

THE
DESERET NEWS.

"TRUTH AND LIBERTY."

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FILLMORE, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30.

FOURTEEN YEARS AGO.

THE 27th of June has just passed. On that day, fourteen years ago, the Prophet and Patriarch, Joseph and Hyrum Smith, were basely and inhumanly murdered by a vile mob while in Carthage jail. The circumstances of their martyrdom—the pledging by the Executive, Thomas Ford, of his own and the State of Illinois' faith and honor that they should be safely protected—are so notorious that we shall not dwell on them here. But what a host of reflections does the remembrance of that event awaken! What a time of exultation for the devil and his emissaries, and of mourning and sorrow for the Saints, was that. The murderers of Joseph and Hyrum Smith hoped that the execution of that foul deed would be the death-knell of the system which Joseph was the instrument in the hands of God of founding. They imagined that he was the life and soul of the system, and that to cause it to sicken and die it was only necessary to kill him! How grossly they were deceived the history of the past fourteen years illustrates.

Fourteen years! How much that period has done in spreading a knowledge of Mormonism, and in giving it that world-wide fame that has been promised. At the time of his death the name of the Prophet Joseph was widely known and the knowledge of the principles he taught widely diffused, yet when compared with the present time, how obscure was the one and confined to narrow limits the other. A few nations had heard of his name, but with the majority it was only known for evil. False reports had penetrated where his apostles had not. Two or three nations had heard their voices, but yet comparatively little had been done towards fulfilling the word of the Lord, through the angel to him before the organization of this church, that his name should be known among the nations; for the work which the Lord should perform by his hands should cause the righteous to rejoice and the wicked to rage; with the one his name should be had in honor, with the other in reproach.

Since his death, however, much has been done towards accomplishing this. The nations now remaining—that have not heard his name and whose ears have not been saluted by the message of salvation of which he was the first bearer, are but few indeed. From West to East, from North to South, has this message been carried; its bearers, penetrating almost every sea and traversing almost every land, have circumnavigated the globe. On every continent is his name had in honor by the righteous and in reproach by the wicked. Little did his enemies think when they so cruelly slew him that this would be the result. Little did they think that they were contributing to bring to pass and fulfil that which had been foretold through him. Yet this doubtless was the case; for instead of the work being retarded by his death it received an impetus. It increased in power and importance beyond the calculations of those who knew by the prophecies what the result would be; but incalculably beyond that which those who opposed it supposed it ever would.

Upwards of twenty-eight years ago, before this church had an organized existence on the earth, it was foretold to the world what this system would grow to. Men possessed of the gift of prophecy testified and plainly pointed out from the scriptures that this was the work of God—the work which the prophets in ancient days referred to. Fourteen years elapsed and it grew and prospered, and gave every indication of becoming all that had been predicted. Still the world would not believe but what it was a deception, hatched in the brain of a cunning impostor. To stop its farther increase was the grand thought that occupied the mind of priest and people, professor and non-professor. But how? was the question. The answer was not long delayed. It was: "Kill the man that first propounded it; take away the master spirit who by his impostures has kept the system together, and it will fall to pieces." The plan was adopted. The prophets were infamously murdered. But the infernal device failed in accomplishing the desired object.

Again men possessed of the gift of prophecy foretold that this was not to be the end of the system, but that its perpetuity and increase were still sure. The world believed it not. They thought the "Mene" of Mormonism was written. Another period of fourteen years, however, has elapsed; the system has still increased and spread abroad, setting at naught the puerile efforts made to retard or crush it. Yet the world will not even now be persuaded that the predictions made relative to it will ever be fulfilled. They still misapprehend the nature and tendency of this work—still attribute to the cunning and shrewdness of man what really proceeds from the wisdom of God, and still think that this system is indebted for its success and prosperity to those whom God has called to preside over it. Of course, having this idea, it is a natural consequence that they should think that the removal, either by violence or otherwise, of the leaders of this people would be the means of breaking up the system and dispersing its followers. A more fallacious idea than this, or one better calculated to mislead those who indulge in it, can not well be entertained. Let Satan once succeed in instilling it into the minds of men, and when God has a priesthood on the earth, they are very apt to be some of the instruments he will use to destroy it.

The experience of the past should teach the world that there is and has been a power more than human directing and guiding the progress and development of this system. This is apparent on every page of its history. As well might man attempt to arrest by his puny and impotent arm the diurnal revolution of the planet on which we stand, as to stop the progress of this work by the shedding of the blood of those whose duty it is to preside over it. The success of the past fourteen years proves this.

CANDID STATEMENTS.

