

62, or any other law of the land. Thousands of people who have been in Utah for many years are not practical polygamists, and the inference drawn in the diplomatic letter, if it have any existence, is unwarranted by facts is a jumping at conclusions unworthy of a high-rate lawyer and amazingly foolish in a cabinet official.

The "Mormon" emigrants, even under the illogical ruling of the Supreme Court on the religious question are entitled to the same freedom of belief as the Catholics, the Lutherans, the Methodists or the Mennonites. Under that decision they have perfect liberty to believe in plural marriage, for it is only when people's faith "breaks out into overt acts against peace and good order" that government has any right to interfere. Immigrants cannot be prevented, under the laws of this land, from landing on our shores because they are "Mormons." Neither can they be stopped from embarking from the ports of those European countries where freedom is supposed to have far less scope than under the flag of the Union. The contemplation of such a thing would be food for fun in the Parliaments of the Old World, and if the letter referred to has been sent, its author will become the laughing-stock of all nations.

There is another thing. The doctrine of the gathering which our missionaries preach is true. God has in very deed commenced to bring His people from the east and the west, the north and the south preparatory to the coming of the Lord Jesus. He who attempts to stop the gathering, fights against God. Pharaoh arrogated to himself more power than any republican or monarchical Government pretends to hold. He undertook to say that the Lord's people should not go. Let his fate be a warning to modern autocrats. There is no power beneath the sun that can stop the work of the gathering of latter-day Israel, for a mightier Hand than that of an Emperor or President is engaged in it, and when puny men in their blindness attempt to thwart His purposes, they will only aid in the accomplishment thereof, while He who sitteth in the heavens will hold them in derision. The fate of all nations that fight against Zion is inscribed on the pages of Holy Writ, and just as soon as any of the governments of this world array themselves in earnest against her, the Lord will smite them by the rod of his power, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

### THE NAUVOO TEMPLE.

The following, clipped from an eastern paper will be interesting to the old Nauvoo "Mormons" on whose minds the scenes of the persecutions following the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum, with the wounding of Elder John Taylor, are vividly impressed:

"Among the events of the famous Mormon war was the burning of the Nauvoo Temple. The structure was burned in the night time, and so successful was the party engaged in firing that probably he was never even suspected. The recent death of the incendiary, however, has removed the necessity of further secrecy, and recently an editor was put in possession of his name and the facts connected with the burning of the temple, by the only living person cognizant of them. The temple was fired by Joseph R. Agnew, who recently died in Appanoose Township, Hancock Co., in Illinois, at the age of fifty-eight years. It was always supposed that the party who burned the building had entered through the basement, but the facts are, Mr. Agnew surreptitiously obtained a key to one of the doors of the temple some time before the act. No one was engaged with him, and only four knew he was the party. Agnew prepared his fire balls and other combustibles at his residence. Placing them in his saddle-bags, he rode on horseback to Nauvoo, and in the night entered the temple with his key, passed up the capola, arranged his materials and fired them and then quietly escaped the way he came. The informant, who is a respectable and prominent citizen of Illinois, says he can produce the key of the temple which Agnew secured in order to accomplish his work."

### Correspondence.

BRIGHAM CITY,  
August 8th, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

In company with Prest. O. G. Snow, Patriarch Wm. Box, and Bishop H. Tingy, your correspondent had the pleasure recently of visiting the Wards west of this city, belonging to this Stake. About 55 miles north of west from Brigham is located Curlew Valley, which a few years ago, was known only as a herd ground, but by the energy of a few Saints, inspired by the perseverance of Bishop A. Goodhiff, (the leading mind of that Ward,) a canal, nine miles in length, with a dam at its head, has been constructed, and an abundance of water, for which this valley is noted, has been turned from its natural channel, and will be made use of to convert the otherwise dry plain into fruitful fields and pleasant homes. A suitable place has been selected and surveyed for a city, and the Bishop, not allowing himself to fall behind his flock to drive, but always ahead, piloting the way, has erected a very commodious and substantial dwelling on the city ground, covered with a good shingle roof. I make mention of the shingle roof in view of the fact that the shingles were hauled about 60 miles, likewise most of the lumber. The present population of this valley is about 45 families, which number is fast augmented, owing to the good facilities for homes for the tiller of the soil, in fact but a few years will elapse before that valley will be filled up with Saints (I hope).

About 28 miles south-west from Snowville, (the name of the new city,) lies Kelton, the depot which receives the dairy products and produce of this valley. Five meetings were held at Snowville, and a complete organization of that Ward was effected. A. Goodhiff, Bishop, and Joseph Robbins and H. J. Hanson, counselors; a number of Priests and Teachers were ordained and set apart.

About 42 miles southwest from Snowville via Kelton, lies Park Valley, a lovely little valley whose only drawback appeared to be a meagre supply of water. This valley, unlike Curlew, runs east and west, bounded on the north by a range of mountains from which the water irrigating purposes flows, and containing sufficient saw timber, it is said, to build up the place. At the base of these mountains are located a number of excellent farms, where, in time, beautiful and I may say elegant homes will be made. From this elevated locality we have a beautiful view of the entire valley and also of the northwest end of Salt Lake, at the end of which and 14 miles distant from Park Valley, lies Kelton.

