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THE ALTA ON THE UTAH IMMIGRATION.

Quite recently we noticed the receipt of a document from the "Industrial and Immigration Aid Society" of California, which has for its objects the encouraging of immigration, and the aiding of immigrants to come to and settle in this country. We then said that Utah had an immigration system of its own, which has been found to work admirably.

In its issue of May 30th, the *Alta California* has a lengthy leader on the subject of immigration, in which it laments over the lack of energy manifest in California with regard to securing European immigration, and speaks eulogistically of the plan pursued by the citizens of Utah. It points out the States that have made provision by law for encouraging immigration; shows that southern States are now following in the same track, and bidding for the prosperity and wealth which accompanies the influx of industrial labor; and admits that in frugality, if not in industry, the bulk of the European immigration—especially the Scandinavian and German—excels the native population. With its lucubrations on these matters we have little to do; but it has blown hot and cold on Utah, as is usually the case, and we would like to see journalists evince a little more consistency in their references to us, with the amount of information on many points which they evidently possess.

Now, the *Alta* admits the superiority of the system we have adopted for encouraging and securing immigration; years ago a Committee of the British House of Commons complimented us, in the person of Elder S. W. Richards, then the Church Emigration Agent in Europe, for having organized the best system of carrying emigrants of any emigration company doing business within its purview. At one time we are credited with being exceedingly peaceful and pre-eminently industrious; at another time with being enterprising and persevering; at another time with having more common schools in use than can be found anywhere else with the same population; we are admittedly temperate, orderly, prosperous, intelligent, originating plans superior to those of all others of the same kind, living and prospering where few if any but ourselves would think of locating; and yet every writer, however much he may eulogise us in any of these respects, must fling in abusive adjectives, such as "fanatical," and worse, or classical (!) nouns such as "humbuggery," when referring to ourselves and our faith.

If the *Alta* or any other journal or individual will show us any instance, in the history of the world, of a people who could correctly be denominated fanatics performing such labors, producing such results, and evincing the possession of so much calm, deliberate and clear reasoning intelligence, we will admit their right to apply such epithets, which must be offensive to every intelligent people to whom they

are applied: But if those who are so free in their use, will carefully consult Webster, and calmly reflect on the course of those around them with their own course, it may be found that these terms will fit much better nearer home. An ancient wise saying correctly has it, "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Still, we are pleased with the candor in which the *Alta* touches the matter, and give our readers the following lengthened extract, that they may judge of the tone and spirit of the article. After pointing out the increase of wealth consequent upon such immigration, and referring to the States that are most strenuously seeking to increase their population by it, the article goes on to say:—

It is no wonder, then, that those States are engaged in a friendly rivalry with each other to secure the splendid prize. The wonder is that they have not thought of it sooner, and perfected a system to quicken and cheapen it. A greater wonder is that California and Oregon have thought of nothing, done nothing at all in the premises. While the Utah hierarchy have, in proportion to their means and the inducements held out, distanced all the rest of the States and Territories. About one year before Marshall picked up the first piece of gold at Coloma, on the South Fork of the American, Brigham Young and a few of his most fanatical followers determined to establish a Mormon settlement at Salt Lake. It was then almost a *terra incognita*, the *Ultima Thule* of the most daring adventurers. Nothing daunted, they carried out their idea. Their men, women and children were removed from Illinois by wagons, carts, wheelbarrows, and all manner of odd contrivances; and about the time the first great rush was made for the gold mines of California (1849) the Mormons had succeeded in planting a permanent settlement in the heart of the American Desert—the centre of the continent. Five years afterwards California had a population of not less than 350,000—a vote of 100,000. The Utah settlements did not grow so fast, but they grew, and did not stop growing as ours have done. Our population now, eighteen years after the beginning of the gold excitement, is not over 450,000, our vote not 100,000. We have gained in the Asiatic element of population, but lost in the European since 1855. In 1850 the Utah settlements were estimated at 8,000 souls. Now they are estimated at 130,000, all of the European races. Salt Lake City has a population of 20,000, and there are other places of six to eight thousand. The settlements have spread in every direction. They touch Idaho on the North, Nebraska and Colorado on the east, Arizona on the south, and Nevada on the west. Yet they are desert lands compared with the very poorest settlements in this State; and yet it cannot be said that the people are poor. In fact, they are, from all accounts, rather prosperous in the main, and in many instances they are rich. Land and labor are carefully economized, and frugality is the order of the day in social and political affairs. The flocks and herds on ten thousand hills. They have manufactures, and are creating more as rapidly as they can accumulate capital to build them. In spite of the frowns of nature, of drought years, and cricket years, of tithes, and all that, it is the observation of travelers who have visited the Utah settlements, that they are flourishing and prosperous. But the greatest wonder connected with them is their perfect system of increase by immigration. They have their preachers everywhere in northern Europe, all over England, Scotland, Scandinavia, the free cities and small States of Germany, and every preacher is an emigration agent—first to make converts and then to forward them to Utah, where there is a system, part social, part religious, and part political, to procure them bread, land and labor.

The wonderful success of Utah is not, in our opinion, a tithe as much due to the power of fanaticism over the human mind, as the elaborate system of the Mormon leaders in finding out and collecting the laboring poor of Europe and settling them in their country. Without their emigrant agents and the means which the politico-hierarchy place at their disposal to forward them, and the care that is bestowed upon their settle-

ment when they arrive, Utah would remain almost as much a desert to-day as it was when Fremont first planted the flag of his country on the shores of Salt Lake.

