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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

MAY, 1843.

Sunday, 7.—In the forenoon I was visited by several gentlemen, concerning the plates which were dug out near Kinderhook.

The council of the First Presidency met.

Elder B. Young preached at La Harpe.

Monday, 8.—I called at the office at 7 a.m., with a supersedeas to stay suit, Thompson vs. Dixon.

John Scott was unwilling to give sister Mulholland one fourth of the lot, as directed by me.

Tuesday, 9.—In company with my wife, mother, and my adult family, Sidney Rigdon, P. P. Pratt, John Taylor, W. Woodruff, and about one hundred gentlemen and ladies started at 10 min. before 8 a.m., from the Nauvoo dock, under a salute of cannon, having on board a fine band of music.

We had an excellent address from our esteemed friend, P. P. Pratt: the band performed its part well.—much good humor and hilarity prevailed. The captain and officers on board did all they could to make us comfortable, and we had a very agreeable and pleasant trip.

We started with the intention of visiting Augusta, but in consequence of the lowness of Skunk river, it was impracticable; we therefore altered our course to Burlington, touching at Fort Madison on our way up, and at Shokiquon on our return.

In consequence of the Governor of Iowa having refused to withdraw a writ reported to have been issued on a demand from the executive of Missouri, on the same charge as that for which I had been discharged by Judge Pope, I dispensed with the pleasure of calling upon my friends in Burlington and Fort Madison: during our stay at those places, I kept myself concealed on the boat.

The "Maid of Iowa" did well; her accommodations are good for the size of the boat, and she performed her trip in less time than we anticipated, and we returned home about 8 p.m.

Wednesday, 10.—Directed Dr. Richards never to let the court room be occupied by any person until he received \$2 in advance.

The blossoms on the apple and other trees appeared.

Took my brother William, Elders J. M. Grant, E. Robinson and Horace K. Whitney in my carriage to the Upper Steam Boat landing and back. They were intending to start on their mission, but no steamboat came.

A meeting of the Saints at Leechburgh, Pa., numbered 5 elders, 2 priests, 1 teacher and 50 members.

Thursday, 11.—At 6 a.m., baptized Loisa Beeman, Sarah Alley and others.

Eight a.m.; went to see the new carriage made by Thomas Moore, which was ready for traveling. Emma went to Quincy in the new carriage: I rode out as far as the prairie.

Ten a.m., B. Young, H. C. Kimball, P. P. Pratt, O. Pratt, O. Hyde, W. Woodruff, Geo. A. Smith, John Taylor and W. Richards assembled in council, and voted that Addison Pratt, Noah Rodgers, Benjamin F. Grouard, and Knowlton F. Hanks go on a mission to the Pacific Isles; Captain Dan Jones prepare himself to take a mission to Wales; James Sloan go to Ireland; Reuben Hedlock, John Cairnes, and Samuel James to England; and that Reuben Hedlock preside over the Church, &c., and be assisted by Elders Hiram Clark and Thomas Ward; that bro. Cairnes go to Scotland, Lucius N. Scovil to England, under the direction of brother Hedlock, and that Amos Fielding come immediately to Nauvoo, or be cut off from the church; also, that this quorum recommend George Walker to President Joseph Smith, as clerk of the Nauvoo House.

President Young stated that Woodworth had offered the use of his draft for the Nauvoo House, table, &c., if any one would copy it, but he had not time to comply with the request of the quorum to furnish a full draft.

Friday, 12.—Purchased half of the steamer "Maid of Iowa" from Moffatt; and Captain Dan Jones commenced running her between Nauvoo and Montrose as a ferry-boat.

At sunrise Bishop George Miller arrived with a raft of 50,000 feet of pine lumber for the Temple and Nauvoo House, from the pinery on Black river, Wisconsin, where the snow was about 24 feet deep in the winter.

In a council of the Twelve it was agreed to

visit Lima, La Harpe, and Ramus, and hold conferences concerning the Nauvoo House.