The residents of this valley, on the strength of a temporary self-organization, built the best school-house west of Bear River City, and conducted a Sabbath school of 30 attendants. Thirty-six students were enrolled in the common school last winter. Park Valley Ward was organized with Erastus D. McCham, Bishop, and C. J. Rohner and Wm. G. Gifford, counselors. A number of priests and teachers were appointed to labor in the ward in their respective places. This valley was first settled in '69, by Thos. Duon, W. C. Thomas, Adam Larsen and a few others. Its present population is 21 families and a few ranchers.

Fifty-two miles over a road, in nearly horseshoe form, brought us to Grouse Creek, which I think lies nearly west of Park Valley and in view of the unvarying appearance of Grouse Creek Valley, was a resident I should favor the construction of a road direct between the two places over a low pass in the mountains, which would make the distance only twenty-five or thirty miles between the two valleys and thus enable each to visit the other, and lend a helping hand, if only by way of encouragement. Surely Grouse Creek is entitled to the latter; there is some good land on this creek, but the water, which used to be plentiful, is an entire failure this season, and some families, I noticed, have to haul that article for several miles for house use, and the crops of course have to make without water or go unmade; the people are chiefly poor, having just moved in from Europe and other places, and consequently their present condition is not very encouraging, but if our old times of

plenty of water return to us, the Saints will yet make comfortable homes here. The first settlers came here in '76, among whom were E. F. Hubbard, Marshal Grover, B. F. Cooke, Henry Merrill and W. C. Thomas; 44 families make up the present population; it is estimated that in ordinary seasons there is sufficient water to irrigate 800 acres of land. This ward was completed in its organization, with Samuel H. Kimball, Bishop, and B. F. Cooke and Phil. Pasket counselors, priests and teachers were ordained, and appointed to labor in the ward.

At each of these places, the presiding officers and as many of the Saints as could make it convenient, were rebaptized, and upon the whole a general good feeling prevailed, and even those of our brethren and sisters who had the least encouragement, seemed full of hope that a brighter day was at hand. Having nearly reached the corner stone of Utah, Idaho and Nevada, we were quite willing to return again to the city of Brigham where dear ones anxiously watched for our return, and where the greetings of welcome are melody in the heart which echo's "Home Sweet Home."

P. F. MADSON.

### Ogden Election.

OGDEN CITY, U. T.  
August 4, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

Our election here, to-day, has been one of the quietest known in this place for many years past. Not the least excitement at the polls. No rush. No stampeding after voters. There was only one, the People's Ticket, in the field, and of course it was elected. There were not a great many people out, and very few votes cast—183 in all in this city. As far as I can learn the like peace and good order prevailed and like results were attained in the settlements throughout the country.

One reason so few were out at the polls is, it is a very busy time just now with many who are engaged in the fields securing their crops, but it is nevertheless a fact that when we have no opposition great numbers of our people become apathetic and neglect the important duties of using their franchise to elect proper men to fill important offices. I hope they will not be caught napping at the time they should be wide awake.

SEMPER.

### Judicial Blunders.

BEAVER, Aug. 6, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

I have given what attention ill health and a press of business would allow to the legal (?) proceedings against the Trustee-in-Trust of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the executors of the estate of the late President Brigham Young and do not hesitate to pronounce the whole affair an outrage that would not be tolerated in any other community. As to what grounds the attorneys for the defense take I am not fully posted, but the idea of a receiver or receivers with mere nominal bonds and these receivers virtually transient persons, being appointed to take possession of property already well and securely bonded in sums sufficient to guarantee the proper use and holding of such property is an assumption of power too palpable to be entertained by a two-year old backwoods justice of the peace, much less a district judge appointed by the best government on earth. Personally I have nothing against Judge Boreman, but much of his judicial proceedings from first to last has been a chapter of prejudice and judicial blunders. I must say, however, of the other judges designed to harass and annoy the leaders of the so-called Mormon Church, the sharpest deed they ever did in the Territory was to select Boreman to do the dirty job. That he should have retired at the expiration of his first term, no sane person who has not an ax to grind will deny. That he did not in my view is, however, no fault of the government. The appointing power depends mainly upon the recommendation of others. His second appointment, I understand, was the result of a recommendation from the "united bar" of this city. Whilst I have no wish to impugn the motives of the honorable attor-

neys, I must say that in recommending a man of so small calibre, filled with known prejudice against the religion and people of the community, and upon the judicial bench declaring a large and respectable portion of their offspring to be like heathen and wild beasts, had there been nothing more, should have caused them to reflect and consider whether the community for whom they expected to do business wanted a man of that kind. Were a petition circulated for a new appointee, I am satisfied that outside of the abused settlers who have made the country, a very large majority of the inhabitants would sign it.

