

civilization that our friends (?) would put upon us.

We have a public library of over 200 volumes, choice works, an atheneum once a week, wherein saint and sinner pass an evening in exercising their abilities for the development of their minds. We have four schools in full blast, about 250 scholars with good teachers. It would do you good, being a married man and a father in the great country we live in, to see the children of our Sunday School come out about half past three o'clock every Sunday. You would think times were not dull. No indeed. We have a library connected with the Sunday School, also, for its use and benefit.

Bishop Partridge, with his brethren, have under way and soon will be running, a co-operative tannery, shoe and harness shop, another step to independence. Our Relief Society is not dead either, neither are the ladies. Our different quorums have their weekly meetings, the High Priests, the Seventies, and have good times in meeting. The Elders have their weekly meeting, also the lesser priesthood has been re-organized, and I almost forgot the Young Men's Theological Class every Saturday eve, which is not the least of our labors here. I must say our young friends are on the upward track and it does one good to see the confidence manifested in their meetings.

Our public meetings are well attended and the majority are waking up to their duties, and those who would do good are doing so, while those whose deeds have been evil develop themselves continually. Yours truly, OBSERVER.

Educational-Social Hall and Tabernacle.

BRIGHAM CITY, January 24th, 1876.

Editor Desert News:

The U. N. R. blockade interrupts our communication with the world in an eminent degree. Educational matters have a good share of attention this season. Mrs. Minnie Snow's students of the intermediate department of the Academy had a day of review last Friday. The school has two Second, two Third and one Fourth Reader classes, and three Arithmetic, three Geography and one Grammar classes, about one hundred pupils. The school is well furnished, but has insufficient light. Favorable progress has been made during the past term, the discipline and government of the school can hardly be excelled. Miss Minnie Snow has obtained a knowledge of the French and German languages, and high accomplishments in music, through constant perseverance. Mr. Joseph Jensen, assisted by Misses Luna Nichols and Hulda Jensen, keeps a school, having 130 pupils, all boys, who are doing very well. Prof. E. A. Box teaches in the first department of the academy. The upper story of the Social Hall is likely to be used as a seminary, for which it is well adapted. Said building has been erected the past season by Brigham City Mercantile and Manufacturing Association. Its cost when fully finished will come to at least \$15,000. A number of teams are engaged hauling rock for the new Tabernacle to be reared next summer, a complete foundation of which was laid some years ago, but the immense labor performed by our citizens in building the U. N. R. hindered its further progress at that time. Our people are very busy in general, and enjoy good health.

Yours truly, A. C.

The New York Times and the New North West make it this way between them. "The New York Times says that Utah has become what Kansas used to be, 'the graveyard of Governors.' If the Administration has a pique against a man it appoints him Governor of Utah, and that is the end of him. Your Utah Governor lasts on an average six months, and then he is politically dead."

The New North West gives the following unkind cut—"We think it a matter of congratulation that we are rid of Mr. Wickhiser. He was a fluent narrator of his services, but on the only two missions on which he visited Western Montana, he neglected his duty once and proved incapable the other. We hope for a better man in his stead."

THIRD DISTRICT COURT.

Charge of Chief Justice White to the Grand Jury.

GENTLEMEN OF THE GRAND JURY:

You have been selected in accordance with law as the grand inquest of the district to inquire of offences against the criminal law.

In our country no one can be prosecuted or tried for a crime except upon presentment or indictment by a grand jury, so that upon you for the time being depends the administration of the criminal law in this judicial district.

The duties of grand jurors always, and wherever organized, important, are rendered more than usually so with you, on account of the condition of the community of which you are now the trusted representatives and guardians. As a people we are yet young, not reached to maturity in political status, nor has public opinion attained the compact and settled force which exercises so powerful an influence in regulating older and established communities. The numerous and varied inducements which our territory presents to individual enterprise while they stimulate industrial activity and promote production, also awaken the passions and lead to excesses which demand the repressive power of law to curb and to restrain.

The strong individuality and practical self-reliance of American character, heightened in tone by the sharp experiences of frontier life, eager in the pursuit of wealth, but naturally too often prompts to the private assertion of right and to the violence and crimes which usually follow the substitution of individual force for the power of the law. In addition to these causes, common to our communities upon the Pacific slope, we have in our midst an element of religious discord which breeds and foments bad feeling, to which point and acrimony and persistence are given by the open, avowed and defiant violation of the law of the land. Of the means devised by the law for training and moulding communities to that highest social attainment, a due observance of law and proper respect for individual right, there are few agencies more powerful than a grand jury. Your action cannot be negative. What you do and what you omit to do, will be potential, in the good or the evil, the advance or the retrograde, the settling or unsettling of foundations, in the community of which you are members.

The influence you are to exert will not cease with the occasion that has brought you together or with your assemblage as a grand jury, but they will move on, silent, unseen, it may be unrecognized, but with persistent and accumulating power, in the direction you shall give them, beneficent or detrimental, long after we ourselves shall have passed away and been forgotten.

