

"Mormons" were a shame and scandal to our Territory and nation, and that they were enemies to the Government, the power of which was slowly and surely putting them down; that the men, women and children of the community perjured themselves, were bad citizens, did not assimilate with the American idea, were no better than savages, and that the penitentiary was the proper place for them. The people, he said, were governed by a priesthood who predicted the downfall of this nation and the men who submitted to the rule of such had lost their manhood. He spoke of Presidents Taylor and Cannon as skulking ex-convicts, who spoke fair to the ears of the Judge, but were opposed to our government.

MOONSHEE.

RUMORS INVESTIGATED.

THE CITY COUNCIL FIND THEY HAVE NO FOUNDATION IN FACT.

THE RUMORS TRACED TO THAT BEAUTIFUL TRIO, GOVERNOR MURRAY, VARIAN AND M'KAY.

THEY BACK DOWN AND "DECLINE TO ANSWER."

THE "MORMONS" NOT BEING INCITED TO VIOLENCE, BUT WORKING FOR PEACE,

AND CALM AS A SUMMER'S MORNING.

The continued repetition of false and absurd rumors by the rabid anti-"Mormons" and a number of Federal officials, in order to mislead the officers of the general government, and increase the feeling of bitterness toward the people of Utah from the nation at large, has been carried on to such an extent, that it was considered necessary for some steps to be taken that the true condition of affairs here might be made known. In order to effect this, the City Council met in special session at 3 o'clock p. m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 1885, pursuant to the call of the Mayor.

Mayor Sharp stated that the object of calling a special session was to consider the advisability of the Council's investigating certain rumors that were in circulation, affecting the peace and good order of the city and its inhabitants, and which the Mayor was informed had been telegraphed to the national authorities at Washington, with a view to securing military interference with the local government.

After various inquiries by the members relative to the nature of the rumors and the impression they had created abroad, and a full and free consideration of the injurious effects likely to result to the community in case they were not thoroughly investigated and the exact truth ascertained and made known.

On motion of Alderman Waddell, it was decided that an official investigation of the many current rumors affecting the general welfare of the people of the city be made by the Council, commencing Monday, December 7th, at 10 o'clock a. m., and that invitations be issued to persons whom there is reason to suppose have any information concerning the rumors, to be present and make statements.

On motion of Alderman Patrick, the Recorder was instructed to address communications to the following-named gentlemen to be present at the special session named: His Excellency Eli H. Murray, Governor of Utah; Hon. A. L. Thomas, Secretary of Utah; Maj. Gen. A. McD. McCook, commanding at Fort Douglas; Lieut. S. W. Groesbeck, Post Adjutant, Fort Douglas; Hon. C. S. Varian, Assistant U. S. Attorney; Hon. E. A. Ireland, U. S. Marshal; P. L. Williams, Esq.; J. L. Rawlins, Esq.; S. A. Meritt, Esq.; Hon. Wm. Jennings; Hon. John Sharp; Hon. F. Little, and Hon. John Q. Cannon.

The Council then adjourned until Monday, December 7th, at 10 a. m.

At the appointed hour this morning the Council again assembled, Mayor Sharp presiding.

The City Recorder reported that he had issued invitations to the gentlemen named in the Council on Saturday, and forwarded them as instructed.

Replies were received from Lieut. Groesbeck, Governor Murray, Secretary Thomas and Mr. Varian, declining to attend.

Lieut. Groesbeck's letter stated that he could only communicate facts coming to his knowledge through his superior officers. He says: "As to personal knowledge of said rumors and their origin, I know nothing which seems to me of material value or could aid the Council in its work."

Governor Murray's communication says: "I have to state that for several days I have been engaged in investigating and communicating for the information of the President the condition of affairs pertaining to the peace and welfare of the people of this city in common with other parts of the Territory."

Secretary Thomas says: "I have no information bearing upon the subject mentioned other than that which is now in possession of the Governor."

Assistant District Attorney Varian gave as his reason for not being present and making a statement, "I regret to say that the obligations of office will prevent me from disclosing at the present time any information possessed by the District Attorney relating to the subject mentioned."

