

OPPONENTS OF "MORMONISM."

WHERE THE METHODISTS OBTAINED THEIR AUTHORITY—HOPE OF THE SAINTS BUILT UPON A DIFFERENT FOUNDATION.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Aug. 15, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

I find much enjoyment in reading the NEWS, which is a welcome friend to me. Being isolated out here, it is all the company I have. My spare time is spent in reading and meditating over its contents. It buoy me up and strengthens me, yet some items contained therein make me feel sad. In nearly every issue there are accounts from Elders out on missions who are lifting their warning voices to the nations of the glad news of salvation by which all who will obey the same may be saved from the impending judgments soon to be poured out upon the nations. We read of those brethren suffering persecution in various forms at the hands of those, too, who claim to be ministers of religion. No true Christian will persecute any one for religious views; where such takes place it bears the stamp of the cloven foot. We find preachers of various denominations are engaged in this wicked work, and especially preachers of the Methodist church; they vilify and slander the characters of the Elders, and of Joseph Smith, and continually open up their batteries of insult and abuse. They ought to be the last to slander; they cannot attack this work from the Bible, nor from the Constitution, and while they slander the character of Joseph Smith, let them take the hint: those who live in glass houses ought not to throw stones. The founder of their society, Mr. John Wesley, was a graduate of Lincoln College, England. There he was graduating as a minister of the Church of England, and in the English Methodist hymn books in the frontispiece is a picture of John Wesley clad in the robes of office worn by ministers of said church, and underneath are the words: John Wesley, A. M., late Fellow of Lincoln College. For this ministry he was training when a certain dark cloud came over his pathway; he and a young lady attempted to make a bridge over the seventh commandment and it broke and let them fall. The consequences were, he was put out of the College for the same, after a strict investigation, and being filled with rage he stood in defiance in front of the College he was banished from, and to vent his anger he preached there. This was the first Wesleyan Methodist sermon ever preached in the world. Some few sympathized with him, and hence arose his followers.

If this sad misfortune had not happened Mr. Wesley would have gone through his training and occupied a position in a Church of England pulpit; and such a thing as Wesleyan Methodism would never have been known. Where was divine appointment in this case?

The cause spread and many embraced the same and became identified with the system. The two brothers Wesley labored together, and the cause spread abundantly under their zeal and energy.

By and by, John Wesley, wishing other lands to hear the message they held forth, assumed to ordain Coke and others to be Bishops to carry Methodism, and on this point the two brothers became divided. After being so firmly united in the cause, this was the wedge that split them. Charles did not believe either had authority to ordain others and he opposed the scheme. John went ahead, and assumed the authority and laid his hands on the head of Mr. Coke and ordained him a Bishop—a position Wesley himself never held. Charles grew angry at this and remarked,

How easily are Bishops made,

By man or woman's whim!

Wesley his hands on Coke has laid,

But who laid hands on him?

Here is the basis on which the whole superstructure rests. Where is divine appointment on these premises! Let any investigate and see the difference between the claim of Joseph Smith and that held forth by Mr. Wesley. No one can truthfully accuse Mr. Smith of immorality. The Almighty would never have entrusted a work of such importance as the ushering in of this great and last dispensation to a wicked man. Had he been a bad man he never would have had angelic ministrations nor held the keys of the Holy Melchisedec Priesthood. We know that his mission was direct from heaven, and his authority from the same source. His appointment was from those who held it last—angels who held the office themselves, and by obedience to the plan heaven has devised, the Saints have come in possession of a knowledge of the truth of the same which no one can take from them. They rejoice to know that in this late age that God has once more suspended from the heavens the lamp of revelation, and like the wise shepherds of the east they wish to be guided by its light. They see the fig tree is putting forth its buds, and that storms are coming, and they know the same power that established the Church of former-day Saints has established the Church of Latter-day Saints, and that the period is not far distant when the bursting heavens will reveal the Savior of mankind.

The Saints as a people, are preparing to meet Him, and the wise are trimming

their lamps, to be ready, so that they may enter in with Him.