Saturday, 13.—I rode to Yelrome in company with brothers Woodruff and Geo. A. Smith, and tarried for the night with Father Morley. Brothers Woodruff and Smith slept at bro. Durfee's. Brother B. Young went to La Harpe, and brothers H. C. Kimball and O. Pratt to Ramus.

Sunday, 14.—Meeting at Yelrome, when I preached; the following is a synopsis reported by Elder Woodruff.

"It is not wisdom that we should have all knowledge at once presented before us, but that we should have a little at a time; then we can comprehend it. He then read the second epistle of Peter, 1st chap., 16 to last verses; and dwelt upon the 19th verse with some remarks.

Add to your faith knowledge, &c. The principle of knowledge is the principle of salvation; this principle can be comprehended by the faithful and diligent, and every one that does not obtain knowledge sufficient to be saved, will be condemned. The principle of salvation is given us through the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Salvation is nothing more or less than to triumph over all our enemies, and put them under our feet; and when we have power to put all enemies under our feet in this world, and a knowledge to triumph over all evil spirits in the world to come, then we are saved; as in the case of Jesus, who was to reign until he had put all enemies under his feet, and the last enemy was death.

Perhaps there are principles here that few men have thought of. No person can have this salvation, except through a tabernacle.

Now, in this world mankind are naturally selfish, ambitious, and striving to excel one above another, yet some are willing to build up others as well as themselves; so in the other world there are a variety of spirits, some seek to excel; and this was the case with Lucifer, when he fell, he sought for things which were unlawful, hence he was cast down, and it is said he drew away many with him, and the greatness of his punishment is, that he shall not have a tabernacle: this is his punishment; so the Devil, thinking to thwart the decree of God, by going up and down in the earth, seeking whom he may destroy; any person that he can find that will yield to him, he will bind him, and take possession of the body and reign there glorying in it mightily, not thinking that he had got a stolen tabernacle; and by and bye some one having authority will come along and cast him out, and restore the tabernacle to its rightful owner; but the devil steals a tabernacle, because he has not one of his own; but if he steals one, he is always liable to be turned out of doors.

Now, there is some grand secret here, and keys to unlock the subject. Notwithstanding the apostle exhorts them to add to their faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, &c., yet he exhorts them to make their calling and election sure, and though they had heard an audible voice from heaven bearing testimony that Jesus was the Son of God, yet he says we have a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto ye do well that ye take heed as unto a light shining in a dark place. Now, wherein could they have a more sure word of prophecy, than to hear the voice of God saying, this is my beloved Son, &c.

Now for the secret and grand key. Though they might hear the voice of God, and know that Jesus was the son of God, this would be no evidence that their election and calling was made sure, that they had part with Christ, and were joint heirs with him; they then would want that more sure word of prophecy, that they were sealed in the heavens, and had the promise of eternal life in the kingdom of God; then having this promise sealed unto them, it was as an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast, though the thunders might roll, and lightnings flash, and earthquakes bellow, and war gather thick around, yet this hope and knowledge would support the soul in every hour of trial, trouble and tribulation. Then knowledge through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the grand key that unlocks the glories and mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.

Compare this principle once with Christendom at the present day, and where are they with all their boasted religion, piety, and sacredness, while at the same time they are crying out against prophets, apostles, angels, revelations, prophesying and visions, &c.; why they are just ripening for the damnation of hell. They will be damned, for they reject the most glorious principle of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and treat with disdain and trample under foot the key that unlocks the heavens, and puts in our possession the glories of the celestial world. Yes, I say, such will be damned, with all their professed godliness. Then I would exhort you to go on, and continue to call upon God until you make your calling and election sure for yourselves by obtaining this more sure word of prophecy, and wait patiently for the promise until you obtain it, &c., &c.

Elders Geo. A. Smith and W. Woodruff followed him with a few remarks, and meeting closed for one hour, when we met again. W. Woodruff opened meeting, and spoke upon revelation, obeying the commandments by building the Nauvoo House, was followed by Geo.

A. Smith upon the same subject. Elder Lorenzo Snow then spoke somewhat at length, concerning his mission to England, which was interesting.

