

in a true form of religion. Entertaining the idea that God ordains any unnecessary form or ceremony is virtually charging him with folly. Man may not perceive the necessity of all that Deity requires. But this does not justify any one in disregarding His requirements. And it is certainly the climax of impiety and presumption, for persons claiming to act in the name of the Almighty to pronounce His commandments "unimportant," just because they know not the thoughts of the Lord, neither understand they His counsel." And these self-constituted exponents of the plan of salvation, who pervert the doctrines of Christ, these blind guides of the people, will have to give an account of their works at the day appointed, when they will find that those who "break one of the least of Christ's commandments and teach men so, shall be called least in the Kingdom of heaven;" and that He in whose name they have led inquiring souls astray will exclaim "Depart from me, I never knew you."

MUSIC IN THE SCHOOLS.

We direct special attention to a communication from the Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School Union. The songs of the people have much to do with the formation of their character and the direction of their feelings. The impressions made by sentiments attached to popular airs is very powerful and enduring. This is universally recognized and acknowledged by thinking persons. And in view of this fact we consider the subject presented in that communication one of considerable importance to the Latter-day Saints.

The songs placed in the hands of our children should be imbued with the spirit and suggestive of the principles of our most holy faith. Or, if expressive of sentiments which are not generally called religious, care should be taken that nothing of that character is permitted to be distributed among the children which is calculated to prejudice their minds against the truth, or lead them in the least degree astray from the strict path of rectitude of act and feeling.

That music should be cultivated and encouraged in our schools needs no argument of ours. It is calculated in its nature to elevate the soul, and prepare the way for the impressions of that Divine Spirit which guides into all truth, prompts to virtue and purity, and creates an aversion to all that is evil. Its influence upon the juvenile mind is immense. Therefore, singing should be taught in our day schools as well as Sabbath Schools. And it should not be confined to selected choirs. The whole body of the school should join in vocal exercise, and learn to sing in praise of the Creator, and laudation of noble acts and exalting principles.

Congregational harmony is a grand feature of public worship and should be encouraged in our Sabbath Schools as well as general meetings. Not that we object to choirs. We need them for the perfection of musical expression. A trained choir can give us music in a style that is not to be expected of the general congregation. It acts also as a pattern, guide and leader for the masses of an assembly, and should be supported in every Stake, Ward, and School, and the efforts of its leader and members ought to receive appreciation and support. But general singing in public meetings, both of the old and the young, is calculated to unite the feelings, soften asperities and develop reverence, and affords an opportunity for the expression of unspeakable emotions that is alike glorifying to the Father and beneficial to the participants. His children.

To place within the reach of all our Sunday School attendants the means of learning the songs of Zion, home made and with the home spirit, is a good work for which the Union deserves commendation. Our poets and musicians should assist in this laudable undertaking. If their musical and poetic effusions are not always accepted they should not become discouraged. The object of the Union is to use that which is best adapted to the tunes and wants of our schools, and the old school motto should be kept in mind, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again."

These musical cards are placed at so small a price that they can be put into the hands of all the Sunday school children and teachers in the Territory. And we understand that it is the design, if home contributions of sufficient number and merit are produced, to make a collection of them for publication in a Sunday School hymn book.

If a general interest is aroused on this important matter, great good will be accomplished; and all who assist, either by their talents or pecuniary means, will have the satisfaction of knowing that they have aided materially in sowing the seeds of impressions in the youthful mind, which, in years to come, will blossom into beauties of character and loveliness of spirit, that will shed upon society in Zion the fragrance of holy and virtuous thoughts and deeds, and bear fruit for the benefit of mankind and the glory of the Eternal Father.

CAN GOOD SPRING OUT OF EVIL?

Bishop Tuttle's defence of the "Mormons" and attack on their doctrines have made quite a stir among the pious. His denunciations, taken alone, are approved by the cavillers, but his plain truths about the sobriety, honesty and devoted faith of the Latter-day Saints displease many bigoted people, who know nothing of the facts in the case, but have formed their opinions from newspaper stories and anti-Mormon romances.

