

Tuesday, August 1.—I was very sick at home in the morning. At 4 p.m., I rode up to the Temple and complained to the clerks that Mr. Hamilton had got a tax title from the sheriff on one of my city lots. Mr. Bagby, the collector, came up in the midst of our conversation, and when asked about it denied all knowledge of it. I told him that I had always been ready to pay all my taxes when I was called upon, and I did not think it gentlemanly treatment to sell any of my lots for taxes, and I told him that he was continually abusing the citizens here. Bagby called me a liar and picked up a stone to throw at me, which so enraged me that I followed him a few steps, and struck him two or three times. Esquire D. H. Wells stepped between us and succeeded in separating us. I told the Esquire to assess the fine for the assault, and I was willing to pay it; he not doing it, I rode down to Alderman Whitney, stated the circumstances, and he imposed a fine, which I paid, and then returned to the political meeting. Bagby staid awhile, muttering threats against me. I went home, commenced to work a little, but soon was very sick.

Received a private communication from Mr. Braman, stating that the writ was returned to the Governor and killed.

Hyrum and Hoge called at the office, when Hoge acknowledged the power of the Mormon habeas corpus.

Esquire Walker gave a stump speech at the stand until dusk, and was immediately replied to by Esquire Hoge for over two hours, having lit candles for the purpose to hear them politically castigate each other.

The Twelve visited Alleghany city: Elders Young, Page, and Kimball preached in the evening.

The Temple is progressing steadily. The walls of that noble edifice continue to rise, and its completion is looked forward to with great interest and anxiety by many.

All kinds of improvements are going on rapidly in Nauvoo and vicinity. Houses are going up in every direction in the city, and farms are being enclosed without. "The wilderness will" soon "blossom as the rose."

Elder Luman A. Shurtleff writes that he has traveled in the New England States, and recently baptized 20 persons.

Wednesday, 2.—I was a little easier to-day, and rode out to Jacob Baum's to borrow money. In the evening conversing with Dr. J. M. Bernhisel.

A subscription has been got up to build a house for Elder Willard Richards, to which I subscribed a city lot. The brethren subscribed \$25 cash, 10 cords stone, 39 bushels lime, 105 days work, \$59 in work, 15,900 bricks, glass, lumber and other materials, together with a quantity of produce. I hope the day is not far distant when my clerk will have a comfortable house for his family.

Thursday, 3.—Elder Beck, of Pittsburg, having paid \$48 for the passage of six of the Twelve Apostles to Baltimore, they started this morning and rode all day and night over the Alleghany Mountains in the stage.

I continued unwell. I received \$800 in specie, and a \$200 note from Benjamin Meginniss for 100 acres of land.

Friday, 4.—My health improving, I rode out to the farm. In the evening went with Emma to visit Elder Cahoon, where I met my brother Hyrum and his wife.

Saturday, 5.—Elders B. Young, H. C. Kimball, O. Pratt, John E. Page, Wilford Woodruff and George A. Smith arrived in Philadelphia at 4 a.m., having traveled 430 miles in 48 hours by stage, railroad and steamboat. A very severe storm of wind and rain raged in Philadelphia in the evening, doing immense damage.

Sunday, 6.—Meeting at the stand. Elder P. P. Pratt preached on testimony. When he closed I told the people I would preach my sermon next Sunday, as I was not able to-day; but I would now speak on another subject, viz., the election. "I am above the kingdoms of the world, for I have no laws. I am not come to tell you to vote this way, that way, or the other. In relation to national matters, I want it to go abroad unto the whole world, that every man should stand on his own merits. The Lord has not given me a revelation concerning politics. I have not asked him for one—I am a third party, and stand independent and alone. I desire to see all parties protected in their rights. As for Mr. Walker, he is a Whig candidate, a high-minded man; he has not hung on to my coat tail to gain his election, as some have said. I am going to give a testimony, but not for electioneering purposes: before Mr. Walker came to Nauvoo, rumor came up that he might become a candidate; said I, he is an old friend, and I'll vote for him. When he came to my house I voluntarily told him I should vote for him. When I made him acquainted with the ordinances of Nauvoo in relation to writs of habeas corpus, he acted in accordance therewith on my testimony. The rascals (Reynolds and Wilson) took Walker's and Montgomery's security when I was arrested; Walker made Reynolds come to me and beg my pardon for the abuse he gave me; and through his means and influence the pistols were taken from the rascals. He withdrew all claim to your vote and influence, if it would be detrimental to your interest as a people."