After meeting we all rode to Lima, and took supper with Calvin Beebe, and while we were conversing with brother Joseph and brother Morley, brother Joseph made the following remarks:—

"The way to get along in any important matter, is to gather unto yourselves wise men, experienced and aged men, to assist in council in all times of trouble. Handsome men are not apt to be wise and strong minded men, but the strength of a strong minded man will generally create coarse features, like the rough strong bough of the oak. You will always discover in the first glance of a man, in the outlines of his features, something of his mind.

Excitement has almost become the essence of my life, when that dies away I feel almost lost; when a man is reined up continually by excitement, he becomes strong and gains power and knowledge; but when he relaxes for a season, he loses much of his power and knowledge; but in all matters, temporal or spiritual, preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, or in leading an army to battle, victory almost entirely depends upon good order and moderation. In going to battle move slowly, dress up into line, and though your enemy rush upon you with fury, meet them slowly but firmly; let not confusion or terror seize upon you, but meet them firmly, and strike a heavy blow and conquer.

A man can bear a heavy burthen by practice, and continuing to increase it. The inhabitants of this continent anciently were so constituted, and were so determined and persevering either in righteousness or wickedness, that God visited them immediately either with great judgments or blessings. But the present generation, if they were going to battle, if they got any assistance from God, they would have to obtain it by faith."

President Young preached at La Harpe.

Almon W. Babbitt preached all the afternoon, and prevented Elders Kimball and O. Pratt from giving instructions regarding their mission at Ramus.

The wind blew terribly from the south west all day.

A naval action took place between the Texan and Mexican fleets off Compeachy.

Edmund Brazier, aged 18, was drowned in the Mississippi river, by the upsetting of a skiff. Samuel Karnes was preserved from a similar fate by Capt. Dan Jones.

[From the Cleveland Herald, July 8.]

Raising the Safe of the Atlantic, sunk in 1852.

This morning we were favored with an interview with E. P. Harrington, of Westfield, N. Y., the successful rescuer of the safe, who gave the items of the occurrence.

Mr. Harrington has had three years' experience as a diver, and during the past winter has been engaged on the Mississippi, in his business. Associated with him in this undertaking were Martin Quigley and Charles O. Gardner, of Chautauque, New York, and William Newton, of Detroit. They proceeded on the schooner Fletcher to the locality of the steamer Atlantic, which lies about three miles from the extreme point of Long Point. They arrived there on the 18th of June, and that day was used in preparation. On the 19th Mr. Harrington, encased in Wells & Gowen's submarine armor, made his first descent. The armor is made of two layers of canvas and one of india rubber, the rubber occupying the middle. It is loose and flexible, and of course resisted no pressure. From in front of the mouth proceeds a tube composed of nine alternate layers of canvas and rubber, with a copper wire coiled inside to prevent collapse. This is flexible too, and being as long as the depth to which the diver goes, and the upper end being in the open air, secures proper respiration.—The aperture is 3th of an inch in diameter. A wreckline had previously been dropped and rested against the side of the steamer.

Dressed as above described, with leaden shoes, and with lead weights attached to his body, amounting to 248 pounds, with a rope around his waist, by which he could be raised to the surface, and a check or signal line in his hand, the adventurous diver commenced his first descent. He was governed by the wreck line, and struck the promenade deck about forty feet aft the stateroom where the Express Company's safe was, which was in the third stateroom aft the wheel house on the larboard side. He remained on deck but one minute.—After descending from fifty to seventy feet, depending upon the clearness of the air above, all is dark to the diver, and he is governed entirely by feeling.

The romantic sights recorded by the Advertiser are therefore without foundation. The greatest caution as to entangling lines must therefore be used, and Mr. Harrington went each time outside of the stanchions, moving, as he advanced, his wreck line, so that with each dive he advanced nearer the stateroom.—The second dive he was three minutes upon deck; the third four, the fourth seven. On the twentieth he made four dives, and the time on deck was respectively four minutes, 7 do., 5

do, and the next or eighth, six, at which time he reached the stateroom.

