

The Yankee Pedler.

Not long since, a tall, slouchy-looking Yankee was seen poking along round the market, evidently trying to hunt up chaps to trade with.

"Halloo, mister," said he, to a feller behind the counter, with a goose-quill behind his ear, "do you want to buy any tooth-powder? I've got some that's clear grit—none of your counterfeited stuff, such as the regular 'potheecaries' sell—none of your compounds of red oak saw-dust and hemlock bark, with a little alum to make it puckerly, like Aunt Nabby's apple-sauce. It's real myrrh, Puvian, soda, and what not. All the gals in our town use it, and it makes their jaws look like a stone wall just whitewashed, and their breath like a heifer's just out of clover."

The fellow behind the counter lightened up.

"What's the price?" said he.

"Five dollars a gross, and here's a sample of the critter," said the Yankee, pulling a box out of his pocket, neatly turned out of beech timber, with a label on the top, printed on red paper, with a border of roses and chestnut burr all round.

The customer took him right up, and agreed to deliver in one hour! He then cut sticks for his lodgings, and in about an hour or so returned, full chisel, followed by a strapping negro, trundling a wheelbarrow full of real ginooino tooth powder, warranted sound, made by himself, no mistake. The ten gross were all counted out, cash paid, and the bill receipted, in less than no time.

The fellow soon advertised his new tooth powder, and the gals and the young fellows, and some of the old ones, too, were soon round him as thick as crows round a dead horse. But in a few hours things began to look rather blue. His customers came back in droves, complaining that his boxes wouldn't open. He took one, and pulled and tugged, and twisted and sorewed it, but all to no purpose. The top and the bottom duck as tight to one another as Aunt Ruth's put cakes sticks to the teeth. At last, getting out of all patience, he laid it on the floor, took the store hatchet, and smashed the top full split. This soon let the cat out.

All the boxes, excepting the sample, were made of one solid stick of beech wood, the top and the bottom all in one, with no hollow in the middle, and a small hair stroke of the chisel outside, to look like a joint. As for tooth powder, as there was no place to put any, there was not any there.

"Darn the Yankee tin pedler," says the fellow, if I don't be into him the worst kind!"

But the chap was among the missing. He had pulled foot for New York, and sold the rest of his tooth powder there, at ten dollars a gross.—[Exchange.

We have frequently heard that to-lacco was poisonous to snakes. Here is the proof:

"An old lady in town, while walking in the woods, was bitten on the end of her nose by a rattlesnake. The old lady recovered, but the snake died! Coroner's verdict: 'poisoned by snuff!'"

A gentleman who was waiting upon a young lady, was making fun of a sack which she wore.

"You'd better be quiet, or I'll give you the sack," replied the lady, archly.

"I should be most happy," was the reply, "if you would give it to me as it is."

It is said she did.

"My dear madam," said a doctor to his patient, "I am truly gratified to see you yet in life. At my last visit, yesterday, you know, I told you that you had but six hours to live."

"Yes, doctor, you did, but I did not take the dose you left for me."

Judge S. had a very wild son named Bob, who was constantly on a spree, and upon being brought up once for drunkenness, the judge cried out—

"Is that our Bob?"

"Yes sir," replied the clerk.

"Fine the rascal two dollars and costs; I'd make it ten dollars if I didn't know it would come out of my own pocket."

Dr. Johnson was one day dining at the house of an English lady, when she asked him if he did not think her pudding very good.

"Yes," growled the great moralist, "it is very good for hogs."

"Shall I help you to another plateful, then?" asked the polite hostess.

"Did you attend church to-day?" said a planter to his slave.

"Sartin, massa," was the reply, "and what two mighty big stories dat preacher did tell."

"What stories were they?"

"Why, he tell the people no man can serve two masters; now dis is de fass story, kase you see I serve you, my ole massa, and also young massa John. Den the preacher says he will love de one and hate de odder, while de Lord knows I hate you hoff."