There are others who take the Bishop to task for inconsistency. They say, in effect, if "Mormonism" is so false and vile as he represents it, how can those who believe and practise it be a good and praiseworthy people? This is an argument not to be despised. "A tree is known by its fruits." An evil fountain cannot send forth pure water. "Ye cannot gather grapes of thorns nor figs of thistles." But these objectors reason the wrong way. They take the Bishop's strictures on our doctrines to be correct, and therefore conclude that the people must be wicked and Tuttle in error as to their character. But in speaking of the people he uttered that which he knew, and in denouncing their doctrines only that which he believed. He had seen and studied the people; he was quite mistaken, as we proved in a former article, in regard to the principles of their faith.

Taking for granted, then, that that the Bishop spoke the truth concerning the masses of the people called "Mormons," in which he is corroborated by all unprejudiced men and women, not of them, who are really acquainted with them, the rational conclusion is that their creed cannot be as evil as is generally imagined. At any rate, a system which produces the good results to be seen in Utah, as testified by Tuttle, must be worthy the study of those who take an interest in matters of religion and social economy. They may find, upon investigation, that they have been as much mistaken in regard to the principles of this much abused people, as they have been in relation to their lives and actions and objects.

The Idaho *Avalanche* among other ill-natured and unwise remarks, utters the following:

Bishop Tuttle knows better than we do, from a long residence and daily contact with these benighted people, that ignorance is their prevailing sin. They are destitute of all those agencies that contribute to make good and useful members of society. The Bible, common schools, newspapers and other engines of modern civilization, find no particular favor at their hands.

This is tantamount to accusing the Bishop of falsehood as well as folly. But he has lived long in Utah, and has had an opportunity of seeing and knowing the people here, which his impetuous critics have not. And while attempting to find fault with him, they only expose their own ignorance. The Latter-day Saints have encouraged the sale of Bibles as much, and we think more than any other people of equal numbers on this continent, and we will venture the assertion that there are more Bibles in Salt Lake City than in all Idaho. Also that we have more schools, and that more literature of various

kinds, newspapers included, is purchased and read in Utah than in any other Territory of the Union. Here we will make a few quotations from one of the text books of the Latter-day Saints—the Book of Doctrine and Covenants:

And again the elders, priests and teachers of this church shall teach the principles of my gospel, which are in the Bible and the Book of Mormon, in the which is the fullness of my gospel. Doc. & Cov. new edition, p. 157.

"I give unto you a commandment. * * * set in order the churches, and study and learn and become acquainted with all good books and with languages, tongues and people."

"Seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning by study and also by faith. Page 290.

Teach ye diligently and my grace shall attend you, that you may be instructed more perfectly in theory, in principle, in doctrine, in the law of the gospel; of things both in the heaven and in the earth and under the earth; things which have been, things which are, things which must shortly come to pass; things which are at home, things which are abroad; the wars and perplexities of nations and the judgments that are on the land, and a knowledge also of countries and of kingdoms, etc." Page 286.

We have been accused of depending too much on the letter of the Bible, as well as of unbelief in that sacred Book. The truth is, that we receive it as a collection of many books written by men inspired of God in ancient times, and that we have a better claim to the title of Bible-believers than any community of professing Christians on earth. We also encourage the diffusion of all useful knowledge, the establishment and support of schools and the circulation of newspapers. But, like the early Christians, we are "a people every where spoken against." However, our works vouch for our industry, our peace and union testify of our love of good order, and the progress we are making in all that tends to make life desirable and to elevate and exalt humanity, speak for the purity of our faith in language louder than can be drowned by the voice of Episcopal Bishops or the thunders of the press. God is with the much-abused "Mormons," truth is mighty and will prevail.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

America is gradually and rapidly reducing its imports from Great Britain. In 1872, the exports from that country to the United States were valued at \$203,685,000. In 1876 they were only \$84,170,000.

John Chinaman frequently succeeds in mining regions which Brother Jonathan has abandoned. From the Oroville *Mercury* we learn that Chinamen have been sending to the mint, gold from the Lava Beds, a spot which white men refused to work in, to the value of sixty thousand dollars per month.

