing to lose one's mind, but it is a more terrible thing to suffer such a condition when it can be so easily prevented.

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A dispatch from the vanguard of the government expeditionary force at Santa, announces that the Cacerists were defeated after two days' fighting. It is expected that the capture of Caceres's cavalry escort will be effected shortly.

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is beautiful, all but her skin; and nobody has ever told her how easy it is to put beauty on the skin. Beauty on the skin is Magnolia Balm.

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