These glorious truths, with many others, are what those noble Elders sacrifice home, wife, family and all the comforts of life for when they go forth to carry the good news to their fellow-perishing mortals that they may be made partakers of the same blessings they enjoy, and that they may rejoice with them in the same glorious hope. If they could but know what the feelings of the Saints are, and how earnestly they desire their salvation the people of the world would not persecute them, but as the Bible says, there will be some wise and others foolish.

Happy are they who will see divine light when it is presented to them; but some will not see though it is so plainly placed before them.

The evil one is awake and using all his powers to deceive and lead astray. Only see the condition he has the different preachers of the day in. He is gently leading them along, and they know it not. He makes them believe the God without body, parts or passions is well pleased with them, that He greatly approves of their doings, and ere long he will send them to a heaven beyond the bounds of time and space (by express), and there they will sit and sing themselves away to everlasting bliss. Go into any of their gospel factories and hear them insult the Almighty for a stipend; and what you will there hear and see will resemble a Punch and Judy or mountebank show. And these are the men to throw mud at the Latter-day Saints and sharpen the knife to put them out of existence.

One great writer says this world is a stage and every man must play his part from childhood to old age, and history of recent date reminds me of some that have played a part that will cause their names to stink like a pole cat when they are in their graves. I do think it would have been well with them had they died in infancy, while on their mothers' breast, while they were fit subjects of the kingdom, than for those mothers to raise them up to manhood and see them in open warfare against the institutions of heaven, and placing themselves in a position where the arm of salvation cannot reach them. Sad, indeed, is their position; I hope their part played will serve as a warning guidepost for Latter-day Saints, that they may shun bad company, let their thoughts, desires and actions be clean; listen attentively to and carry out the instructions given from time to time by God's most holy Priesthood; and hold the fort. Nothing less than this will do for safety.

H. M. W.

EXPRESSIONS FROM THE PEOPLE.

THE MILITARY AND THE "MORMONS."

A few years ago there was a minstrel who gave a stump speech in the Theatre, in which he uttered the following sentiment: "The United States Army—the terror of all the world, ah! except the Indians. They know 'em."

When I saw in the public prints, that Gen. Howard's visit followed suddenly upon the call for a detachment of troops to leave Fort Douglas for the Indian Country, I thought "Hello, what's up?" But soon the problem was solved, when the word came from the East that there was supposed danger of a "Mormon uprising," and that consequently (?) the forces would remain, and others be in readiness to assist, etc. You have probably heard of the fellow who had "nothing to do," and wanted someone to "help him do it." It seems to me that this paradox has received a national exemplification at Fort Douglas in this business. It is not difficult for those who know, to see that it is far easier to sit down and guard the city from inoffensive and unarmed "Mormons," who are hoeing and harvesting with all their might, than to face or follow the well-armed and vindictive savage of the plains, who is ready to dance on the whole United States army, or even scalp the President himself if he and they were not too far away to make the little exercise possible. It was a very opportune time for the anti-"Mormon" ring to do the handsome by the officers at the Fort, and give their own cause a lift at the same time, to make it appear that danger threatened at home, would save their friends from foes abroad, and is it not always in order to show up the "Mormons?" "Disloyalty," "rebellion," and "uprisings" are standard articles of trade. They are like sugar to a grocer or calico to a general dealer in dry goods. True, there's not much profit in them, but they must be kept on hand or the trade will go down.

Of course I don't say that the officers urged or even endorsed these statements or suggestions. It would have been too cowardly—that is it would have appeared so. But the situation was a lovely one to accept, and for one I ain't sorry. I like the troops here; they help to make contracts possible, and it gives the place an air of dignity to see blue coats adorning the town. I do not know of anything that ever benefitted Utah more than the army which came on a wild goose chase here in 1857. The cheap mules, wagons, harness, clothing, and provisions, that were disseminated among the population, were a great relief at a time when we were more in need of groceries and clothes than anything else.