The only two gentlemen who had responded to the invitation to be present were Hon. J. Q. Cannon and J. L. Rawlins, Esq.

Councilor Clark remarked that as several of those to whom invitations to be present had been issued had declined to attend, and others had not appeared, he would move that the Council proceed to investigate, and examine those who were in attendance as to what they knew of the matter. The motion was carried.

Alderman Patrick was called to the chair, and Mayor Sharp proceeded to give what information was in his possession. He stated that on Monday, Nov. 30, he heard a great many rumors regarding a threatened revolution of the peace of the city. The first definite statement came from P. L. Williams, Esq., to the effect that before daylight on Monday morning armed bodies of men had entered the city, one detachment numbering nine persons having ridden up West Temple Street. The Mayor remarked to Mr. Williams that he did not believe such a thing could happen without the City Marshal's knowledge, but he would thoroughly investigate the rumor. This was done, and it was found that no such thing had ever occurred. On Tuesday morning the Mayor visited the Governor, and informed him there was no truth in the rumors that armed men were gathering in the city; that anybody was preparing to attack the penitentiary; that the "Mormons" had any idea of making an outbreak; or that any others of the rumors affecting the peace of the city had any foundation whatever. The Mayor further stated that Deputy Collin was perfectly safe in either the penitentiary, the Fort, or the city jail. The Governor assured Mayor Sharp that he was fully convinced that there was no truth in the rumors, and that all was perfectly quiet. The Mayor supposed the excitement was allayed, but on Friday Gen. McCook stated that it had come to him that arms were stored in the Tithing office. The Mayor, in company with Gen. McCook and others, went through the Tithing office, and found nothing whatever worthy of notice. The only arms, if such they could be called, they had found, were about 20 or 30 old muskets and flintlocks, some of them older than this century, without ramrods or flints, kept as mementoes of the early "Mormon" immigration to Utah. Considering the fact that the rumors, which had been shown to be untrue, had again been started, the Mayor had called the special session of the Council. Mr. Williams had stated that he received his information regarding the presence of armed men in the city from Mr. J. L. Rawlins.

Mr. Rawlins said he was not out on Sunday night, and saw no armed men entering the city at any time, but had heard the rumors. He had no information regarding the matter, not knowing personally anything about it. Did not know where the rumors originated, or anything about it. In the court room he had heard, he believed, Commissioner McKay state that he had heard a rumor about armed men gathering in the city.

City Attorney Richards stated that he had found the facts to be as stated by the Mayor. In regard to the assertion that armed men were lining the roads entering the city, the first he heard of it was through a telegram which had been sent to the eastern press, from this city, containing the statement. The city marshal had investigated, and found the statement to be untrue. Mr. Richards went with the Mayor to the Governor, who admitted that there was considerable excitement among a certain class, and expressed himself as satisfied that the rumors had no foundation whatever. The Governor only complained of the sensational tone of the press, and promised to use his influence to allay the excitement.

When the rumors were again afloat on Friday, the tithing office was visited, and the guns found as stated, not one of which could be fired off, the officers themselves remarking that there would be more danger to the man at the breach of the guns than to any one else. The Governor asserted that he had been informed that the "Mormons" were organizing, preparatory to an outbreak, but they had replied that they knew the contrary to be the fact. The Governor also said that in a neighboring settlement armed men had assembled at the tolling of a bell, and when asked what it meant, said it was a signal for them to come to Salt Lake. Gov. Murray declined to name the settlement or to name his informant, who, he said, was a reliable man, and had told him in confidence of the occurrence. His Excellency talked very fairly and professed to believe the rumors were without foundation. He claimed to be doing what he could to maintain peace. The Mayor and Mr. Richards tried to get at the source of the Governor's information, but failed.

In reply to a question Mr. Richards said that there was no occasion whatever for the stationing of a body of troops in the city.