We have noticed lately, amid the many statements published about "Utah and the Mormons" in the Los Angeles papers, an occasional statement from those who have recently passed through this Territory, testifying to the good order that has prevailed here and the kind treatment they received while in our midst and passing through. It is so uncommon to find men with sufficient courage or gratitude to publicly acknowledge any good treatment or kindness received from this unpopular people that when it does occur it is quite noticeable. Advocating anything so unpopular as the goodness or kindness of the people of this Territory, is so terrible in the eyes of many that they stifle the impulses of justice and gratitude, and either remain passive and tacitly acquiescing spectators of the struggles to vilify and misrepresent us, or openly become our defamers.

In the *Southern Vineyard*—a weekly paper recently started at Los Angeles—of the 5th of June, there appears a card of nearly a column's length from a number of teamsters formerly connected with the Utah expedition. The first part of their communication contains a sketch of the treatment they received while with the Army at Fort Bridger and the circumstances under which they left. They then say:

"On the 16th we arrived at a Mormon Station at the mouth of Echo Canyon, in a famished condition. On representing our distressed circumstances, our wants were promptly and gratuitously supplied. Here we were furnished with an escort to the City, where we met with Lieut. Genl. Danl. H. Wells, of the Utah Militia, who issued instructions regarding our safety throughout the settlements, accompanied with a relieved escort at each station. We recruited ourselves at Beaver City, and it was deemed advisable to fit up for the journey to California."

"We would be exceedingly ungrateful in omitting an expression of our sincere thanks and deep indebtedness to our Mormon friends of Utah and the mail carriers, for the disinterested kindness evinced towards us in ministering to our wants, and for the aid extended to us in our journey to California,—without which we could never have reached our destination, but have perished on the desert, or been killed by merciless savages."

After making these statements, they solemnly declare, for the information of the public, that they heard His Excellency Governor Cumming assert on the public stand in Salt Lake City, relative to the United States Court Records, as circulated by Judge Drummond and others, to be a false, unfounded and most malicious representation; that the said records were delivered over to him in good condition, and were at that time in his charge and custody.

If all who have passed through this Territory were equally candid with these who have made the above statements, public feeling outside would never have arisen so high against this people. All that has been asked of any that have resided here or passed through on their way to or from the States, and who may have received substantial relief or experienced kindness, has been to tell the truth; we asked not for puffs nor colored reports; but a plain, unvarnished statement, if any were made at all, of things as they really existed here.—Had this always been done, editors would have suffered dreadfully for want of a hobby to ride as popular as Mormonism has been; they would not have had so good an opportunity of giving vent to the malice that was consuming them; but the country, at large would have been better for it and government would have been saved vast expense.

INSECURITY OF LIFE AT WASHINGTON.

The condition of Washington City has been taken into consideration lately by Congress, and a bill discussed for increasing the police force. Members of Congress begin to be seriously alarmed for their lives, crime is so rife and of such frequent occurrence in the streets of that city. It is not only after nightfall that there is danger to be dreaded from the slung-shot, knife and pistol, but even in broad day, on the avenue, men were struck down by murderous arms. The city is said to swarm with ruffians and rowdies, with assassins and robbers, and the police is so notoriously inefficient that they meet with little or no interruption in their assaults and depredations. Scenes of riot and violence were occurring every night; and murder was an every-day occurrence, with arson, burglary and every crime known in the catalogue. Members of Congress acknowledged that they dare not leave their rooms after night without a revolver in their pocket. So great was the sense of insecurity, apprehension and alarm that the principal citizens of each Ward had turned out and patrolled the streets in force.

This condition of things is attributed to various causes. It is asserted that scoundrels and rogues of every hue and grade congregate there from every part of the Union to receive rewards for their political services. Coupled with this, is the significant statement that there are in the city 301 liquor shops, or one for every 24 voters, and that in passing along Pennsylvania avenue, the great thoroughfare of the city, there is to be found in almost every house a faro bank, familiarly called the "tiger," where the passer-by can step in and get rid of his money without any difficulty.

This is a bad state of things to exist at the seat of the Federal government. Certainly not very well calculated to give resident foreign Ministers and visitors a very favorable opinion of the Republic. For, above all the cities of the Union, Washington, being the capital, and reputed to contain, during the sessions of Congress, the assembled wisdom and talent of the nation, should be a pattern of decorum and propriety. She should be as a light set upon a hill, unto which all officers and rulers could point as an example worthy of all imitation.

We learn that Elders H. W. Bigler, John S. Woodbury, Alma L. Smith, William France, John Brown and Wm. Rose, arrived in San Francisco on the 19th May, from their mission to the Sandwich Islands.

NEWS ITEMS.

The Vice President presented a memorial from the Legislature of Utah, setting forth their grievances, in the Senate, April 14.—Laid on the table by 32 to 13.

