

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

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REVEREND MISREPRESENT-
ERS.

SOME of our readers are doubtless familiar with the unique personality of the Rev. Dwight Spencer, a Baptist preacher who figured for some time in Ogden, and later in this city. His singular appearance rendered him conspicuous. He is tall and slender, walks with long, measured strides, his long yellow hair brushed back behind his ears giving him the caste of an artist conscious that his comprehensive talent remains without due recognition from a cold and unappreciative world.

This queer character, as will be seen by a correspondence elsewhere in this issue, has been again spreading himself on "Mormonism" and the "Mormons." He has made money at the business in the past, and this doubtless urges him onward. It will be observed that his lecture must be exceedingly attenuated, so far as truth is concerned, the departure from thinness consisting in the thickness with which he heaps up falsehoods. One would suppose that if creatures like Dwight had any idea that their unadulterated lies could reach this locality, where the character of their assertions are universally known to be false, they would refrain from such a fiendish pastime as the defamation of a people who never wronged them. Persons of his calibre occasionally manifest some concern about other people being acquainted with their infamy if they have no self-respect to deter them from the course of the hypocrite.

When Mr. Spencer first began his career as an itinerant solicitor of dimes in the east with which to push Baptist proselytism in Utah, he occasionally said a good word for the "Mormons." He also lustily belabored the several sects who are operating here, pulling down their labors and building up the Baptist persuasion on the heap of theological ruins he had created by the battering ram of his immense genius for comparative theological analysis. Finally, however, the unfortunate man's conscience became "seared," having been run over by the hot iron of the desire for dimes. Consequently truth in relation to any virtues he knew to be possessed by the "Mormons" had to take a back seat, and sit in a shadowy corner, blushing for shame at the hopeless perjury of its hypocritical professed expositor.

To a person familiar with the "Mormons," their character and institutions, it would appear as if his statements would be readily perceived to be false, even by eastern audiences. This idea is engendered by the fact of their being so transparent to people in this Territory, but it is a mistaken one. So dense is the misinformation abroad concerning the Saints, and so prevalent the unreasoning prejudice against them, that anti-"Mormon" prevarications and falsehoods glide down the popular throat as if they were greased for the purpose; so the pious mischief-makers prosper in the business of lie-making and truth-twisting.

We learn that Dr. DeWitt, Dwight Spencer's successor in the charge of the Baptist mission in Utah, probably incited by the example of his brother perverter, has taken the anti-"Mormon" stump, and is on a hat-passing tour. His tactics are said to be similar to those of his co-worker, but there are doubtless circumstances which the doctor will fail to relate, although he has reason to be quite cognizant of them. He should "tell it all," however, and say something about a certain co-partnership formed by a Baptist preacher here and a fraudulent medical man. He might also repeat to his audiences the sentiments he expressed to the writer of this in relation to the Logan Conference of the Saints, the proceedings of which he extolled as being nearly if not quite faultless. He afterwards condemned them, however, as food for ridicule, and consequently made the fact of his lying at one time or the other beyond all possible question.

In connection with the movements of these worthies it may not be amiss to present the contents of a circular entitled "Baptist Work in Utah," as it will enable our readers to form some aide of the relative cost of making converts to the several sects in this Territory. It leads off with the quotation: "The first shall be last and the last first," and follows along in this fashion:

"Eighteen years ago, the Episcopalians began gospel and educational work in Utah Territory; fifteen years ago the Methodists, the Presbyterians fourteen, and the Congregationalists

twelve. Four years ago the Baptists began to occupy one point only, in a Territory already largely occupied by the other denominations. This church, organized in July, 1881, with 11 members, has already become the largest of all the evangelical churches of the place (Ogden).

One year and a half ago, a Baptist interest was started in the city of Salt Lake, with 16 members.

