

"MORMONISM" IN LONDON.

Editor Deseret News:

The London Semi-annual Conference occurred on Sunday, the 8th inst., at Orson's Assembly Room, 23 New Road, Whitechapel, President Albert Carrington and Bishop Orson F. Whitney of the Liverpool office were present, besides 15 Utah Elders. The forenoon meeting was occupied by the traveling Elders in giving reports of their respective districts, the afternoon by Bishop Whitney, and the evening by Apostle Carrington, who spoke for an hour and a half, to a very large and attentive congregation of Saints and strangers. Between the afternoon and evening services we held three simultaneous open air meetings on the Whitechapel Road, the principal broad thoroughfare of East London. Large numbers listened attentively to the warning voice of the Elders and many subsequently followed us to the evening meeting. Our hall, which is the largest now occupied by the Saint in London, was comfortably filled in the morning and afternoon, but in the evening it was literally packed. A most excellent spirit prevailed throughout, and the discourses of the brethren were replete with power and inspiration.

The following is a summary of our statistical report for the half year ending October 1st, 1882. Number of branches 16; number of officers and members 985; number baptized during the half year 74; numbers emigrated to Zion since the last Conference 127. Number of Utah Elders at present in the Conference 16. On Wednesday evening the usual concert of the London District took place in the new hall recently rented for the Lambeth Branch, near Lincoln's Inn Fields. The programme, announcing 32 very fine vocal and instrumental selections was very creditably rendered, and Bishop Whitney, in addition, contributed several excellent pieces, all of which were very highly appreciated by the large assembly which was composed of both Saints and strangers.

On the Monday morning after our Conference the following notice appeared in the *Daily Chronicle* of this city:

MORMONISM IN LONDON.—Yesterday morning the semi-annual conference of the friends and members of the British community of Latter-day Saints was held at Osborne's Assembly Rooms, New Road, Whitechapel, and was presided over by Elder Fowler. There was a large attendance of delegates and representatives from the different districts into which the metropolis is divided, and from various provincial towns in England, Scotland, and Wales. There were also present several Elders from Utah, including Messrs. Evans, Pickett, Hardy, Brown, Harris, Nowers, McCune, King, Nye and Snow. "Bishop" O. F. Whitney, and "Apostle" Albert Carrington, President of the European Mission, by most of whom addresses were delivered and reports presented showing notwithstanding the opposition their open-air meetings had been met with in London and other large towns in Great Britain, the Church of the Latter-day Saints was making steady progress. Inland was the only country in which their propaganda had not proved successful; but against this they could reckon on hosts of converts from Great Britain (especially Wales), Scandinavia, Germany and other parts of Europe. There was a crowded attendance of the public at the morning and evening meetings.

You will observe that a few errors occur therein, particularly with reference to the "delegates and representatives from various provincial towns of England, Scotland and Wales." It is quite unusual for the London Conference to be so extensively represented, or to assume such vast proportions; but I presume the very large assembly and the general interest manifested on the occasion, led the reporter to suppose that it was altogether too much "Mormon" element for a little city like London, and therefore, to save its reputation he scattered us widely over the United Kingdom. Elder Fowler being the first speaker is announced as presiding and full credit is given us for the numerous riots and disturbances that have occurred at the meetings of the "Josephites" in London, during the past season. The latter error I rectified in the following correction which for some unaccounted reason did not appear until this morning:

"THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS."To the Editor of the *Daily Chronicle*:

SIR—Allow me the privilege of a few lines to correct a misunderstanding that finds expression in your courteous notice of our recent Conference. The "opposition" and "disturbances" therein referred to as being incidental to Mormon open-air meetings in London have nothing to do with us. The meetings of the "Josephites" (an apostate sect of the true Mormon Church) have, unfortunately, often given rise to disturbances and provoked angry opposition. But for ourselves, the Mormons of the true Church, we have experienced during the past season no molestation whatever, and hope we have given cause for none.

Yours, J. A. WEST,
President London Conference, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
Oct. 10,

On the whole the notice is very fair and altogether out of the usual order.

Mr. Phil Robinson, who has already acquired world wide reputation for his graphic and manly representations of Utah and her people, has returned from Egypt, whither he has been as the special war correspondent of the *London Daily Chronicle* and the *Pall Mall Gazette*. He contemplates making a lecture tour of the United States on Saturday next taking his family with him. During his brief sojourn in London since his return from Egypt, he has been engaged in the preparation of a work entitled "Sinners and Saints." It is to contain a carefully written account of his journey to Utah and his experience among the Latter-day Saints; also his numerous and valuable letters to the *New York World*. I expect to receive an advance copy from him in a few days as it is now about ready for the press.