Hon. John Q. Cannon stated, respecting the rumor that arms were stacked in the tithing office, that there was no truth in it, farther than the few old guns mentioned by the Mayor. There were no arms whatever stored on the premises. The adjutant seemed to at first have an idea that a definite number of stands of arms were stored there, but was convinced that there were none. Mr. Cannon stated that he would be pleased to conduct the Council through the Tithing office, from cellar to garret, and would guarantee there was nothing dangerous there.

City Marshal Phillips reported that he also had investigated the rumors with the same result as that achieved by the Mayor. He had talked with Mr. Varian and Marshal Ireland, the latter of whom stated that he considered Collin unsafe in the penitentiary, and had heard of armed men but saw none; he expressed a fear that the city officers were intending to take Collin by force. At this Marshal Phillips called Ireland's attention to a former conversation they had had, which plainly showed there was no such intention, and which Ireland claimed to have forgotten. Ireland said there were men and wagons coming into the city. Phillips asked where and when, and Varian replied Van Horn had seen from nine to a dozen men riding along the street. Varian also related the silly story about armed men gathering in a settlement at the toll of a bell, and said that the crowd in front of the City Hall on Saturday night had a rope with which to hang Collin; the assistant district attorney asserted seriously that his hired girl's brother had seen the rope. This "hired girl's brother," Thomas Curtis, was visited by an officer, and protested that he had not seen any such a thing, and had not been near the Hall that night, nor heard of the shooting until next day. Van Horn was called on, and denied having seen such a thing, or said that he had, and declared that the man who asserted that he had made such a claim, was a liar. ("We believe that," remarked a member of the Council, *sotto voce*.) Marshal Phillips had also made a thorough inquiry along the roads leading into the city, and found that nobody had seen any armed men or anything unusual. The Governor denied having sent any dispatches east or west, or having a knowledge of any being sent.

In response to questions, Marshal Phillips said there was not the slightest disturbance in the city, or the least prospect of any. The crowd which assembled in front of the City Hall on Saturday night was not large, or demonstrative, and no threats were made. Mr. Grant moved that the Council declare that they had found that the rumors afloat were without foundation and there was no cause for excitement; that another meeting be held at 10 a. m. to-morrow, and a general invitation be given to everybody who knew anything relative to the matter to be present and testify. He also suggested that the Members of the Twelve Apostles present in the city send a telegram to the President that they were not inciting any disturbance whatever, but were using all their influence to preserve quiet.

A suggestion that special invitations be sent to Commissioner McKay, Mr. Van Horn and Thos. Curtis, and also to Apostles to Snow, F. D. Richards, J. H. Smith, H. J. Grant and J. W. Taylor, to be present with the Council this afternoon and give what information they had in the premises, was accepted, and the Council took a recess until 2 p. m.

At 2 o'clock the Council was called to order, and the Recorder reported that he had invited the gentlemen named at the morning session.

A communication was received from Marshal Ireland, saying that "the duties of his office precluded the possibility" of his attending the meeting of the Council; and further stating that he knew of nothing that would assist the Council in their investigations.

The Mayor invited those gentlemen who had responded to the invitation to be present to give any information they possessed relative to a rumored "Mormon" uprising or secretly organizing and arming.

Apostle Lorenzo Snow, at the request of the Mayor, made a statement on behalf of the "Mormon" people. He had heard of no uprising, and knew of no disposition to resist the law. The people were inclined to maintain peace and good order, and had no other intention. As an individual, Mr. Snow had kept away because he considered that he was liable to arrest, and he did not believe he could obtain justice. He had no thought of resistance to law, nor had his people, in any part of the Territory. He had never heard of nor seen a quieter community than the "Mormons." In regard to the "Mormons" preparing for an uprising, or arming, or organizing, he would say that statements to that effect were utterly untrue. The leaders of the Church had given no instructions to oppose the government.

Apostle F. D. Richards stated that he had no idea of any arms being provided, or of any persons preparing to use them. It was not being done by "Mormons." He had heard the rumors, but did not know how they got afloat. The last time he heard of any excitement of a military character, was when Acting Governor Black had a number of boys prosecuted for carrying wooden guns and swords. In all of the meetings of "Mormons" held throughout the Territory, they were urged to be exceedingly careful and commit no overt act which could be construed into a violation of law.