But I must say I was of the opinion that the Government had its eyes

opened on the subject of troops by that useless campaign. Not so, apparently. It remains always for a Democratic administration to send troops at the bidding of political tricksters. How such a smart man as Cleveland could be so easily snoodled, is difficult to see. But although I am no Republican I do not believe Blaine could have been caught in that way.

Some day it will be seen that the "Mormons" are about as unlikely a people to do overt acts as any in the world. Opinions differ in the course of time. We have been called brave, vindictive and ferocious till lately, when some papers have actually come to the conclusion that the "Mormons" are cowards.

In the meantime the "Mormons" continue as they commenced in 1847. They mind their own business, tend their farms, bring down water from the mountains to redeem the desert wastes, endure the most outrageous lying and misrepresentation, profit by their experiences, and keep on increasing in a solid, sensible way, to the annoyance of local demagogues and the parties who want their votes and can't get them.

JEAN VALJEAN.

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 21, 1885.

UTAH COUNTY ITEMS.

PLEASANT GROVE.

August 23, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

Pleasant Grove is the greatest fruit-producing town in Utah; Wm. Wadley alone has gathered 600 bushels of apricots this year. Your correspondent visited his beautiful place and tested his excellent grapes, and would have done them ample justice had not the storm prevented, which broke upon us with great fury on Saturday, the 22nd, at 4 p.m. The rain descended in sheets and in a few minutes a flood was running down what a few minutes before had been a dusty road. The storm has done some damage by its severity to the fruit, destroying much that was out drying.

The town of Pleasant Grove continues to extend its borders, and it is only a question of a short time when it will be one continuous town from Lehi to the last named place; for American Fork is extending each way to meet Lehi on one side and Pleasant Grove on the other.

American Fork has improved greatly in the last year. The new stores of James Chipman and W. W. Jackson are ornaments to the town. Bishop Wm. Bromley is erecting a fine new house that is up to the square and ready for the roof, while quite a number of other improvements are noticeable in the town.

Wm. Grant, who handles the NEWS for the town, is as lively as ever, and is trying to push the DESERET NEWS to the front, assuring his friends that it is the best paper published.

Business in these towns is quiet but firm, and excellent crops have blessed the efforts of the husbandman; but the prospect for a market for the products is not at all flattering. However, all hope for the best. Everything is quiet, peace prevails, and plenty seemingly abound.

One thing appeared strange to your correspondent in this community of farmers, where stock is kept on excellent pasture, and where an abundance of hay is put up and sold for a trifle, not a pound of butter is to be bought in the stores. Now one would think that here in a district so well adapted for it, creameries would be established and an excellent and uniform article of butter would be manufactured and placed on the market at a profitable price; instead of the supply and prices fluctuating as they do now—no butter in the stores or else the market glutted and prices run down to a figure that it does not pay to make it for.

The fortunate parties who launch into this business are sure of a good thing, and a profitable investment, besides being a help to their neighbors; as they have ample facilities for placing such a product on the best markets. Some of the more extensive farmers here, who have striven in the past to find a market for their hay, are now turning their attention to stock-raising, with the intention of feeding their hay to stock and then making sales of the stock instead of hay; realizing that they will thus be better able to reach a cash market.

A great improvement is noticeable in the horses and cattle, through the importation of blooded stock, which tends to enrich the country. And it is quite evident that in the near future Utah will be able to take the lead with the best stock as she does now with the most pure and correct religion.

L.

NORTHERN NOTES.

CONFERENCE OF THE Y. L. AND Y. M. I. ASSOCIATIONS, S. S. UNION MEETINGS, A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS, ETC.

MONTPELIER, Bear Lake Co.,

August 21st, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

I thought I would send you a few items that I have gleaned while on my way through the northern country.

Last Sunday the Y. L. and Y. M. I. Associations of District No. 2, comprising Franklin, Preston, Fairview and Riverdale Wards, held a conjoint conference in the Franklin Meeting-

house. Prest. Matthias F. Cowley and Second Counselor Franklin C. Parkinson, were present, Counselor Parkinson presiding. Some very good remarks were made by several of the members of the associations, the meetings being interesting, and there was a very large attendance both morning and afternoon. The week previous a District Conference was held at Oxford.