The paper mill at San Jose, Cal., is working up two tons of pulp per day, made from the *Yucca dracopis* plant, raised in the Mohave desert. It is now made into Manila wrapping paper, but it is expected to be used for print and note paper.

The three aspirants for office in Utah will be ready to start for the seat of government as soon as that three thousand dollars is ready. But, ah! it doesn't reach a thousand yet. If they wait for the full amount, they will have to keep the back seat which they now occupy so restlessly.

Erzeroum still holds out and the Turks are not discouraged. Plevna is closely invested but not yet subdued. The "effete" Moslems have gained the admiration of the world in their gallant defence of their country, and though the odds are against them, may yet make it warm for the invading hordes from the North. We hope so, anyhow.

Grand society ladies frequently patronize celebrated musical artists by inviting them to dinner in order to make use of their fame and abilities as a draw. Miss Kellogg was so "honored" by a Chicago leader of fashion and attended, but when called on to sing respectfully but firmly declined. Just right. Miss Kellogg will not decline this evening.

Eastern affairs look gloomy to Mrs. Britannia. Her gaze is directed to the Black Sea.

Texas is marched up head as a cotton-raising State. Her product for the past season is 735,000 bales; Mississippi furnished 639,000, and Arkansas 590,000 bales.

Montana is looming up as a grain producing Territory. One farmer at Willow Creek has produced 1,500 bushels of wheat from 32 acres—nearly 47 bushels to the acre. He sowed in the spring, a bushel and a half to the acre.

The cyclone that passed over the country, moving eastward from the Rocky Mountains, shortly after our Farmington zephyr, traveled at the rate of sixty-eight miles an hour. The wings of that wind flapped in lively style.

The policy of holding to the grain, adopted by many of the farmers of Utah this season, is followed in numerous instances in the East. Europe will need a large quantity, and must look to the United States for the greatest portion of it. Prospects are good for a rise.

A narrow gauge road is in contemplation from Provo to the Fairview coal mines. Anything that will bring fuel into the market, so as to burst up a monopoly that threatens evil to Salt Lake, will be hailed with delight by the whole community.

Russia has 12,000 miles of railroad. Nearly all of it has been constructed since 1866. This is a small extent considering the vast stretch of territory. But interior Russia is only emerging from barbarism, and is not equal to Turkey, relative sizes compared, in the developments of modern civilization.

Oregon is coming to the front on the potato question. The *Statesman* mentions five potatoes, of the Peerless variety, raised on an Oregon farm, that weigh twenty pounds. They may be large and heavy, but they will not beat Utah potatoes in flavor.

It is not generally known that the San Francisco mint turns out more coin than any other institution of the kind in the world. Its coinage for '76 amounts to \$42,704,500. The London mint only turned out \$23,906,349. The Sydney and Melbourne mints together but \$10,322,640. Most of the Frisco coinage is silver.

Bankruptcy has overtaken the proprietor of one of the most fashionable liquor saloons in Chicago. An item of \$1,000 in his obligations is owing to a druggist for "materials used in compounding liquors." The dram-drinker never knows what stuff he pours down his throat when he "takes something" to keep up his spirits.

The Custer "massacre," as it is generally called, turns out a fair stand-up fight for life, according to the testimony of Sitting Bull who hates "liars and thieves," when Custer was surrounded he was called on to surrender, but refusing, there was nothing left to do but to fight it out. If the Indians had been all slaughtered it would have been a "brilliant victory."

The Chinese are very apt at learning the arts of "Christian civilization." Ah Chung, at San Gabriel, Cal., received for some trade he had effected, a check on the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of Los Angeles for \$151. He raised it, after the style of the tearful and prayerful Gelman, to \$951, and on obtaining the cash departed for parts unknown, leaving not a track behind.

We suppose the Beaver *Square-Dealer* has been replying to our articles on Woman Suffrage and the Policy of Division; but as the inside of the number of that paper which came to hand was half blank, and the other half undecipherable, we cannot tell what arguments were offered. If they were no clearer than the print, there is no need for any comments from us.