Brother Hyrum tells me this morning that he has had a testimony to the effect it would be better for the people to vote for Hoge, and I never knew Hyrum say he ever had a revelation and it failed. Let God speak, and all men hold their peace. I never authorized brother Law to tell my private feelings, and I utterly forbid these political demagogues from using my name henceforth and for ever. It is my settled feeling, that if Governor Ford erred in granting a writ against me, it is an error of

the head and not of the heart; and I authorize all men to say I am a personal friend of Governor Ford.

The cap to Parley's sermon is this: every word that proceedeth from the mouth of Jehovah has such an influence over the human mind—the logical mind—that it is convincing without other testimony. Faith cometh by hearing. If ten thousand men testify to a truth you know, would it add to your faith? No; or will ten thousand testimonies destroy your knowledge of a fact? No; I don't want any one to tell I am a prophet, or attempt to prove my word.

I prophesy in the name of God Almighty they shall bear off the palm."

Hyrum Smith explained at some length concerning the election.

Emma started for St. Louis to transact some business for me, it not being prudent for me to go to Missouri.

"The Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in Philadelphia held a meeting in the Canaanite church, about 300 Saints were present. Meeting was opened by Elder J. M. Grant, and President Brigham Young addressed the congregation at considerable length. He said that a man or woman may ask of God, and get a witness and testimony from God concerning any work or messenger that is sent unto them; but if a person asks for a thing that does not concern him, such as governing the church; as a member of the church inquiring concerning the duty of a presiding elder, what the Prophet or the Twelve ought to do, &c., he will not get an answer; if he does, it will not be from God. He also remarked that if any in the church had the fulness of the Melchisedec priesthood he did not know it; for any person to have the fulness of that priesthood he must be a king and a priest. A person may have a portion of that priesthood the same as governors or judges of England have power from the king to transact business; but that does not make them kings of England. A person may be anointed king and priest long before he receives his kingdom."

In the evening Elder O. Pratt preached, and was followed by Elder George A. Smith."

—[W. Woodruff's Journal.]

Monday, 7.—Election of U. S. Representative and State and county officers: the democratic ticket prevailing in Nauvoo by an overwhelming majority.

Tuesday, 8.—The Twelve in Philadelphia went out on a pleasure excursion on the Delaware river with about 150 of the Saints; they went down to Gloucester Point, and spent the day in various innocent amusements.

Wednesday, 9.—I rode out to my farm with a gentleman.

Thursday, 10.—Rode through the city with my brother Hyrum.

Friday, 11.—"OBITUARY.—(From the Times and Seasons.)—It is with regret that we announce the death of our respected brother, GEN. JAMES ADAMS, of Springfield. He joined the church some time ago in the above place, and had come to Nauvoo for the purpose of arranging matters preparatory to his removal to this place. He was attacked by the cholera morbus, and died on Friday night, the 11th inst. He has left an amiable family, and a large circle of acquaintances, by whom he was greatly respected, to mourn his loss. Peace to his ashes."

Saturday, 12.—Emma returned from St. Louis. I was sick at home. Robert D. Foster having on Monday last been elected school commissioner, and George W. Thatcher, clerk of County Commissioner's Court, they went to Carthage to give bonds, and take oath of office. When before the court, Harmon T. Wilson, John Wilson, Franklin J. Morrill, one Prentice, and twelve or fifteen others, came in armed with hickory clubs, knives, dirks and pistols, and told the court they must not approve their bonds or swear them into office; if they did, blood would be spilt; and pledged their word, honor and reputation, to keep them out of office, and put down the Mormons. The bonds, however, were accepted, and the mob gave notice of a meeting of the Anti-Mormons of Hancock county for Saturday next, to consider about the Mormons retaining their offices.

Elder Willard Richards was sworn into office as Recorder of the city of Nauvoo.

Sunday, 13.—I went to the stand on Sunday morning, August 13, 1843, and preached on the death of Judge Higbee, a synopsis of which was reported by my clerk, Dr. Willard Richards.

"Brethren and sisters, you will find these words in 2 Peter, 3 ch. 10, 11 vs.: 'But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness.' I am not like other men; my mind is continually occupied with the business of the day, and I have to depend entirely upon the living God for every thing I say on such occasions as these."

The great thing for us to know is to comprehend what God did institute before the foundation of the world. Who knows it? It is the constitutional disposition of mankind to set up stakes, and set bounds to the works and ways of the Almighty.