The Episcopalians have employed from three to seven clergymen from the first, making a total of 96 years of ministerial service; the Methodists have put in 90, the Presbyterians 98, and the Congregationalists 33 years; while the Baptists have only given 6 years of ministerial service. And yet the results show that their membership is already within 15 of the membership of the Congregationalists, and nearly one-half the membership of either of the other denominations named; including nearly 100 probationers in the M. E. Churches.

It has cost the Episcopalians, to carry on their work, including their school work, a total of nearly half a million, \$430,000. It has cost the Presbyterians still more, \$450,835; the Methodists, \$200,000; the Congregationalists, \$176,036. The total expenditure of the Baptists for all the work they have accomplished, will fall short of \$32,000.

In other words, while for each church member secured in Utah, the Presbyterian denomination have paid out in clean cash \$1,162; the Episcopalians \$1,028; the Congregationalists \$880, and the Methodists \$500; the Baptists have already one member to each \$177 expended. And if we leave out the cost of our two church buildings, that have not been used long enough as yet to figure largely in the results, and were built mainly by private contributions, we would then have each one of our 180 members representing an expense to the denomination of \$50."

If the foregoing statements are correct, converts to sectarianism in Utah are rather expensive articles.

THE PIONEER SPIRIT.

THE Latter-day Saints, as a body, have demonstrated, throughout their entire history, that as pioneers in the opening up of new regions, reclaiming the desert, and rendering it fruitful, they are unsurpassed. They are sturdy standard bearers of civilization, being adepts at planting it in places where hitherto it had no footing. For their unequalled work in this initiatory department of progress, they are justly entitled to what they have never received—the thanks of the nation. Instead they have thus far been the recipients of national kicks and cuffs, which are delivered thicker and faster as time rolls on.

Among the community there are exceptions to the rule. Some are not imbued with the pioneer spirit, being too impractical and imaginative to grasp and contend with the stern realities of life. They are ready to make attempts, but having erected a superficial mental picture of frontier life, when they are brought face to face with obstacles which have to be overcome, their feelings go down below zero and can scarcely be brought above freezing point. When they go to a new region and find that its actual condition does not come up to the anticipatory standard they have reared, they are not only too ready to become discouraged, but to claim that the facts have been misrepresented to them.

The Interior West is covered with country desirable for settlement, where comfortable homes can be made by well directed energy and intelligence. But when a new district is described, as par excellence, the description necessarily relates to its capacity, and not its present production. It depicts not what it really is, but what it is capable of becoming, when brought under proper manipulation. When dissatisfaction occurs in relation to any region it is not generally exhibited by the earlier settlers, but by those who go to make a beginning later in the day. Some of these visit a locality and see the first settlers more or less comfortably located and in a thriving condition, with their farms contiguous to the towns that have been formed. They find that they are unable to secure a body of land in close proximity to the closely settled district, they become dissatisfied and declare that the good land has been all taken up by those who were first on the ground.

The murmurer forgets that it is the height of absurdity to expect that the earlier settlers should spread themselves all over the land, with distances between for the purpose of accommodating those who might possibly come on subsequently. When a new country is settled the pioneers are compelled to form in clusters for mutual aid and protection, and the better development of the facilities. It may be that some of the older settlers are a trifle too tenacious about holding on to large tracts of land, to the exclusion of others that might want to come in, but surely such instances are the exception and not the rule. But the older settlers can say with a good show of consistency: "We came here, killed the snakes, built the bridges, dug the ditches, conveyed the water upon the thirsty land, planted orchards and erected homes. Yonder, a few miles distant, are the elements in abundance with which we have pro-

duced these results: 'go thou; and do likewise,' and whatever assistance we can render you shall be given."

Those who desire to go to newly settled portions of the country, and yet expect to step into ease and plenty without entering upon and continuing a manly struggle with nature, and who expect to gain advantages by others relinquishing their rightful prerogatives, do not belong to the class who are real redeemers of the waste places. They are better adapted for remaining in the ordinary ruts of life, where vigor and enterprise are not so much in demand.