On the 30th of April, the Kansas question was for a time laid over, both branches of Congress agreeing to the Conference Committee's report by a majority of eight in the Senate and nine in the House, amid scenes somewhat exciting. The report makes the admission of Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution depend on the acceptance of a land ordinance, which is to be submitted to a popular vote; and in case of the rejection of the proposition, provides for the formation of a new Constitution.

Mr. Gwin's bill for the construction of the Pacific Railroad, was killed in the U. S. Senate on the 18th of April, by postponing all further action until December next. The Administration members voting in favor of the postponement.

In the Senate on the 13th of April the bill to construct a telegraph to the army in Utah was taken up, discussed at length, and postponed to next December, (lost).

ANOTHER CONGRESSIONAL ROW.—Immediately after the House adjourned, on the 12th of April, to attend the funeral of Col. Benton, the members who lingered in the hall conversing, either in groups or in their seats, were startled by a fight between Mr. Craige, of North Carolina, and Mr. Helper, author of a book entitled "The Impending Crisis," and formerly from the same State. They had just been angrily engaged in conversation. Crowds of members and others rushed in and separated the combatants while they were engaged in dealing heavy blows. Mr. Helper was temporarily taken in charge by the Sergeant-at-Arms. A number of ladies who were on the floor and witnesses of the proceedings, were much frightened. A pistol and knife were found on Mr. Helper, who made no attempt to use them. An investigation was held this afternoon, and Senator Hale and Montgomery Blair, Esq., appeared as his counsel. The Justice held him in bonds to keep the peace.

DEATH OF COL. BENTON.—Thomas H. Benton died at Washington at half past seven o'clock on Saturday morning, April 10, of cancer of the bowels.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The trial of Dr. Simon Bernard, for complicity with Orsini and others, which had lasted for several days, was brought to a close on the 17th of April. The counsel for the prisoner, Mr. Edwin James, made a powerful speech on behalf of his client, appealing strongly to the anti-Napoleon prejudices of his auditors. He called for a fearless and independent verdict, let the consequences be what they might. The speech elicited tremendous cheering in the court, and the jury returned a verdict of "Not guilty." The result was received with great cheering in court and out, and greeted with general satisfaction throughout the country. Bernard was discharged on bail.

The operations on the Atlantic cable were going actively forward. The steam frigate *Niagara* would be compelled to leave her berth at Plymouth on the high tide of May 15, or remain another month, as her draught of water would prevent her getting out, except at the highest stages of the tide. The experiments with the new playing out machinery were giving general satisfaction.

FRANCE.

The acquittal of Bernard produced great sensation. The *Paris Moniteur* did not publish the result when first received. Several other journals confessed that they dare not publish the speech of the prisoner's counsel, while others gave garbled accounts.

The French Minister of the Interior had ordered the artillery in the towns of France to be deposited in the arsenals, for the purpose, as was supposed, of keeping them out of the way of the people in case of a general outbreak.

Marshal Pellissier, Duke de Malakoff, had been appointed Ambassador to England, in place of Count Persigny, resigned.

RUSSIA.

Some excitement had been caused in Russia by the opposition of some of the nobility to the emancipation of the serfs, and many great proprietors had fled in fear of their lives. A camp of 100,000 men, thought to be intended as a demonstration against Austria, was to be formed in Russia in May.

NORWAY.

Three fourths of the city of Christiania, the capital of Norway, was destroyed by fire on the 14th of April. The losses were estimated at ten millions of francs.

INDIA.

The Calcutta mail of March 23rd reached Alexandria April 23.

There is intelligence from Lucknow to the 22d of March. On the 20th Brigadier Campbell's force returned from the pursuit of the enemy. On the 21st the Mobries, the retreat of Nena Sahib, was stormed. He escaped, and a reward of 50,000 rupees was offered for his head. General Outram's force had discovered and destroyed a retreat of the rebels in Lucknow, and the Prime Minister is among those reported as killed. The fanatics continue to fire on the British.

The rebels, under Sala Sahib, brother of Nena Sahib, were in great force on Bundelcund.

Commissioner Yeh reached Calcutta on the 22d of March, and would be kept under surveillance until further orders.

The sentence of the King of Delhi had not been made public.

Nena Sahib was at Calpee, preparing to penetrate the Deccan, in hopes of being joined by the Mahrattas. The British would soon attack Calpee.

The executions at Delhi and other cities continued.

During the Protectorship of Cromwell, it happened that a secret expedition being about to sail, one of the fanatical preachers, whom Cromwell was obliged to please sometimes, although he generally disapproved of their conduct, came to the Protector, and demanded an audience. When this was granted, he said—"The Lord wishes to know where the secret expedition is going?" "The Lord knows already," replied Cromwell; "but thou shalt know, for thou shalt go with it," and he sent him on board the fleet.—*Literary Gazette.*

It is not well for a man to pray, cream, and live, skin milk.