Now, suppose California, with her incomparable soil, climate, and mineral resources, with her great valleys, and magnificent seaport, her exhaustless forests of the finest timber, her straight lookout upon Asia, and her lively shipping intercourse with all the world, had some such plan to secure European immigration as that recently instituted at the West, or as that (saving its spiritual humbuggery) which is peopling the deserts of Utah. Can we have anything of the sort? Why not?

INDIAN TROUBLES.

There seems to be considerable excitement in these western regions at present concerning Indian outrages, and depredations by the savages. There is no question but they are operating over a very extensive tract of country, judging by the reports; but nothing has yet reached to prove that they are more numerous or committing greater outrages than they have done in some previous summers.

From Waskie, within two miles of which Bishop John Sharp's train was attacked last Friday evening, to Plum Creek which was attacked on Thursday, is a distance of 630 miles, the former being 326 miles from this city, and the latter 956 miles,—40 miles this side of Fort Kearney, the distance marked being by the Stage line. This proves that it is not a few roving Indians passing to and fro along the road who are committing the depredations, for here are two points 630 miles apart, attacked almost at the same time, with other intermediate points either attacked or threatened by parties of the savages. Still, in some past seasons they have committed as many barbarities in the same length of time, and over as wide an extent of territory, as they have done this season. We do not refer in this manner to the present Indian troubles east because we would underrate them or the danger of traveling; but it is so common now to spread exaggerated rumors for interested purposes, that it is as well the truth should be plainly told and correctly understood, where it can be.

There is considerable outcry on this matter, and not without reason, though much of it is far from being reasonable, manifesting rather a wild unreasoning passion and thirst for blood, that is more the characteristic of the savage red man than it should be of his white neighbor. A great many of the difficulties that have existed and do now exist with the Indians are directly traceable to the whites. Indians and their squaws have been shot down in mere wantonness; and their traditions teach them to retaliate on the first that comes within their power of a tribe or people from whom any of them have received injury and wrong. They have been deceived again and again by men, who have robbed the Indians over whom they were appointed guardians, and the Government who appointed and paid them. They see the hunting grounds of their fathers wrested from them, and the game, which is their support, driven away; and they look upon it as wrongful spoliation, not understanding the march of events, but knowing that too often the white man's professions are as insincere as his actions are inhuman and dishonorable. And for these and other causes they are at war with the whites, in their terribly barbarous and butchering way; killing and mangle innocent men and women, running off stock and destroying property.

On the other hand, the growing interests of the age demand that the travel from the east to the west of this great

continent, and through the heart of this mighty nation, should not be stopped every once in a while by savages, whether they be numbered by the hundred or thousand. To follow the Indians off the main road, and over the thousands of square miles traversed by their roving bands, would be an impracticable undertaking. A village here and there might be destroyed, or a few hundred Indians with their squaws and children be killed, but at what a cost in expended means? while the depredations on the line of travel would be undiminished.

It seems that at least one road might be kept open and the stations be preserved; and this appears, from the dispatches, to be General Sherman's opinion. As to how that can best be done, almost every paper in the country speaks like "sir oracle" on the question, and propounds plans for the speedy obtaining of peace and safety of travel on the plains, many of which appear most excellent,—on paper, and most of them advocate extermination. We have no intention of adding to the number.

The Indian is cruel, savage, cunning, and educated to look upon bloodshed as meritorious and praiseworthy; but he has been ill-used, and his worst passions stirred into action by men who, possessing superior knowledge, should have taught him by example to reverence and respect them. Knowing all these things, and knowing how apt savages, as well as some civilized, are to take offence at trivial matters at times, because of their peculiar views of right and wrong, people residing in or traveling through an Indian country can never be too vigilant, cautious, and guarded in their movements.

The Territories around us are involved in Indian difficulties, and they are strenuously in favor of the exterminating policy. It is a cruel policy and a very expensive one. The costliest way of managing the Indians, in blood and treasure, is to exterminate them. That has been proved by over two centuries of experience. We have Indian troubles to contend with, yet they are caused by a comparatively small number of the savages in this Territory. If we were to adopt the policy advocated and urged by many of our surrounding neighbors, offer a scalp bounty, of \$20 each, as the citizens of Central, Colorado, have done, and seek to "wipe out" the Indians, innocent and guilty, all the friendly savages in our Territory would soon be numbered with Black Hawk and his outlaws, and we would have an Indian war of dimensions sufficiently large to make the existence of many of our settlements an impossibility.

It will not do to give way to feelings of revenge, and, stooping to the level of the savage, make war upon him according to his own barbarous code. The policy that has characterized our settlement of these valleys up to the present, with the Indians, has enabled us to live in an Indian country and have less difficulty with the aborigines, than the history of the settlement of any other State or Territory in the Union can show, except the settlement made by Penn and his followers.

Because of the humane policy which we have adopted, we have been at peace with the Indians when others around us have been at war with them, and we have been falsely charged with complicity in their outrages on whites in consequence; and there are men to-day, here in our midst and elsewhere, reckless enough to charge us with complicity in every outrage committed by Indians between this city and the Missouri, if we were not actually in