Some people who have gone north to the Snake River region have evidently been more or less imbued with the spirit of "great expectations," become discouraged and have spread disparaging reports regarding that part of the country. Recently Apostle John W. Taylor wrote to President Thomas E. Ricks, of Bannock Stake, on this subject, and received the following reply, which will be interesting to not a few:

Your favor of the 25th duly to hand. In reply, would state that such characters as you speak of have been continually paying us visits since we first settled here. It appears they want land in the immediate vicinity of Rexburg, with the water already on it and a good fence around it with a crop already matured, ready for harvest before they are satisfied. As a natural consequence, the land is nearly all claimed in the immediate vicinity of each of our settlements, and parties desirous of taking up land under Government laws, would probably have to go three or four miles distant from the town-sites now settled.

There is about 20,000 acres of splendid farming land on the north side of Henry's Fork of Snake River, from three to fifteen miles from Parker Ward and nearer the largest body of pine timber to be found in this district of country, than either of our settlements. Of course the water is not out on it as yet—the settlers there will be compelled to do as we did. When we first settled here in Rexburg, nearly the first move we made was to get the water out. Aside from that there is in the neighborhood of 3,000 to 4,000 acres of just as good land between the North Teton and Henry's Fork in the vicinity of Salem and Wilford Wards.

I am also credibly informed that there have been over thirty quarter sections entered at Teton this spring.

I am unable to state how much land there is south of the south fork of Snake River, but I will venture to say there is considerable, and opportunities are continually presenting themselves for parties to obtain shares of the old settler claims, as people are beginning to learn that a quarter section is more than they can manage alone, and ample privileges can be had of having equal shares with the older settlers by paying the government price for the whole amount, viz., \$1.25 per acre.

All is well here so far, although things are rather squally. We are getting along first rate."

A PROFITABLE MOVEMENT.

THE following was handed in to-day by a friend who takes a deep interest in the important subjects to which he refers. He is exceedingly anxious, as all others ought to be, to see advancement made in those directions, and in response to a request to publish we insert his invitation with pleasure:

To the Farmers, Mechanics and Manufacturers of Utah:

The undersigned, with a view to the introduction of means of improvement in the productive and manufacturing interests of this people, desires to receive correspondence from persons in the various towns and cities of this Territory, who are interested in the above named branches of business, and who have a desire to become still more interested in the furtherance of those important matters, introducing improvements and increased facilities for rendering this people self-sustaining. The class of persons with whom the undersigned desires to communicate are such as realize that our Father has given us a beautiful earth, on which to live, and has blessed it with elements of fertility and producing power amply sufficient for all our needs, and who can see that we are allowing to run to waste a great many of these blessings, through lack of enterprise, skill, and proper organization. And while we are employing thousands of foreign hands, miles away, to manufacture for us, we are allowing many an idle brain, amongst our own sons, to become the devil's workshops; and, furthermore, who can see and comprehend that there is room in the mechanical arts, and agriculture for such intellectual attainments as are to be acquired in our schools and colleges, and that it is not absolutely necessary that educated persons should be afraid of physical labor.

If there are such persons, and they will communicate with the undersigned, care of DESERET NEWS office, it is probable that some practical means may be reached which will result in good to the people.

Very respectfully, U. N. V.,
Care of DESERET NEWS office,
S. L. City.
June 3, 1885.

"WARM BUGS, MOACHES."
"Rough on Rats" clears them out, also Beetles, Ants, Insects, Rats and Mice, 15 and 25c. boxes.

HIGH-HANDED PROCEEDINGS
IN IDAHO.

A COUNTY STOLEN FROM THE PEOPLE
BY A TRIO OF REPUBLICAN FEDERAL OFFICE HOLDERS.