THE FOLLY OF FRETTING.—Two gardeners who were neighbors, had their crops of early peas killed by the frost. One of them came to console with the other.

"Ah!" cried he, "how unfortunate! Do you know, neighbor, I have done nothing but fret ever since. But bless me, you have a fine crop coming up; what sort are they?"

"Why, these are those I sowed immediately after my loss."

"What, coming up already?" said the fretter.

"Yes," replied the other, "while you were fretting, I was working."

"My son, take that jug and fetch me some beer."

"Give me some money then, father."

"My son, to get beer with money, anybody can do that; but to get beer without money, that's a trick."

So the boy took the jug, and out he goes.

Soon he returned and placed the jug before his father.

"Drink," said the son.

"How can I drink," said the father, "when there is no beer in the jug?"

"To drink beer out of a jug," said the son, "when there is beer, anybody can do, but to drink beer out of a jug when there is no beer, that's a trick."

For the Deseret News.

REFLECTIONS

At the Close of the Year 'Fifty Three.

Upon the brow

Of yonder peak, I sat one down to muse;

Above me stretched the azure arch of heaven;

Beyond, a mountain vale—beneath, a town;

Whose dwellings seemed like orient palaces;

Whose dwellers ever and anon were seen

With step elastic striding to and fro;

No idlers there:—their faces lit with joy—

Not ill distorted by excessive laugh,

But calm, and peaceful as the summer morn.

Where am I?

Who are these, secluded thus, 'mid mountains

Capped with snow,—shut out, almost, from all

th' world,

And yet so happy, so content!—Methinks

To live, and breathe, where such a spirit bides;

Were heav'n indeed—a heaven on the earth!

Ah yes! inspiring thought—the Saints of God!

Where else I gaze, confusion, discord dire,

Prevails—but here is union, here is peace.

Most blessed land! Most happy are thy sons

Who know their blest estate.

Thou' mobbing, plunder, violence, rapine,

In Christian States, thy borders desolate

Have made, and these so deeply wrong'd, O church

And people of the Lord!—yet, in the drear

Abode of savages—a desert land,—

Thou' found a quiet home.

Thy God hath not forsaken thee!

When darkest, bloodiest plans, in midnight

Councils laid, at noonday executed,—

Peradventure thought thou hadst not, that thou

Thy foes should bless thee, and themselves be

curs'd!

Most wondrous are thy ways,

O God! Still may thy people trust in thee,

And still prevail.

O Zion! let thy beauty shine!—

Spread forth thy curtains, and thy stakes make

strong;

Jehovah is thy strength—the Holy One

Of Israel is in the midst of thee.

Since first the dawn of Latter Day,

'Tis as a dream;—but now, the light how far

Extends!—from land to land, from sea to sea.

Thus increase shall thy light, and spread, until

The corner darkest of the earth, illum'd

Shall be with truth divine; and darkness flee,

And all, our God shall know.

Servants of the Lord!—

Be clothed with righteousness—the armor of

Your strength put on! No boy's-play is your

task.

In this great cause to stand, nerves of iron,

Sinews steel, are indispensable. Your

Arms fold not—nor let your courage fail you:

In God be strong. In His great might to trust

Will speedy victory bring, and Earth shall own

Him Lord—His servants Kings and Priests to

God.

And they shall rule the world.

PHILADELPHIA.

G. S. L. City, Dec. 25, 1853.

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

FEBRUARY, 1839.

They met again "in the evening at T. Turley's, Alanson Ripley declined acting as

clerk, and Elias Smith was appointed in his

stead.

"Resolved, To make exertions to remove

the families of the Presidency and the other

prisoners first.

"Several of the committee made report of

what had been done by them towards carrying

the business of the committee into operation.

Elder John Taylor had also been

appointed to visit the branches of the church

on Log and upper Goose creeks, and made

report of his proceedings.

"Resolved, That Charles Bird be appointed

to go down towards the Mississippi river,

and establish deposits of corn for the brethren

on the road, and make contracts for

ferriage, &c."