The "Mormons" were pursuing a course precisely opposite to that of encouraging an uprising. The people had never been advised to band together and arm themselves, and no such organizations existed among the "Mormon" people. Had never heard of the people assembling at the toll of a bell, until he came to the Council. He knew of no circumstances that would render in the least the lives and property of any individuals insecure. As an individual he never felt they were more secure.

Apostle John H. Smith said he must

regard this affair as a huge joke. He knew as much about the people as any man in Utah, and he never saw a quieter period or greater apathy among the "Mormons" than at the present. The people were always advised to be quiet, and followed that advice. They had not been counseled to arm themselves, except in former times, when there was danger of Indian raids. There was not the least inclination to interfere with any person or law; and no organizing except of primary associations for the little children. The people were not organizing or arming. The Church authorities had not said anything to give rise to such rumors. If there were any such organizations as those named, he would know of them.

Apostle John W. Taylor endorsed what had been said as true. He had arms in his house; he was fond of going hunting occasionally.

A. H. Raleigh, who was for many years a member of the Council, said he could only regard the whole thing as a joke. He understood the only power advocated or used by the Latter-day Saints to be the force of intelligence. They were not a military people. In early days arms had been used for protection against the Indians, but there was nothing of the kind at present. There were some people who had no interest here who seemed to want to raise an excitement, but the speaker thought such a thing impossible.

Hon. John Sharp said that there was nothing in the shape of armed resistance contemplated among the people—they were as quiet as they could be. The pretended organizations did not exist. There was no disposition on the part of the leaders of the "Mormon" Church to provoke resistance to the process of law; their efforts were used to the contrary. There was no danger to person or property, and no occasion for the interference of the general government.

Mr. Thomas Curtis, whom Varian had said saw a rope in the crowd in front of the City Hall on the night the shooting of McMurrin took place, stated that he was not up town; never saw or heard of any person who had a rope.

Commissioner McKay did not attend the Council meeting, or even deign to reply to their invitation.

A general invitation was extended to all who knew anything of these rumors to be present at the Council session at 10 a. m. to-morrow, to give the Council all the information they could.

Apostle H. J. Grant stated that he knew of his personal knowledge that the counsel of the leaders of the "Mormon" Church, in public and private, was to be quiet and offer no resistance to the officers of the law. They were also advised not to interfere with anybody, and the disposition of the people was not to interfere. There was no danger to life and property in Salt Lake City.

Apostle F. D. Richards suggested that the truth in this matter be laid before the government, and referred to a former occasion, when the Administration had been allured into committing a great blunder in their treatment of the "Mormons," upon false representations by a Federal official.

The representatives of the newspapers present stated that they knew of no facts which could give rise to the wild rumors afloat.

The Mayor was authorized to make a call through the public press for all persons who knew anything of this matter to be present at 10 a. m. to-morrow, and make their statements before the Council.

In response to a question, Alderman Raleigh said he believed that it was the enemies of the "Mormon" people who started the rumors.

Marshal Phillips stated that Mr. Van Horn sent a message denying that he ever said he saw any horsemen. He declared he never saw any such thing. Council adjourned until 10 a. m. to-morrow.

A MISSIONARY'S EXPERIENCE.

LABORS WHILE ABROAD—FEELINGS ON RETURNING.

Mt. Pleasant, Utah,
Nov. 19th, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

I inclose you a short account of my missionary labors, and if you consider it worthy a place in your valuable paper, you are at liberty to publish it.

On the 12th of October, 1883, I left home (Mt. Pleasant, Utah) for a mission to England and was away just twenty-five months. During that time I labored in the Manchester Conference which, on my arrival was presided over by Elder H. W. Manning, and after his release by Elder W. D. Williams, who in turn, was succeeded by Elder Thomas Sleight, under whose presidency I finished my missionary labors.