Editor Deseret News:

On May the 26th, about a dozen persons drove into Paris, Bear Lake County, armed with legal papers, to oust all the county officers who were elected by the people, and filled their places by a new set, chosen by a ring and commissioned by the Acting Governor to take the offices

WITHOUT ANY PROCESS OF LAW,

but a plot seems to have been entered into by Dubois, U. S. Marshal, Acting Governor Curtis, and Judge Morgan to steal the county. Dubois got up the excuse, Curtis, in his gubernatorial capacity committed the act, and Judge Morgan not only sanctions but sustains them in their diabolical attempt to rob the people of their rights, and the duly elected and qualified officers of their offices, given them by the people with the unprecedented majority of 400 votes out of a total of 407 votes cast, and now according to the efforts of these unscrupulous and unprincipled vagabonds the minority of seven must rule the

MAJORITY OF FOUR HUNDRED.

The facts are about as follows: On May 11th Dubois visited Paris in company with four or five others, arriving about 11 a. m. and left the same day at 2 p. m. During this brief visit of three hours duration he claims he could not find the recorder, although the deputy recorder was in the office nearly all day and was in the company of Dubois several times.

On his return to Boise he reported to acting Governor Curtis that he could not find the recorder and that J. U. Stucki was a fugitive from justice, and on that report Curtis issued his famous proclamation

DECLARING VACANT

all the county offices, and at once proceeded to commission a new set of county commissioners and a full list of other officers to fill all the offices in the county.

Such proceedings as these are unprecedented in the annals of history, and it almost seems a dream and not a stern reality, that such things as these can be perpetrated on free American soil and near the close of the nineteenth century. But the facts stare us in the face; these things do exist, tyrants rule and the people mourn. Base and unprincipled scoundrels have conspired together to

ROB THE PEOPLE

and deprive them of every right guaranteed by the constitution of our country.

These men have been appointed and sent here by the government to administer the laws, but how? Oh, how! have they performed their sacred trust? They have perverted the laws they were sent here to administer. They have despoiled the people they were sent to protect. They have leagued themselves with murderers, thieves, gamblers and the basest of men to accomplish their designs. They have wrested from the hands of the people all local self-government, and placed it in the hands of unscrupulous and wicked men; men without reputation, means or anything that constitutes a good citizen; men who have no interests in common with the people and consequently nothing at stake.

The only excuse these corrupt officials have to offer for their unwarranted and unlawful proceedings, is the unpopular cry of "Mormonism." They have done much to erect this barricade, and now they seek to hide their ignominious heads behind it. But "the axe is laid at the root of the tree," already one of the officious and unscrupulous partisans has fallen before the Cleveland hatchet, and it is to be hoped that others will soon follow, for surely no better reasons can exist anywhere for removal than here in Idaho, where they have used the livery of "Uncle Sam" to further their individual and republican party interests; to coerce and bring into bondage one third of the people of Idaho through unjust, cruel, and unconstitutional, legislative enactments, and judicial rulings, evidently and purposely to give the Territory into the hands of a few unprincipled adventurers, backed by the Republican party.

RUSTIC.

Paris, Idaho, May 28th, 1885.

Herewith is annexed the autocratic

PROCLAMATION

of Acting Governor Curtis in behalf of the Idaho Republican conspiracy:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
IDAHO TERRITORY, BOISE CITY,
May 22nd, 1885.

Whereas, it is duly certified to this department that Samuel Matthews, John A. Hunt and William Piggett, residents of Bear Lake County, Idaho Territory, who were elected at the general election held in this Territory in November, A. D. 1884, county commissioners for said county of Bear Lake; and, whereas, it is further shown by sworn and attested proofs, of citizens of Bear Lake and Bingham Counties, that each and every one of the said commissioners so elected as aforesaid have refused and still do refuse to qualify as such commissioners, by taking the oath of office, as provided and pre-

scribed by the law of the thirteenth session of the Legislative Assembly of Idaho Territory, approved February 3, 1885; and, whereas, it is further in proof, duly certified under oath to this department, that one J. U. Stucki, elected at the before mentioned general election, county recorder of said Bear Lake county, is now and has been for some time a fugitive from justice of the Third Judicial District, Idaho Territory, and that the said J. U. Stucki as such county recorder is now absent from the county of Bear Lake, and concealing himself to evade the process of the court for his arrest, and that by reason of such absence and concealment a record of the failure and refusal of the said Samuel Matthews, John A. Hunt and William Piggett to take, file and deposit their oath of office, as required by law, cannot be procured from said recorder's office.

