

DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, - JUNE 8, 1881.

CITY COUNCILS AND LIQUOR DEALING.

ONE of the cities in this Territory which are empowered by charter given by the Legislative Assembly to license, regulate, prohibit or restrain the sale and manufacture of intoxicating drinks, has under consideration an ordinance enabling the City Council to engage in the business of selling intoxicants, to appoint an agent to conduct the business, and to punish by fine of not more than fifty dollars for each offense, any person other than such agent, who shall engage in the manufacture, sale or other disposal of spirituous, vinous or fermented liquors within the limits of said city. We are requested to give our opinion as to the validity of such an ordinance.

Without multiplying words, or attempting to give the legal points in the controversy which might and doubtless would arise under the attempted enforcement of such an ordinance, we answer that we do not believe it would stand the test of our Federal courts. Why should a City Council create for itself a monopoly in any business? Why engage in such a business as this at all? Having the power of prohibition, and desiring to restrain the traffic in intoxicants, why not make a clean sweep of the floor at once?

We notice that in this case the ordinance provides that no profits are to accrue from the business, but that the liquor is to be sold at such a price as to cover cost and expenses of sale. This is a very difficult matter to regulate, and it appears to us, would defeat one of the objects in view in the restriction and regulation of the traffic. Licenses fees are imposed, for one reason, to make the cost of the coveted but harmful fluid too high to be reached as a common beverage, by the masses. But in this case it is to be cheapened and brought down so low that it will be of easy access, and thus drinking intoxicants would receive municipal encouragement instead of repression.

In enacting ordinances upon matters that have received such varied and critical handling by the Courts, it seems to us that competent legal advice should be sought, that they might be so constructed that there would be at least some probability of successful enforcement. We do not think an experienced lawyer would advise a municipal corporation to engage in any business to the exclusion of all other corporations and persons, nor do we think a wise counselor, civil or ecclesiastical, would suggest the cheapening of intoxicants in a community where power exists, not only to restrict the sale of such pernicious fluids, but to prohibit the traffic altogether.

We do not believe the ordinance in question will be sustained on a judicial test, and we are of the opinion that selling liquor is a poor business for any City Council in this Territory to attempt to engage in. If the object is to lessen the traffic, would it not be much easier and better to curtail it by cutting it off in the region of the neck?

COCOONS.

THE silk raising interest is quite active in this Territory, and there are several amateur sericulturists who raise the worms for the cocoon business. We would like to see the industry more general, for it is by family efforts, rather than by large establishments necessitating the employment of salaried labor, that in our opinion the most profitable results will be achieved.

Many inquiries have been made as to the best way to dispose of cocoons. Father Graves of Provo informs us that there will be very soon a great demand for cocoons of good quality,

right at home. The Salt Lake Silk Factory will be in operation almost immediately. Also the Utah Stake Relief Silk Association will soon be weaving dress goods. Frames have been ordered from England for fancy work and are expected to arrive by the third company of emigrants; a thoroughly competent weaver has been engaged, who will also arrive shortly, as well as some improved machinery from Patterson, New Jersey.

Father Graves, writing from Provo May 27th, says:

"This morning I received a box of silkworms from the Woman's Silk Association of Philadelphia, of the two crop variety, which were nearly all hatched when unpacked, and are in good order. For character read section 2 page 17 in my work on sericulture, which can be had at the office of the Woman's Exponent. Count Doudula, the celebrated sericulturist, says:

"If I raised silk worms for my own spinning, I would only cultivate the silkworm of three moultings, and the white is preferable to all others; and every year I would choose the whitest and finest cocoons, to prevent the degeneration of the species."

This kind was introduced into France about the year 1783, and is there highly esteemed. It is supposed to be that which is known under the name of the "White Worm," which produces two crops in one season."

THE CENSUS OF THE CHURCHES.

Interesting Correspondence.

In the article in Saturday evening's News on the subject of the Census of the Churches, we made reference to a letter received by President Taylor from the Census Agent at Washington and his replies thereto. In order that this matter may be fully understood we have applied to President Taylor for the correspondence which by his courtesy we are able to present to the public.

These are the opening letters; we give all of them verbatim:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
CENSUS OFFICE,

Pelham Manor, N. Y.,
September 23rd, 1880.

To the President of the Church of
the Latter-day Saints:

DEAR SIR:—Will you kindly send, for use in making returns of Religious Organizations for the Census, all the statistics in your possession concerning the Latter-day Saints in the United States:—number and location of congregations, places of worship, name and addresses of officiating persons, number of members belonging to each society, and such other statistical information as you may have.

Please find franked envelope for your reply, on which no postage will be charged.

Respectfully yours,
H. RANDALL WAITE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
CENSUS OFFICE,

Pelham Manor, N. Y.,
Oct. 13, 1880.

To the President of the Church of
the Latter-day Saints, Utah.

DEAR SIR:—I desire to enlist your kindly assistance in aiding me to obtain statistics of the above Church. If there is no printed list of ministers or other Church officers, with post-offices, and congregations, I would greatly thank you to advise me as to the best and most practical way of obtaining such a list.