Also at Marsh Valley, last Sunday, the Sunday School Union meeting was held. Presidents Wm. D. Hendricks and Geo. C. Parkinson were present. Quite an interesting time was had. The people seem to feel well in the good work.

ACCIDENTS.

Quite a number of accidents have happened in this region of late. Last Saturday at Franklin, Brother Thomas Jolley's little boy, aged about 14 months, got hold of a box of lye that its mother had just been using, and had left on the floor a few moments. The child was considerably burned about the mouth, but didn't swallow any of the lye. He is getting along all right now.

A young man of this place while playing baseball lately was struck by the ball, breaking his nose. I failed to learn his name.

Michael Yeaman, of Nine Mile, was recently kicked by a colt, the blow striking him on the cheek and dislocating his jaw. He came to Oxford for treatment.

Niels Christianson, who lives about three miles south of Oxford, was at work a few days since with a self-binder; he stopped to fix some part of the machine, when the horses gave a start, which caused the needle to come in contact with his hand, piercing his thumb and mashing it very badly. He came to Oxford and had it amputated by Dr. House.

Sister Tyler, of Beaver, wife of Brother Daniel Tyler, who has been traveling through the north country, lately went to Malad, when Sister Sawyer, the President of the Relief Society, wished her to go to Cherry Creek. They started off, one of the ladies driving the team, and while crossing a ditch the horses gave a sudden start, when the hind seat being loose, tipped out, throwing Sisters Tyler and Sawyer out with the seat on top of them. They were considerably bruised and shaken, and Sister Tyler was injured internally. She rode back to Malad about 30 miles, where she received care and attention.

Brother Milo Andrus, Jr. had a pretty close call a few nights ago, at the sawmill where he had been at work. As he was about to retire for the night he felt rather uneasy, and walked about the mill, undecided where to make his bed. At last he selected a corner and retired for the night, when on looking up to a place where there was an opening in the ceiling, he discovered the roof to be on fire. He at once got a bucket and managed to put out the fire. It just seemed as if it was the hand of Providence that led him to do as he did, for if he had made his bed in any other corner he would not have discovered the fire in time to save the mill, and very likely would have dropped off to sleep and been burned to death before he could get out of the flames. The cause of the fire is unknown.

LOCKED IN A TRUNK.

Brother Joseph Kendall's little boy had a narrow escape from death a few days ago. The folks were away attending conference at Oxford, leaving the children at home. They got to playing hide and seek, when the largest boy aged about 9 years, conceived the idea of hiding in a trunk, which had some clothes in the bottom, he managed to squeeze in and shut the lid down; his little brother asked him if he should lock the trunk, he said yes if he was sure he could unlock it again, so the little fellow locked it. But when he tried to open it again he found that he could not get the key to turn, it being rather a difficult lock to manage. The boy inside tried to force the lid open by prying against the lid with his knees, but could not force it open. He called to his little brother to go to the next house for assistance. There being a little girl at home who came when he called out to get the ax and chop the lock off, she ran for the ax and burst the lock off. The little fellow could just manage to crawl out, but was unable to speak and was black in the face. After being shut up in the trunk for about half an hour. The clothes being in made it much worse, the lid fit very close by and the trunk being covered with zinc, it is a wonder that he was not smothered to death.

SHIPPING CATTLE.

While on my way to Bear Lake we stopped at McCammon Station, where we changed cars. We met Mr. William White, of the well known firm of White & Sons of Salt Lake City, who had just driven in a herd of beef cattle, and loaded them on the O. S. L. R. R., filling 10 cars, which he will ship to Chicago. A great many car loads of stock are being shipped east this week over the O. S. L.

FIRE AT PASSEY'S DAIRY.

I have just got word of a destructive fire at Brother Thomas Passey's dairy, between Montpelier and Ovid. The fire happened on Wednesday the 19th, and was caused by a little boy playing with matches. His barn and hay stacks of about 80 tons, and sheds were all consumed; the loss amounting to about \$800.