Monday, 4th. Mr. Turner's bill of 16th

the pattern, that we had thus been scattered. Br. Maco spoke in favor of an immediate

gathering. Bishop Partridge then spoke on the subject, and thought it was not expedient

under present circumstances, to collect together, but thought it was better to scatter

into different parts and provide for the poor, which will be acceptable to God.

Judge Higbee said that he had been very favorable to the proposition, but since the

Bishop had expressed his opinion, he was willing to give up the idea.

Several of the brethren then spoke on the subject, after which it was motioned and

seconded and unanimously agreed upon, that it would not be deemed advisable to locate

on the lands for the present.

A committee was appointed to draft a petition to the General Government stating

our grievances, and one likewise presented to the citizens for the same object."

Tuesday, 12th. The committee sent a delegation to sister Murie, to ascertain her

necessities. Daniel Shearer and Erastus Bingham went. Applications for assistance were

made from sister Morgan, L. Gardner, Jeremiah Mackley's family, Dr. Forbush, Ebenezer Cheney, T. D. Tyler, D. McArthur, &c.

Wednesday, 13th. "Voted that T. Turley be appointed to superintend the management

of the teams, provided for removing the poor, and see that they are fixed for the

journey."

Thursday, 14th. The persecution was so bitter against Elder Brigham Young, (on

whom devolved the Presidency of the Twelve by age, Thomas B. Marsh having apostatized)

and his life was so diligently sought for, that he was compelled to flee; and he left

Far West on this day for Illinois. My brother Don Carlos Smith had carried a petition

to the mob, to get assistance to help our father's family out of Missouri. I know not

how much he obtained, but my father and mother started this day for Quincy, with an

ox team.

The committee discussed the propriety of paying the debts in Clay county. Alanson

Ripley was requested to call on lawyer Barnett, who was in town, and make arrangements

concerning the matter. A letter of attorney was drawn up for the brethren who

were willing to dispose of their real estate to discharge their debts, to sign, appointing

Alanson Ripley their attorney for that purpose. This was not exactly according to

the minds of the committee, for they only directed Br. Ripley to confer with the person

above named, for the purpose of obtaining information without reference to his being

appointed an attorney for that purpose, independent of any other person or persons.

Friday, 15th. My family arrived at the Mississippi opposite to Quincy, after a journey

of almost insupportable hardships, and Elder Markham returned immediately to Far

West.

Monday, 18th. "Executive Department, City of Jefferson, Feb. 18th, 1839. To Col.

Wiley C. Williams, aide to the Commander-in-Chief—Sir: You will take measures as

soon as practicable to cause the same, as rendered by the Mormons, to be delivered to

the proper owners, upon their producing satisfactory evidence of their claims. If in

any case you think an improper use would be made of them, you can retain such, using

a sound discretion in the matter. You will call upon Captain Pollard or any other

person who may have arms in possession, and take charge of them; and this will be your

authority for so doing.

I am respectfully, your obedient servant,
LILLBURN W. BOGGS."

was granted. Great threatnings were made at this time by the mob, that if any of us

were liberated, we should never get out of the county alive.

After the investigation, Sidney Rigdon was released from prison by the decision of

the Judge: the remainder were committed to jail; he also returned with us until a favorable

opportunity offered. Three of the friendship of the sheriff, Mr. Samuel Hadley and

the jailer, Mr. Samuel Tillery, he was let out of the jail secretly in the night, after having

declared in prison, that the sufferings of Jesus Christ were a fool to him; and being solemnly

warned by them to be out of the State with as little delay as possible, he made his

escape. Being pursued by a body of armed men, it was through the direction of a kind

Providence, that he escaped out of their hands, and safely arrived in Quincy, Illinois.