I might refer to many of his judicial blunders in this district. One I mentioned some years ago, was harassing for a month, more or less, and surely not much less, an humble citizen of Beaver, nearly gone with heart disease, was accused by a desperado who, every circumstance went to show, attempted to put up a job on certain parties. Boreman held an examination, which ought not to have occupied, or at most to have exceeded, two days. At the close of the period above named, the slowly but surely dying man, who would undoubtedly have dropped dead before traveling half the distance to where the man was killed, was held and died under bonds to answer the grave charge of murder. That his death was hastened by this vile persecution is well understood to be the fact by those who had charge of the sick man. A few hours before he breathed his last, after being informed that his demise was at hand, he said, "I die with a conscience void of offence towards God and man." The desperado went scot free. I need not repeat the full history of the case, nor follow through the case at bar, striving to wrench the property from its bonded security and placing it in other hands with comparatively no security, is of itself sufficient to show an apparent attempt to "solve the Mormon problem" by gobbling up the Church as well as estate property. Persons unacquainted with the Judge's bias and dodges would almost be led to query whether he was not seriously thinking of garnishing the late President's grave or worshipping his memory. Perhaps I should have said money instead of memory. Yet on reflection I think it looks more that way. Seriously it is to be hoped that at no distant day the Second Judicial District will be favored with an intelligent unbiased jurist to sit upon the bench. How refreshing the thought.

DANIEL TYLER.

### Pertinent Queries.

SALT LAKE CITY,  
Aug. 12, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

The good character of a man or people has always been looked upon as of more value than gold or fine jewels, something that should be guarded and preserved at all hazards.

In a financial sense the good character of the merchant is of as much value to him as his bank account, this is also true of society at large; communities, people and nations require a character for solid worth before they can make their influence felt. A government that cannot or will not protect its subjects from insult while abroad, soon loses caste and men cease to respect it, whereas its efforts to protect its citizens under all circumstances are recognized as an evidence of the stability of that government.

The Latter-day Saints have much to do with people from abroad, who visit us and our business men, and Elders visiting and travelling in different parts of the world are called upon to come in contact with classes and great variety of people, who to a certain extent are compelled to form their opinions of us, from popular report, and it seems a most important item that we should use our utmost endeavors to place before the world at large the true situation in our midst, and maintain our character as a people for probity, justice and fair dealing.

Allow me to ask in all candor how we can expect to accomplish the foregoing objects while here in our own doors are a class of men whose entire time is spent in a system of villification, traducing and lying that has never been paralleled in the civilized world.

Men who subsist upon the bounty of the "Mormon" people at that;

for who could doubt for one moment, that if the Latter-day Saints should vacate these valleys, they would not return to their wilderness state, and again become the home of the Indians and wild animals. Yet public sentiment abroad is widely influenced by these very men, letters to the press abroad are written teeming with slander and accepted by the mass of the people as true because written from Salt Lake City. Yet these men walk our streets and ask favors at our hands.

To illustrate this point, a few weeks ago a delegation of visitors from the East stopped over Sunday and attended the Tabernacle service. Three Elders in succession addressed the audience. A prominent federal official, seated near some of the visitors, in detail slandered the characters of these three Elders, and embittered the minds of his listeners against the whole "Mormon" people; yet this man is one of the men we have to look to for justice and protection under the law of the land.

A terrible murder of one of our most promising young men but recently occurred in the State of Georgia. We as a people have felt to execrate the men who committed the foul deed, but are they the only guilty parties? It has been a leading question for some days, "Will the officers of that state punish the offenders?" But let us bring the question nearer home, how about the men who instigated the murder, for they are here in Utah, not in far off Georgia. What about these men; shall we allow them to continue their devilry and not raise a hand, while we call on officials abroad to punish their culprits?

I am credibly informed that the articles written by a "Gentile" school teacher and would-be Presbyterian preacher, defaming the character of the Mormon people and the Elders sent abroad, was circulated through the neighborhood where Elder Standing was slain. What about him? Shall the Saints, for the sake of being conservative, still continue to patronize his school and countenance such men?

How can we expect a favorable impression abroad when we sit down and allow blackguards, thieves, pimps and carpet-baggers to malign our characters, to sully the fair name and fame of our mothers, wives and daughters, and these scoundrels go unscotched?

INQUIRER.

LOGAN, Aug. 9, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

Dear Sirs—At a meeting of the Cache County Educational Institute, to-day, it was decided to hold a normal session, commencing on Monday, Aug. 18, at 10 o'clock a. m., the object being to improve in school work, methods of teaching and knowledge of subjects taught, etc. A number of leading teachers of the county will conduct the class work. Lectures will be delivered on subjects bearing upon the work of education. Measures will be taken to make the time interesting and instructive. A good attendance of teachers and trustees and those interested is expected and earnestly desired.

The interest now taken by the people in the work of education is an incentive, and will aid teachers in everything that will tend to its advancement. Great progress has been made during the past two or three years in this county in this work. There is a grand field open before us in the future. The foundations are being laid. The people are increasing in wealth and can afford to give their children a better education. There are fields of labor demanding an education, opening up before the young, hence it behooves teachers to qualify themselves to meet the requirements of the future.

J. E. CARLISLE,  
Corresponding Secretary.

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