We are called this morning to mourn the death of a just and good man—a great and mighty man. It is a solemn idea that man has no hope of seeing a friend after he has lost him; but I will give you a more painful thought; it is simple; for I never design to communicate any ideas but what are simple, for to this end I am sent. Suppose you have an idea of a resurrection, &c., &c., and yet know nothing at all of the gospel, nor comprehend one principle

of the order of heaven, but find yourselves disappointed—yes, at last find yourselves disappointed in every hope or anticipation, when the decision goes forth from the lips of the Almighty—would not this be a greater disappointment, a more painful thought than annihilation?

Had I inspiration, revelation, and lungs to communicate what my soul has contemplated in times past, there is not a soul in this congregation but would go to their homes, and shut their mouths in everlasting silence on religion till they had learned something.

Why be so certain that you comprehend the things of God, when all things with you are so uncertain. You are welcome to all the knowledge and intelligence I can impart to you.

I do not grudge the world of all the religion they have got; they are welcome to all the knowledge they possess.

The sound saluted my ears, we are come unto Mount Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant. Hebrews, 12 ch. 22, 23, 24 vs. What could it profit us to come unto the spirits of the just men, but to learn, and come up to the standard of their knowledge?

Where has Judge Higbee gone?

Who is there that would not give all his goods to feed the poor, and pour out his gold and silver to the four winds to go where Judge Higbee has gone?

That which hath been hid from before the foundation of the world is revealed to babes and sucklings in the last days.

The world is reserved unto burning in the last days. He shall send Elijah the prophet, and he shall reveal the covenants of the fathers in relation to the children, and the covenants of the children in relation to the fathers.

Four destroying angels holding power over the four quarters of the earth, until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads, which signifies sealing the blessing upon their heads, meaning the everlasting covenant, thereby making their calling and election sure. When a seal is put upon the father and mother it secures their posterity, so that they cannot be lost, but will be saved by virtue of the covenant of their father and mother.

To the mourners I would say, do as the husband and the father would instruct you, and you shall be reunited.

The speaker continued to teach the doctrine of election and the sealing powers and principles; and spoke of the doctrine of election with the seed of Abraham, and the sealing of blessings upon his posterity, and the sealing of the fathers and children according to the declarations of the prophets: he then spoke of Judge Higbee in the world of spirits and the blessings which he would obtain, and of the kind spirit and disposition of Judge Higbee while living, none of which was reported."

Remarks by President Joseph Smith, on Sunday afternoon, August 13, 1843; reported by Dr. Willard Richards:—

"President Joseph Smith complained of the citizens of Nauvoo. He reproved some young men for crowding on to the ladies' seats on the meeting ground, and laughing and mocking during meeting; and as mayor he instructed the marshal to keep that portion of the grove clear of young men. 'The city is enlarging very fast; we have many professedly learned men in this city, and the height of their knowledge is not to know enough to keep in their place.'

He then complained of the treatment he had received from Walter Bagby, the county assessor and collector, who has exercised more despotic power over the inhabitants of the city, than any despot of the eastern country over his serfs. I met him, and he gave me some abusive language, taking up a stone to throw at me: I seized him by the throat to choke him off. He then spoke of Esquire D. H. Wells interfering when he had no business, and of the abuses he received at the election on the hill. They got a constable by the name of King; I don't know what need there was of a constable. Old Father Perry said, 'why, you can't vote in this precinct.'

King took me by the collar, and told me to go away. All our wrongs have arisen under the power and authority of democracy, and I have sworn that this arm shall fall from my shoulder, and this tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, before I will vote for them, unless they make me satisfaction; and I feel it sensibly. I was abused and neglected at the ground, and there was not a man in the crowd to say, 'this is brother Joseph, or this is the mayor.' He then spoke of the grog shops, and the disturbance of the crowd in the street by Messer's grocery. I have been ferreting out grog shops, groceries, and beer barrels. I have warned the rum and beer dealers to be scarce after this time, and the peace officers to watch the grog shops, and give me seasonable notice of any disorder. If they are conducted as they have been, I will rip them up."

He then sat down, but resumed, 'I had forgotten one thing: we have had certain traders in this city, who have been writing falsehoods to Missouri; and there is a certain man in this city who has made a covenant to betray and give me up to the Missourians, and that too before Governor Carlin commenced his persecutions. That man is no other than Sidney Rigdon: this testimony I have from gentlemen from abroad, whose names I do not wish to give.'