Will you favor me with an early reply, for which please find franked envelope enclosed.

I am yours respectfully,
H. RANDALL WAITE.

To these President, Taylor replied in this wise:

Dec. 21, 1880.

Dr. Henry Randall Waite, Special
Agent, Census Office, Pelham
Manor, N. Y.

SIR.—In answer to your letter of October 13th, wherein you ask for statistics of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in each State and Territory, I would respectfully say that as our members are continually changing in consequence of the removal from Utah to other States and Territories, and others immigrating from European and other countries and the United States to the Territory, it is somewhat difficult to give the pre-

cise numbers in each State and Territory, or even in the Territory of Utah, in the manner you indicate. But so far as we have the data we herewith furnish you from our half yearly report, October 15, 1880, so far as pertains to the Territory of Utah, as follows:

Of our Church organization there are three High Priests who compose the First Presidency, then a Quorum or Council of Twelve Apostles, also 48 officers ordained as Patriarchs, all of whom are High Priests. Our ministers are known as High Priests, of whom there are 3,207, Seventies 4,158, Elders 10,085, Priests 1,290, teachers 1,459 and Deacons 3,212.

In our further organizations we have twenty stakes, each of which is presided over by a President and two Counselors, who are High Priests, also a High Council consisting of twelve High Priests. These Stakes are further divided into wards, each of which is presided over by a Bishop and two Counselors, who also are High Priests; of these there are 159 Bishops and 218 Counselors. There are also a number of villages and in the charge of a presiding Priest.

There are 55,676 members; and children under eight years of age, 34,701. Each of our wards has one or more churches or meeting houses, also a number of the Stakes have tabernacles and assembly halls, wherein public worship is held.

We have a number of our officers [not heretofore considered] engaged in the ministry throughout the different States and Territories, also in Great Britain, Scandinavia, Switzerland, Germany and other European nations, New Zealand, Australia and some of the Pacific Islands, where churches are organized, of which the numbers of the members would be difficult, without much labor, to give—even an approximate.

Trusting that the foregoing will be satisfactory,

I subscribe myself,
Yours respectfully,
JOHN TAYLOR.

This elicited the annexed response:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
CENSUS OFFICE,
Pelham Manor, Westchester Co.,
N. Y.,
December 28th, 1880.

Hon. John Taylor, President Church
of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah:

DEAR SIR:—Your courteous favor of December 21st, in reply to ours of October 13th, is at hand, and you have my sincere thanks for the pains which you have taken in responding to my inquiries. I have carefully examined the statistics with which you have furnished me, and, if I understand the arrangements of your organization, they will answer my purpose. From your letter I conclude that the Bishops presiding over the respective Wards correspond somewhat to pastors of local churches in other denominations, and that in order to obtain detailed statistics of local churches, my schedules should be sent to the Bishops of Wards as above. Am I correct? In case I am right in my supposition, when the schedules are ready for distribution, I shall wish to distribute them accordingly. It occurs to me, that in order to secure the best results in this distribution, it will be well to send them out with a circular bearing your endorsement. I will, therefore, as soon as the schedules are received from the printer, send you a copy for examination, and ask you to do us the favor of preparing the copy for such a circular as you may be willing to have go out in connection with the schedules with your signature.

It is the desire of the Superintendent of Census to do full justice to all religious organizations, and, to this end, I desire to secure such co-operation on the part of officers and churches as will enable me to obtain full and accurate statistics as to membership, edifices, sittings, value of property, money raised for church purposes, etc., etc.

Again thanking you for the aid thus far rendered, and trusting that we may receive such further assistance at your hands as will enable us to make the statistics of your church complete,

I am, very respectfully yours,
HENRY RANDALL WAITE,
(per Sten.)
Special Agent.

After the receipt of the foregoing, President Taylor replied as follows:

January 6th, 1881.

Hon. Henry Randall Waite, Special
Agent, Census Office, Pelham
Manor, N. Y.:

DEAR SIR.—Your letter of December 28th is received and contents considered.

While I am desirous to put you in possession of all useful information in regard to our statistics as a Church, it will be seen from our former letter that our organization and general arrangement are entirely different from other religious denominations, and therefore the schedules which you refer to, with which, or the nature thereof, I am unacquainted, therefore, it would be difficult to furnish them in the same form precisely as that of other denominations whose organization is so different from that of ours.

You say in your letter that you "conclude that the Bishops presiding over the respective Wards, correspond somewhat with pastors of local churches in other denominations, and that in order to obtain detailed statistics of local churches, my schedules should be sent to the Bishops of Wards as above. Am I correct?"

I would say, not by any means. They occupy altogether another position from the pastors referred to; they are so very different, it might probably be altogether unapplicable. For instance, the business of our Bishops in presiding over a Ward is to look principally after the temporal interests of the community, to look after the poor, widows and fatherless, and provide for their necessities. He is also assisted by two counselors, and who, together with himself, form a court, denominated by us a "Bishop's Court," to investigate and try all minor cases that may come up before him in his Ward, whether of a temporal or spiritual nature. They are also assisted by a corps of officers called Priests, Teachers and Deacons, who aid them in the supervision of the Ward, and of all affairs connected therewith, which you will see at once is quite another arrangement than that contemplated by yourself. The offices of Elders, Seventies, High Priests and Apostles, also differ very materially from the arrangement suggested by you.