Wherefore, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, and the duty imposed upon me by the statutes of Idaho to see the laws faithfully executed, I do now declare the respective offices of Samuel Matthews, John A. Hunt and William Piggett, to be vacant for the reason aforesaid; and I do hereby appoint Clarence Webster, Elisha Strong and Matthew Thompson, citizens of the County of Bear Lake, and Territory of Idaho, to serve as a Board of County Commissioners in and for the said County of Bear Lake in the Territory of Idaho, for and during the period prescribed by law, having faith and confidence in the integrity and ability of the said Clarence Webster, Elisha Strong and Matthew Thompson to faithfully discharge the duties of said office.

In testimony whereof I have signed my hand and caused the seal of the Territory of Idaho to be affixed thereto, this 30th day of May, A. D., 1885.

E. J. CURTIS,
Acting Governor.

[SEAL]

A MEANS OF DOING PENANCE.

ELDER J. M. TANNER, writing to the *Millennial Star* from Berlin, accounts for the virulence with which many visit this Territory assail the religion of its inhabitants and the utter recklessness they display in picturing the imaginary immorality of the "Mormons," in quite an original manner. We have been inclined to think sometimes that the maligners of this people acted on the principle of the cutfish, which, when wishing to hide its own actions from observation, exerts an inky substance and discolors the water, but the penance theory which Brother Tanner suggests may possibly account for the zeal which the class which he refers manifest and the evident satisfaction they take in their holy work. Here is what he says:

"During the last two months, there have been a great many letters from correspondents in Salt Lake, published in Berlin newspapers. These have been of an unusually vicious character having no semblance of truth and creating great prejudice against us. Publications against the 'Mormons,' however contradictory and incoherent they may be, are accepted as if they were angelic productions; as a gentleman remarked: 'How the writer must have been shocked in the midst of the gross immoralities.' Poor fellow! suppose, if he should return and find himself known, a monument would be erected in commemoration of his love of virtue. People do not need wander as pilgrims to the Holy Land and kiss the sepulchre of the Saviour in order to do penance; it is sufficient if they make a tour to Utah and 'the horrors of Mormonism,' at the same time describing how such immoralities prey upon their moral sentiments, to not only blot out the most heinous crimes of their lives but actually entitle them to the roll of honor or crown of a martyr."

LOCAL NEWS.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, JUNE 5.

Information Wanted.—Of the whereabouts of George Boom, who left Sumacotes, England, and sailed with the Saints in 1874. Address Harriet Boom, at Mr. Wm. Nease's Copy Side, Swarding Cote, Near Burton on Trent, England.

Cut a Blood Vessel.—This afternoon, as Wm. Lewis was engaged in work on the Temple Block, holding a "moose" on one of the granite blocks while a boy was striking, a piece of steel flew out, the sharp point striking Lewis on the left wrist and cutting a blood vessel. A surgeon was summoned, who stopped the flow of blood.

Crushed his Foot.—On Wednesday evening, Joseph, an eight-year-old son of Joseph E. Morris, of East Mill Creek, accidentally had his right foot injured in a mowing machine. He was brought to the Deseret Hospital in this city, and yesterday afternoon Dr. W. F. Anderson removed the crushed bones and dressed the injured member. The little boy is in a fair way for recovery.

Early Strawberries.—Brother Charles Croshaw writes from Oxford, Idaho, stating that ripe strawberries were picked there on June 1st, and wishes to know how that will compare with the season in Salt Lake. On May 15th strawberries raised in this city were put on the market for the first time this spring, and so our northern neighbors are only about two weeks