The Y. L. I. Associations of Montpelier held a conference at the meeting

house this afternoon. Sisters Kimball and Taylor of Salt Lake City were present, and made some very good remarks; as also Sister Nancy Pugmire, President of the Stake Y. L. I. A.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.

Dan Donahue alias Dan Carle, formerly of Southern Utah, but of late an employe on the O. S. L. R. R. was arrested yesterday by officer John Bagley for attempting to shoot road-master Fitzpatrick, while on the track at work. The cause of the attempted murder was that Donahue had been discharged just previous—for causes not mentioned. He was drunk when he attempted to shoot the road master, and was prevented by one of the workmen when he tried it the second time, but was prevented from carrying out his murderous plans. He was taken before justice of the peace David Osborn and placed under \$800 bonds, but failing to obtain the necessary security he was committed to the custody of the sheriff to be held to await the action of the grand jury.

The U. P. Company have just decided to make their division, which is the western division of the O. S. L. Branch, headquarters at Montpelier. They will erect buildings and a round house shortly.

Quite a number of cattle have been killed of late between Montpelier and Soda Springs by the freight trains. On one occasion the train ran into a herd without any warning whatever, throwing ten head of cattle off of the track and killing several. They were from the Church herd on Bear River.

E. S. PENROSE.

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 26.—The Acting Postmaster General to-day appointed the following named fourth-class postmasters: In Arizona, at Gila Bend, James L. McKinney; in Idaho, at Franklin, James Heard; in Wyoming, at Big Horn, Thos. J. Green; at Medicine Bow, R. L. Klinkbeard; in Oregon, at Medford, D. H. Miller; at Goshen, J. W. Matlock; at Newport, Edward C. Phelps.

First Comptroller Durham left Washington this afternoon to spend a few days at Deer Park. He said that no further steps would be taken in regard to the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims until his return next week, by which time he is expected to hear from the members of the court. Judge Harlan, the presiding judge of the court, who is absent from the city, was to-day informed of the Comptroller's action and it is expected that he will make a statement in regard to the matter.

The Inspector's report shows that a shortage is discovered in the accounts of the Chico, California, postoffice, which amounts to \$1,688.

The pension laws provide that the soldiers who have lost a leg at the hip joint or an arm at the shoulder joint, in the service of their country, shall be entitled to pensions at the rate of \$37.50 per month. It has been the custom of the pension department to construe this law strictly. There are less than a dozen cases on the pension rolls in which the amputation has taken place exactly through the joints mentioned. Commissioner Black, in ruling upon the two test cases brought before him, declines to hold to the strict letter of the law, and allows the full amount of the pension though the amputation did not take place at the joints. He holds that if the amputation is so near the hip or shoulder as to render the stump unserviceable, the pensioner is entitled to the same compensation as if no stump was left. This rule will apply to a considerable number of pensioners who have been receiving pay at a lower rate.

The Star to-night says: The rumor to the effect that John Dickerson, former superintendent of the new pension building, had committed some irregularities in the management of his position, having reached the Star, a reporter was sent to trace the matter, and was informed by persons in a position to know all the details, that when the change was made in the office of the Superintendent, it was discovered that Dickerson had not kept any record of his office and business. In endeavoring to ascertain the number of employes and the condition of the office, so the reporter was informed, it was ascertained that sixteen men, who were not borne on the rolls of the Superintendent, were ostensibly doing business under him. Further inquiry revealed the fact that these persons were appointed as clerks, some of them getting large salaries; that they were assigned by Dickerson to the duty of messengers and laborers, and that in some cases no duty at all was required of them. Different parties who had been connected with the department made statements to the effect that property belonging to the Government and purchased for use in constructing the pension building, had been removed and sold. It was charged that lumber and materials of various kinds, amounting in the aggregate to quite a large sum, had been thus irregularly disposed of and that the Superintendent was in collusion with parties for the disposition of materials bought for the building. These charges were reported to Commissioner Black, and detectives were ordered to trace the property. The matter is still being investigated.

WASHINGTON, 26.—Details of the de-