I would state in relation to the mode of obtaining information in regard to our statistics and matters of this nature, the Bishops generally confer and communicate with the Presidents of Stakes, and when required, those Presidents are my authority for any information that may be obtained. In fact our Church government, in some respects, is somewhat similar to our Territorial organization—the Stakes occupying the place of Counties.

In speaking of "Church buildings," they are put up and means provided for their erection according to circumstances: in some instances by the voluntary contributions of the people; in others partly by tithing (which is a voluntary contribution by the community, and partly by contributions and donations. We have expended a very large amount for buildings for public worship, the details of which would be very difficult to obtain, and the more so from the complex nature of the appropriations made for that purpose.

When you speak about "sittings," our churches are all free, and our ministers labor and officiate in the ministry as the Apostles did formerly—without purse or scrip.

I was in hopes that the statements which I had given would be sufficient to put you in possession of the information required. If, however, there is anything further needed, if you will forward me your schedules, and there appears anything further that I can give, I will take pleasure in forwarding that information.

Very respectfully yours,
JOHN TAYLOR.

Instead of the schedules being forwarded so that President Taylor might arrange, as promised, to furnish correct information, such as might be required, the subjoined letter was received:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
CENSUS OFFICE,
Washington, D. C.,
January 27, 1881.

Hon. John Taylor, President of the
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah.

DEAR SIR.—I write to inform you that, by advice of the Superintendent of Census, I have concluded to place the entire matter of the collection of statistics in my Department, so far as the Territory of Utah is concerned, in the hands of the late

Supervisor of Census, Hon. Arthur L. Thomas, Secretary of the Territory. This has been done, not because of any dissatisfaction with the kind services which you have rendered (for which I wish to extend to you my most hearty thanks) but because Gen. Thomas is already related to the Census Office, and has abundant time and excellent facilities for all of the work required in Utah; for the above reasons arrangements have been made with him for the rendering of aid in several departments of the Census Office.

I have accordingly turned over to him your letters and the statistics furnished by you, informing him of your cordial proffers of assistance.

Thanking you again for the aid already rendered,

I have the honor to be,

Yours respectfully,
HENRY RANDALL WAITE,
Special Agent.

It will be seen from this correspondence that there was no disposition on the part of President Taylor to throw anything in the way of the census agent of arriving at correct information, but on the contrary, was desirous of preventing errors that might arise from improper reports and incorrect entries on misunderstood blanks, and on schedules framed without any understanding of the peculiar organization of our Church. The matter being taken out of his hands, of course he is relieved of any responsibility in the premises.

The caution we have given to those who fill up the schedules forwarded by the Agent is worthy of their attention. For though there may be no design in the census itself against our institutions, in view of the continual attempts of our enemies and of the present wide spread desire among the religious organizations to bring trouble upon us, all who are not blind can perceive the necessity of taking care to make no opening for the foe, nor prepare for them a pretext of which they might take advantage to our injury.

CHURCH STATISTICS.

As we have already shown in these columns, the schedules forwarded to the Bishops and Presidents of Stakes by the census agent, with a view to obtaining statistical and other information relative to the churches, are not suited to the peculiar organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, for which either a special schedule should have been arranged, or, which would have been better, a special report by the General Church Authorities could have been furnished, with fuller details than those already given, if the particulars required had been explained.

As it is, in order that accurate information may be given and uniformity so far as possible secured, it is necessary that in filling up the blanks forwarded by the census agent, the writers should all understand them alike, and that the changes needed in the form should all correspond. We therefore give below the questions necessary to be answered, with the replies so far as they can be given in one selected case, which will answer as a guide to the Bishops or Presidents of Stakes in filling up the forms. We take Tooele as an ensemble because we happen to be acquainted with the particulars of that Ward, and can give the answers required. The changes made from the original text of the schedule are in italics. Thus, "Ward" is substituted for Parish, "Bishop" for Clergyman, etc. Accuracy is desirable as well as completeness, and the Bishops should bear in mind our former remarks in relation to the necessity of stating the Ward property as such, and not as Church property. This form will of course be filled up to suit the circumstances and conditions of each separate Ward, the particulars of which can only be furnished by the local authorities.

I.—INQUIRIES AS TO LOCATION, CLERGYMEN, MEMBERS, ETC.

1. LOCATION, DENOMINATION, ETC.
(a) Territory of Utah, County of Tooele.

(b) City, village or town (say which): City.

(c) Name of Ward: Tooele.

(d) Full name of denomination with which connected: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

(e) Name and full post office address of Bishop. (In the absence of such an officer, give name and address of the officer in charge): Thos. Atkin, Jun., Tooele City, Tooele County, Utah.