About this time, Elders Kimball and Ripley were at Liberty, where they had been almost

weekly importuning at the feet of the Judges and while performing this duty on a

certain occasion, Judge Hughes stared them full in the face and observed to one of his

associates, that by the look of these men's eyes they are whipped but not conquered; and let us beware how we treat these men;

for their looks bespeak innocence; and at that time he entreated his associates to admit

of bail for all the prisoners; but the hardness of their hearts would not admit of so

charitable a deed. But they continued to importune at the feet of the Judges, and

also to visit the prisoners; and no one of the ruling part of the community disputed

the innocence of the prisoners, but said, in consequence of the fury of the mob, that

even handed justice could not be administered; they were therefore compelled to

abandon the idea of importuning at the feet of the Judges, and leave the prisoners in the

hands of God.

"Commerce, Ill., Feb. 26th, 1839. Mr. D. W. Rogers—Dear Sir: Yours of the 11th

inst. was received yesterday. I perceive that it had been written before your brethren

visited my house. I had also wrote to Mr. Barlow before I received yours, and

which is herewith also sent. I wish here to remark that about 10 or 15 houses or cabins

can be had in this neighborhood, and several farms may be rented here, on the half

breed lands. I think that more than 50 families can be accommodated with places to

dwell in, but not a great quantity of cultivated land, as the improvements on that

tract are generally new; there are however several farms which can also be rented.

"Since writing to Mr. Barlow, I have conversed with a friend of mine, who has also

conversed with Governor Lucas of Iowa Territory, in relation to your church and

people. Governor Lucas says, that the people called Mormons were good citizens in the

State of Ohio, and that he respects them now as good and virtuous citizens and

feels disposed to treat them as such. I wish also to say, through you, to your people, that

Lucas Van Allen, Esq., the Attorney General of Iowa, is a friend of your church and

people, and I feel fully authorized to state from a conversation which I have had with

him on the subject, to say, that I can assure you of his utmost endeavors to protect you

from insult or violence.

"I will here repeat what I have wrote to Mr. Barlow, that I do believe that under a

territorial form of government which is directly connected with the General Govern-

ment of the United States, your church will be better secured against the capriciousness

of public opinion, than under a State government, where murder, rapine and robbery

are admirable traits in the character of a demagogue; and where the greatest villains

often reach the highest offices. I have wrote to Governor Lucas on the subject; and when

I receive his answer, I will communicate it to your church.

"I desire very much to know how your captive brethren in Missouri are faring. I

should like to know if Joseph Smith, Jr., is at liberty or not, and what his prospects

are. I shall be at Carthage our county seat, during the fore part of next week, and soon

after that (perhaps the next week following) I expect to go to Burlington, I. T., when I

expect to see the Governor and converse with him on the subject; I will probably be

at home from the 6th until the 12th of March. I shall be pleased to see you or any

of your people at my house at any time, when you can make it convenient. It is now

necessary that something definite should be done in relation to renting farms, as the

season for commencing such operations is fast approaching us. A Mr. Whitney, a

merchant in Quincy, is owner or proprietor of several farms in this vicinity, and it

might be well to see him on the subject.

"I wish to serve your cause in any matter which Providence may afford me the opportunity of doing, and I therefore request

that you feel no hesitancy, or reluctance in communicating to me your wishes, at all times

and on any subject. I should be much gratified if it could be convenient for Mr. Rigdon or some one or more of the leading

members of your church to spend some time with me in traveling through the tract, and in

hearing and learning the state of the public mind, and feelings of the community in relation

to the location of the church.

"I feel that I am assuming a very great responsibility in this undertaking, and I wish

to be governed by the dictates of wisdom and discretion, while at the same time I am

aware that we are often disposed to view things as we would wish to have them, rather

than as they really are, and our great anxiety to accomplish an object may sometimes

diminish the obstacles below their real measure.

The little knowledge which I have as yet of the doctrines, order or practice of the

church, leaves me under the necessity of acting in all this matter as a stranger, tho'

I sincerely hope, as a friend, for such I assure you I feel myself to be both towards