Previous to this he had all the time been groping about, and twice was on the hurricane deck and once near the main deck. The twenty-first he made seven descents, times respectively, 4, 6, 5, 3, 5, 6 and 8 minutes, and during which he was busy in breaking down the wood-work on the side and below it, and succeeded at last in getting a line fast to the ring in the lid of the safe, but finding the aperture he had made too small to allow the passage of the safe, ascended to await till the coming day. On the twenty-second, the sixteenth dive, being the first that day, he was on deck seven minutes, during which time he sawed through the casing and panel work, and tried to break it off with his hand, but could not. The seventeenth he was on deck nine minutes, in which he fastened a line to the wood work, and by it the men above pulled it off. The eighteenth and last descent, he was on deck eleven minutes, and during it he succeeded in fastening a line to the end ring of the safe, and helping it out of the aperture, it was raised to the deck of the schooner.

The perilous work was done, and the adventurous men, upon opening the safe, or rather iron chest, 28 by 18, by 16 inches in size, found themselves the possessors of about \$5,000 in gold, and \$31,000 in bills, a small portion of which were useless from the action of the water and insolvency of banks, and six watches, two of which were valuable gold ones. The chest contained papers for which the American Express Company paid a handsome salvage. The Atlantic lies careened, her larboard side being 175 feet, and the water on her starboard 160 feet deep. The safe was about 175 feet from the surface. Upon her deck Mr. H. found a slight sediment of three or four inches in depth.

He could, as we have said above, see nothing, and encountered nothing but the wood work, chains, glass and the chest. The water was very chilly, and Mr. H.'s hands were so numb that he could not by mere feeling distinguish glass from wood. It was only by the former's breaking that he knew its material. He thinks his strength, when below, not more than one-tenth that he has when in the open air. He suffered but little from pressure, except two or three times, when such was the rush of blood to the head that he says he saw "bright flashes in his helmet like electric sparks."

VENALITY AND LICENTIOUSNESS OF THE PRESS.—As a sad evidence of the low ebb of morals in California, the venality of the press may be regarded as striking. This is observable in its ready disposition to follow, instead of leading, what it regards popular sentiment; to trim its sails for every favorable breeze, willing to be wafted to whatever port the popular current may take it—to hell or heaven, as the case may be—so proven-der be furnished by the way.

The fact is, that there are two many newspapers in California for any independent press to be sustained. To secure the pitiful means of living, proprietors and editors will prostitute their types and their talents to any cause that will furnish them a means of support. They will lie and traduce, and they will turn and twist; unsay to-day what they said yesterday, and, if necessary, re-say to-morrow what they have repudiated to-day. Like the hero of Butler's very natural Hudibras, they count the reward before they weigh the sentiment to be expressed, and as they keep on hand a goodly supply of all sorts of sentiments, it is the easiest matter in the world to furnish any description to order. Sidrofel, in catechising Hudibras, asks, and is answered thus:

"What makes all doctrines plain and clear?"
"About two hundred pounds a year!"
"And those which were proved true before."
"Proved false again?" "Two hundred more!"

Such is the philosophy of nine-tenths of the newspaper press of California. They would 'steal the robes of heaven to serve the devil in,' always stipulating, however, that the devil should pay well. Did he not, they would desert his cause, and become veritable saints in some other—that paid!—[San Francisco Sun.

SEVEN FOOLS.—The angry man,—who sets his own house on fire in order that he may burn that of his neighbor. The envious man,—who cannot enjoy life because others do. The robber, who for the consideration of a few pounds gives the world liberty to hang him. The hypochondriac—whose highest happiness consists in rendering himself miserable. The jealous man—who poisons his banquet and then eats of it. The miser—who starves himself to death in order that his heir may feast. The slanderer—who tells tales for the sake of giving his enemy an opportunity of proving him a liar.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.—In course of argument by counsel, in the case before the Court of Session last week, respecting the legality of a marriage with a deceased wife's sister, one of the counsel said it was a doubtful point whether such marriage was prohibited in the Levitical law; on which Lord Ardmillan remarked, that he was surprised none of the counsel had referred to Jacob marrying two sisters, and to the fact that our Saviour was descended from one of them.—[Glasgow (Scotland) Mail.