Lord Moncrief, who was chosen as arbitrator in the dispute between the Clyde shipbuilders and their workmen; has decided that the state of trade does not warrant the wages the strikers demand. They might have found this out in the start themselves, and saved much time, trouble and money. But there are none so blind as folks who won't see. The lockout has lasted over six months.

The rapid growth of British steam vessels is astonishing. In 1814 the fleet consisted of two vessels with a united tonnage of 456. In 1862 it reached 2,000 vessels; of 597,932 tons. Since the introduction of the screw propeller with compound engines, 539 of that class have been added.

A man named James English, felled a redwood tree at Russian River station, California, several months ago. He has been engaged most of the time since in working it up. He has made 250,000 shingles, 1,000 fence posts, 6,000 stakes, lumber for several buildings and has material left for 300,000 more shingles. That was quite a "smart chance" of a sapling.

They have a new way to stop runaway horses in France. An electro-magnet is placed beneath the coachman's seat, from which a wire extends along the lines to the bit and another to the crupper. A shock can be sent along the animal's spine that will bring the maddest equine up standing. Couldn't a similar apparatus be devised for passionate bipeds?—of the male persuasion, of course.

The fall of Kars is a serious blow to Turkey. Attention is now directed to Plevna. Should that position be taken by the Muscovites the Porte must sue for peace. The situation is full of peril for Europe. All the Powers are interested in the settlement of the dispute between the Czar and the Sultan, and unless the greatest caution is observed the whole continent may soon be plunged into a general war. The news from Plevna will be watched with great anxiety.

An exchange asks "Is this a foreign country?" There is some excuse for the question for, Russia leather is made in Connecticut, Bordeaux wine is manufactured in California, French lace is woven in New York, Italian marble is dug in Kentucky, Marseilles linen is produced in Massachusetts, English cassimere is made in New Hampshire, Parian art-work comes from a shop in Boston, Spanish mackerel are caught on the New Jersey coast, and Havana cigars are rolled out by the million in Chicago.

DIED.

In Payson, U. T., October 26th, 1877, ELI CLAYSON, formerly of Wilby, Northampton, England, aged 32 years 9 months and 18 days.

Deceased was baptized June 6, 1861, and emigrated to this Territory in the year 1866. He was an exemplary Latter-day Saint, a kind husband and father, and died in full faith of a glorious resurrection. *Com. Millennial Star*, please copy.

At Wishaw, Lanarkshire, Scotland, October 1st, of whooping cough, aged 11 months, DONALD McRAE, son of Robert and Jane McRae Young.

At Baley-Ido, near Slamannan, Scotland, October 13th, JAMES BROWN, aged 55 years.

Deceased was born in the parish of Boness, Linlithgowshire; baptized February, 1870, and died in full faith of the gospel.—*Mill. Star*, Oct. 29.

In Harrisville Ward, Weber County, Utah, November 15th, 1877, of typhoid fever, after a lingering illness of seven weeks, GEORGE ALLEN, son of Bishop P. G. and Sarah Jane Taylor. He was born in that place, August 16th, 1856; was baptized a member of the Church at eight years of age.

The news of his death cast a gloom over the settlement; for he was beloved by all for his goodness, his appreciation of the truth, and the diligent discharge of all duties required of him.

The funeral services were conducted by Presidents Peery and Herrick. The hymn on page 357 was sung by the choir. Prayer was offered by Elder Daniel B. Rawson. Presidents Peery and Herrick addressed the meeting, enumerating the millions of the family of God who would have to pay the debt they owe to Mother Earth, and in an affectionate manner complimented the earthly career of our departed brother, whom none knew but to love. The services concluded with singing by the Sunday School. The closing prayer was offered by Elder Dudley Chase.

The funeral cortege consisted of twenty-seven vehicles, containing a host of relatives and friends, who followed the remains to the Ogden cemetery.—*Com. Ogden Junction*.

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