After my arrival in England, by permission of President John Henry Smith, I spent one month visiting relatives of whom my parents have many, and that in the Manchester conference. They received me well, but only three believe the Gospel as revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith, and these three, owing to peculiar circumstances or lack of courage, have not acted upon their convictions and been baptized.

My labors were pleasant and full of instructive and interesting experience, and I found the Elders with whom I became acquainted, exemplary men, whose daily lives were an embodiment

of the principles they professed. Who would not be better by associating with such men?

I had the pleasure of baptizing 26 people, held 354 meetings, many of which were out of doors, and traveled from leaving to reaching home 17,245 miles. I hope I have removed some prejudice from the minds of people and for any good which has resulted or may result from my labors, to God belongs all the praise, honor and glory.

My testimony concerning the Latter-day work has been greatly strengthened. I have seen the power of God manifested miraculously in healing the sick and in the meetings of the Saints; in fact, the experience of the Saints in this dispensation is simply a repetition of the experience of the former day Saints; it could not be otherwise, for we have the same Gospel that they had. The past two years have been the most profitable and enjoyable time of my life thus far, and I can only show my gratitude to God for His goodness to me by performing strictly and faithfully every duty imposed on me by the true and everlasting Gospel. Was the Priesthood given to me simply that I might preach the Gospel to the nations and then be idle? Can I justify myself if I fail to rebuke sin or if, when I hear people use bad language or see them using tobacco, drinking or doing any wrong, I neglect to take them quietly aside and in a kindly way tell them of their faults and point out a way to overcome them?

Through the example and precept of the Elders with the aid of the Lord, many Saints where I labored are keeping the Word of Wisdom and testify to having better health and more of the Spirit of the Lord since doing so.

President Daniel H. Wells released me on the 21st of last September, and from that day till the 6th of October in company with Elder E. T. Woolley I was visiting and seeing the sights of London and Paris, and it is needless to say this was time well spent. Though I must say that of all the sights I ever saw, none were so beautiful and dear to me as that which I beheld on returning to my native place—the mountain hemmed valleys inhabited and tilled by gathered Israel.

S. H. ALLEN.

In the Interest of Suffering Humanity.

We call attention to the Compound Oxygen Treatment which is taken by simple inhalation, and which acts directly upon the weakened nerve centres and vital organs, restoring them to their normal activity. Its operations are all in the line of physiological laws and forces, and it cures by giving to nature her true and healthy control in the human organism. Thousands of most wonderful cures have been made during the last thirteen years. If you are in need of such a treatment, write to Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1529 Arch Street, Philadelphia, to send you such documents and reports of cases as will enable you to judge for yourself as to its efficacy in your own case.

Orders for the Compound Oxygen Home Treatment will be filled by H. N. Matthews, 615 Powell St., between Bush and Pine Sts., San Francisco.

A dispatch from Washington to-day announces that the Senate was called to order at noon. After prayer Edmunds nominated Senator Sherman for President of the Senate. Voorhees moved to substitute the name of Harris. The yeas and nays were then ordered. It is probable that Senator Sherman was elected.

NEVER GIVE UP.

If you are suffering with low and depressed spirits, loss of appetite, general debility, disordered blood, weak constitution, headache, or any disease of a bilious nature, by all means procure a bottle of Electric Bitters. You will be surprised to see the rapid improvement that will follow; you will be inspired with new life; strength and activity will return; pain and misery will cease, and henceforth you will rejoice in the praise of Electric Bitters. Sold at fifty cents a bottle at Z. C. M. I. Drug Store.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

W. W. Reed, druggist, of Winchester, Ind., writes: "One of my customers, Mrs. Louisa Pike, Barton, Randolph Co., Ind., was a long sufferer with Consumption, and was given up to die by her physicians. She heard of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, and began buying it of me. In six months' time she walked to this city, a distance of six miles, and is now so much improved she has quit using it. She feels she owes her life to it."

Free Trial Bottles at Z. C. M. I. Drug Store.

A sound mind goes very seldom without a sound digestion, and nothing contributes toward it more than the use of Angostura Bitters, the world renowned appetizer and invigorator, manufactured only by Dr. J. G. B. Siegert & Sons.