The good work in London is progressing very favorably. In addition to the baptisms reported above Elder King baptized seven persons yesterday. Elder Nye baptized three after the close of the Conference, and several more applicants will be attended to on Sunday next. Our next and last company of Saints for this season will sail from Liverpool on Saturday the 21st inst., and about 25 returning Elders will accompany them.

Your brother in the Gospel.
JOS. A. WEST.
London, Oct. 16, 1882.

"LIBERAL" INDIGNATION.The *Sacramento Union* says:

"The Gentiles of Utah are indignant over a decision rendered in Salt Lake by Judge Hunter."

This is a mistake. It is only a disappointed clique of office seekers and their associates who are "indignant." They advocate the policy of "political decisions" by the courts, a doctrine that should be denounced by every lover of his country. For, when the courts become so corrupt by political and party considerations as to swerve from the principles that should govern jurisprudence everywhere, it will not be long before national destruction will be the consequence.

A few persons here have taken Judge Hunter's decision because it does not fit into their schemes, but not one of them has even attempted to show that it is unsound. It was a technical ruling based on the requirements of the law, and if it had been unfavorable to the People's side of the dispute involved, the "Liberal" intimidators who are now striving to scare the Judge into pandering to their infamies would have lauded him to the skies as an honor to the judicial bench. But the respectable "Gentiles" of Utah take no stock whatever in those unjust aspersions or the pretended indignation.

AN ATTEMPT AT INTIMIDATION.

The preceding article has been in type for several days, but has been crowded out to make room for reports of the political campaign just concluded. We now notice in the *Record-Union*, which was led astray by the unreliable and misleading press dispatches sent to the Coast from Salt Lake, an editorial indicating that after reflection that paper is convinced of its mistake. In the following pithy words it sets forth the untrustworthiness of certain journals, always rabid and rampant when anything relating to the "Mormons," however remotely, is under consideration. We have made no change in the *Record-Union's* remarks, but have spelled Judge Hunter's name correctly, which was improperly given in that paper:

"The press and people of the country will probably do wisely to receive the statements of the Utah Gentile Journal in regard to Judge Hunter's recent decision, with extreme caution. It is a familiar fact that the Gentile papers of that Territory are not at all trustworthy in matters of this kind. Their bias against the Mormons is so strong, their prejudice is so rampant, that they are ever ready to accuse of treason any Federal officer or judge who tries to be impartial. It is in the highest degree improbable that Judge Hunter

has unfairly favored the Mormons. It is in the highest degree improbable that he has been bribed by them. But it is unfortunately altogether credible that the Gentile papers of Utah are making wild and irresponsible and unjustifiable charges, because they have done the same kind of thing many times before. The truth is that those papers do not represent the situation at all faithfully. They rant and rave about Mormonism much as too many of the California papers not long ago ranted and raved about the Chinese question. Such irrational partisanship, however, is always a mistake. It does not convince outsiders. It only revolts them. In the present case we are fully prepared to learn that the Federal Judge in Utah has been very greatly wronged by the utterances of the Gentile press, and that he has done no more than his duty.

We repeat what we have several times stated to the public, that if reliable information concerning the "Mormons" is desired, it should be sought for from the "Mormons" themselves, as the opposition against them is so bitter that the truth can scarcely be expected from those whose interest it is to misrepresent and slander them. In the present case the facts are as we have stated above. The Judge cannot be charged with any leaning to the "Mormons" or their cause, and the shameful attack made upon him for rendering a decision strictly in accordance with legal principles—although the grounds were merely technical—just because it did not suit a few conspirators, is denounced by every fair-minded person here of every shade of opinion, as a dastardly attempt at intimidation. If the *Record-Union* wishes for facts concerning Utah, it must not seek to gather them from unscrupulous newspapers, nor the garbled and frequently lying reports sent westward by the press dispatcher from Salt Lake.

The Supreme Court of Connecticut has decided that women are eligible to membership in the bar of that State.

Under the new reform bill there are 508 members in the Italian Parliament. The ministerial party, under the leadership of Depretis, claim a majority of 400 in the new house.

The total number of arrivals who have arrived at Castle Garden since Jan. 1st, of the present year, is 405,951. During the corresponding period of 1881 the number was 383,365. It is estimated that the total number of arrivals this year will reach 450,000.

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