

Mr. D.—Because my plural wife died.

Court—Are you willing to obey the law in the future?

Mr. D.—Yes.

The Court—*sotto voce*—Belief, belief, ought not to be an objection.

At this point a young attorney named Hurd came forward with a law book and made objection to the request of Mr. Dunbar being granted. This objection was on the ground that the applicant had at one time practiced polygamy, and was therefore not a man of good moral character, as required by statute.

Court to Mr. Hurd—Were you present, sir, when Mr. Dunbar answered the questions I put to him?

Mr. Hurd—No.

Court—Then Mr. Dunbar has stated that his plural wife died six years ago, and he promised to obey the law of the United States in regard to polygamy in the future.

Mr. Hurd to Mr. Dunbar—Have you not taken a wife since, sir?

Mr. Dunbar—No, sir.

Court—This case involves a question with which I am not familiar, and will take time to consider it. My feelings are, Mr. Dunbar, that you are entitled to your papers, but I will take till tomorrow to decide.

This morning Judge Anderson called Mr. Dunbar and further examined him, eliciting the following information; I was married to my plural wife in 1858, took out my first papers in 1854, and my second papers three years later; have had but one plural wife.

Attorney Joseph Hurd said he objected to the reissue of papers to the applicant, first, because it was not shown that he was of good moral character; and, second, that he was not attached to the principles of the Constitution. Mr. Hurd also said that Judge Powers wanted to say something on the subject, and H. S. Laney was dispatched to bring in the judge. Mr. Hurd said that because Mr. Dunbar believed in polygamy, he should not be admitted. If such a thing should be allowed, it would not be long before there was a change in public opinion, and what was now a crime would be made a virtue.

J. J. O'Reilly was called as a witness and testified, to Judge Powers—I was deputy registrar for the fourth precinct in June last; called on Mr. Dunbar to register; he said he considered the Edmunds-Tucker law unconstitutional and that no honest man could take the oath.

There was no attorney present for Mr. Dunbar, who was called again, and said—The gentleman is mistaken. I told him that at that time I could not conscientiously take the oath, but that I might change my mind. I presume a man can do that?

Judge Anderson—Yes, sir.

George M. Ottinger testified to the court—I have known Mr. Dunbar 28 years; he is a man of good moral character and attached to the principles of the United States; I was aware that he had a plural wife, who died six or seven years ago; in my judgment that did not deprive him of a good moral character, which I know he has.

Judge Anderson—The applicant states that he has lost his papers. He has not been able to establish the former issue of the papers, so this will be considered as a new application. The witnesses testified to his good moral character. He states that he went into polygamy in 1858, and lived in it till six years ago. He further states that he believes polygamy right. The question is, can a man who has lived in polygamy be considered a man of good moral character and attached to the constitution? I think Congress considered polygamy to be immoral, and that was why laws were passed against it. Before the law was passed he married a plural wife, and notwithstanding the provisions of the Poland Act [His honor evidently meant the Edmunds Act] he still lived with her. He did not separate prior to her death. Can it be said that one who has been guilty of forgery or counterfeiting would be a man of good moral character? I think not. It is true this applicant believes he was not doing a moral wrong. But a man who violates the law is not a man of good moral character. It is true that within the past five years, owing to his wife's death, he has not broken the law. Mr. Hurd has cited an authority to the effect that good moral character must be shown during his whole residence in the Territory and not only for five years prior to the application for naturalization. The applicant has not been convicted of polygamy, but he says he has been guilty. I think it cannot be said he has behaved as a man of good moral character or attached to the Constitution of the United States, because he lived in violation of the law for twenty-five years. Polygamy is considered a crime in every State in the Union. The congressional laws have been passed because of the very immoral conduct of the people of Utah. Of course they don't think it immoral, but the government does. I think that aside from his being a polygamist heretofore his conduct has been irreproachable—it has been that of a good citizen. But that makes no difference. The application will be denied.

REMARKABLE EXPERIENCE.

Walter Detreich, who is fifty years of age, is a native of Bohemia, Austria, and until a few years ago was a priest in the Roman Catholic Church. Last March, while traveling through Germany, he came across some pamphlets published in connection with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and became so much impressed upon perusing them that he was induced to seek out Elder Christian Meyer, who was then traveling as a missionary in those parts. After several earnest conversations with him, and having made other investigations, he felt so satisfied that he had at last found the true Gospel that he decided to join the Church. Accordingly, on the 23rd of March, 1889, he was baptized by Elder

Meyer at a place near Nuremburg, Bavaria. A few days later, at Stuttgart, whence he had proceeded from Nuremburg, Brother Detreich was ordained a priest by Elder John Beck, of Lohi, the latter being then on a mission to Stuttgart. He was sent to Bohemia as a missionary, and there preached the Gospel most earnestly. As a result of his labors fifteen persons were baptized into the Church within the space of two months. On April 21st Brother Detreich was visited by Elder Beck, by whom he was ordained an Elder. At this time, in Stuttgart, Elder Beck fully organized a branch of the Church, which at present numbers upward of 30 persons.

By the secession of Brother Detreich from the Catholic Church, and his subsequent work in behalf of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, quite a stir was created among the people, and a system of persecution began. In this the Bohemian government played an active part. There exists a law in Bohemia prohibiting baptism except by authorized persons belonging to the Roman Catholic faith, and it is likewise provided that no other religious doctrine shall be publicly taught besides that appertaining to the Catholic Church. Hence no fewer than 62 charges were brought against Brother Detreich. He was arrested, but shortly afterwards released to appear on a subsequent date and answer the allegations laid against him.

At this time he took flight to Switzerland, and there remained for about a month, at the expiration of which period he was sent back to Bohemia by President Stuki, where he rejoined his family. While absent from his wife and children they had all been afflicted with smallpox, and one of the children died from the disease. After his return to Bohemia Brother Detreich eluded the vigilance of the authorities for upwards of the four weeks he continued there. He sought shelter in the woods, where he was almost daily visited by his wife, and he was likewise received in several of the monasteries, notwithstanding his former secession thereby escaping re-arrest. He did not hesitate while in the monasteries to freely bear his testimony to the truth of the Gospel which he had embraced, while many of his late co-religionists were honest enough to admit that, of all the seceders from the Catholic Church, "the Mormons were the best, because of their faith and good works."

About the third week in September last, Brother Detreich arrived in Berne, Switzerland, and from that place proceeded to Liverpool, where he was met by appointment by his wife and children. The meeting was a truly happy one. They sailed together with the company of Saints which left Liverpool in the *Wiscassin* on October 5th, and are now located in Salt Lake City.

Brother Detreich cannot speak English and has to make his thoughts and wishes known through an interpreter. He is evidently an educated and cultured gentleman.