I most solemnly proclaim the withdrawal of my fellowship from this man, on condition that the foregoing be true, and let the Saints proclaim it abroad, that he may no longer be ac-

knowledgeed as my counselor; and all who feel to sanction my proceedings and views, will manifest it by uplifted hands.' There was a unanimous vote that Sidney Rigdon be dis-fellowshipped, and his license demanded."

The Twelve Apostles held meetings in various parts of Philadelphia.

Monday, 14.—Rode out at 9 a.m. At home at 1 p.m. In the evening attended the funeral of Lydia Walker, who died at my house yesterday.

I copy from the State Register, as follows:—"We have seen and heard a statement that Governor Ford had delayed making a decision upon the demand of Missouri for the militia to arrest Joseph Smith, until after the election, so as by intimidation to compel the Mormons to vote the democratic ticket."

The authors of this desperate and reckless slander, take counsel from their own corrupt hearts, and judge others by a knowledge of what they would do in like case. No doubt but that they would do this, and more so, if necessary, to secure the success of their party, and hence their readiness to believe evil of others.

If, however, they had been in the least degree inclined to judge correctly, they would have gone as we have done to the records of the secretary's office, where they would have ascertained that all these suspicions were groundless; and that the Governor had actually decided not to call out the militia, eleven days before the election."

The following letters we copy from the records in the office of the Secretary of State:—

"Executive Department, Springfield, Illinois, July 26, 1843."

To his Excellency, Thomas Reynolds, Governor of Missouri:—

Sir:—The demand of Joseph H. Reynolds, Esq., the agent appointed by you to receive Joseph Smith, jun., for a detachment of militia to assist in retaking said Smith, has been duly considered by me; and I now, at the earliest moment, after coming to a conclusion on the subject, proceed to lay before you the result of my deliberations.

The request for a military force is declined. The reasons which have influenced me in coming to this determination will be furnished to you at large, as soon as I can obtain leisure to do so.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
THOMAS FORD."

"Executive Department, Springfield, Illinois, Aug. 14, 1843."

To his Excellency Thomas Reynolds, Governor of the State of Missouri:—

Sir:—On the 26th day of July last, I had the honor to inform you by letter, that after full consideration, I had come to the conclusion to decline ordering out a detachment of militia to assist in retaking Joseph Smith, jun., who was said to have escaped from the custody of the Missouri agent; and in that letter I engaged to furnish you with my reasons at large for coming to that determination.

It appears that an indictment was found, at a special term of the Daviess Circuit Court, Missouri, held on the 5th day of June last, against Smith for treason. Upon this indictment the Governor of Missouri issued a requisition to the Governor of this State, demanding the arrest and delivery of Smith. A writ was thereupon duly issued by me for the apprehension and delivery of Smith, as demanded. This writ was put into the hands of an officer of this State to be executed. The officer to whom it was directed immediately arrested Smith, and delivered him to Joseph H. Reynolds, the agent of Missouri, appointed to receive him. The writ has been returned to me, as having been fully executed.

After Smith was delivered into the hands of Mr. Joseph H. Reynolds, it is alleged that he was rescued from his custody by the municipal court of the city of Nauvoo.

Affidavits on both sides of the question have been filed before me, and I also have additional information on the subject contained in a report of M. Brayman, Esq., a special agent appointed by myself to investigate and collect facts in relation to the whole matter.

The undisputed facts of the case are, that Smith was arrested near Dixon, in Lee county; he was immediately delivered over to Mr. Reynolds: Smith immediately brought an action against Mr. Reynolds for false imprisonment, and held him to bail in the sum of four hundred dollars. Mr. Reynolds, being in a strange country, and unable to give bail, was taken into custody by the sheriff of Lee county, and held as a prisoner; whilst Reynolds held Smith as his prisoner.

The parties finally concluded to get out writs of habeas corpus, and try the legality of the imprisonment in each case. The writs were accordingly issued, returnable before the nearest judicial tribunal in the circuit in which Quincy is situated; and thereupon all parties proceeded in the direction of Quincy: Smith being in the custody of Reynolds, and Reynolds himself in the custody of the sheriff of Lee county.

On the road, during their progress, they were met by parties of the citizens of Nauvoo; some or most of whom are said to have been members of the Nauvoo Legion, though there is no evidence that they appeared in a military capacity. There was no exhibition of arms of any description, nor was there any military or warlike array, nor was there any actual force used, though Mr. Reynolds testifies that he felt under constraint, and that Smith, soon after meeting the first parties of Mormons, enlarged himself from his custody.

Mr. Reynolds also testifies, (and there can be no doubt of the fact) that he was taken to Nauvoo against his will.