With these moderate rather than exaggerated impressions of the importance of your action, the court will direct your attention to the specific duties which the law enjoins upon you as grand jurors.

[After briefly referring to the importance of the strict enforcement of the law in reference to homicide, to the prevalence of violence in mining camps and the necessity for the prosperity of this industry that infractions of the peace-laws should be promptly investigated and punished, the judge referred forcibly to the alleged prevalence of horse and cattle stealing in the territory, and intimated that a close scrutiny of this evil might lead to the discovery of the fact that gangs of outlaws of this character may have their confederates and allies among the settled residents of the community, who are not suspected of any offense against the laws. Such has been the case in the early history of most of our states, and the judge urged upon the jury special scrutiny in regard to this class of offenders.]

The judge then proceeded as follows: By an act of congress as long back as 1862, it is enacted that every person having a husband or wife living who marries another, whether married or single, in a territory or other place in which the United States have exclusive jurisdiction, is guilty of bigamy, and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and by imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term not exceeding five years.

This is a law which is supreme in this and all other territories of the United States, made so by the federal constitution and so recognized

and assented to by all, and yet the law has been continually violated in Utah in the most open and undisguised manner, and its violation is advocated and followed by men of intelligence and influence, who in other respects are law abiding, moral and upright. Ordinarily crime has no defenders or apologists, its subjects are outcasts, and regarded as the enemies of the community, and by common consent and common effort its suppression is sought by all. That there should be an exception to this uniform rule is as alarming as it is anomalous. No graver question can be presented than such deliberate conflict between the law and popular opinion. Its complications and its dangers are increased by the fact that the popular opinion which proposes to defy and disregard the law, has no power to revoke it and that the law is itself sustained by a public opinion far more potent, and equally settled in its convictions and fixed in its purposes that the law shall be enforced, and that the crime which it has denounced shall be suppressed.

The difficulties to the advocates of the crime are increased by the fact that those who are opposed to it have all power to select and determine upon the modes, by means of law, which they may adopt to extinguish these offences. The congress of the United States have undergone no change in their opinion of polygamy as a crime since the enactment of the act of 1862.

They have made the law and have entrusted its enforcement to the people of the territory, confiding in their loyalty to law and the constitution, but there are evidences of impatience and mistrust in congress which it behooves everyone here, and you as grand jurors especially, to heed. Bills have been introduced in congress for special legislation for this territory upon this and other subjects.

If you fail to enforce the law in this particular, may it not be plausibly and convincingly urged against you that you will fail in others, and if you allow individual opinion and local opposition to override the supreme commands of the law, and through disregarded duties and violated oaths to trample it under foot, will it not break down all confidence in you as a people, faithful in the observance and enforcement of law, and regardless of the fundamental principles upon which civilized society rests, and by which alone it can be preserved.

This is the complexion to which it must come, and to which it is rapidly advancing. There is neither justice nor sound policy in self-delusion upon this grave subject. We had better look squarely in the face, distasteful as it may be to some, and govern ourselves by right, reason and manly discretion in dealing with it. Polygamy must be suppressed in this territory. Mormonism may survive it, and relieved from it would stand unshackled and free as every other creed or mode of religious worship, shielded and protected by the constitution of our common country; but if Mormonism cannot sever itself from polygamy it will be to it the bridal of death.

I do not utter the language of prejudice, nor treat lightly or derisively the Mormon people or the Mormon faith. No matter how much I differ from them in belief, nor how widely they differ from the masses of the American people in matters of religion, yet testing them and it, by a standard which the world recognizes as just, that is, what they practice and what they have accomplished, and they deserve higher consideration than has ever been accorded to them. Industry, frugality, temperance, honesty, and in every respect but one obedience to law, are with them the common practices of life.

This land they have redeemed from sterility, and occupied its once barren solitudes with cities, villages, cultivated fields and farm houses, and made it the habitation of a numerous people where a beggar is never seen and almshouses are neither needed or known.

These are facts and accomplishments which any candid observer recognizes and every fair mind admits, but in this beautiful display of living things there is the principle of self destruction and this array of virtues clusters around and embraces a vice which contaminates and dims them all, which may and unless eradicated, will bring to them disempowerment and annihilation. Without entering upon a consideration of the moral or immoral tendencies of poly-

gamy, let us look at it from that which is our legitimate stand point as officers, and agencies of the law, and see what is to be the end and the result of this conflict with the law.

The supreme law-making power is all against the advocates of polygamy. All the power which we have as a territory to make laws is given by congress, and may at any time when congress wills it, be taken from us. Any law our territorial legislature may pass may be annulled or repealed at their pleasure, and congress may make any law it thinks proper for our government.

The right and the power to do so is conferred by the constitution and backed by the people of the United States.

Forty millions of people against less than one hundred thousand.

This is the candid view upon the naked question of power as embodied in law. But there is behind and above this a view of this question, no less real, and more formidable, in which the odds against polygamy are far greater and in which its dangers and its doom, may be clearly foreseen in the light of experience.

In the whole christian world with the single exception of a part of the people of this territory monogamous marriage is accepted as a principle and rule both of religious doctrine and civil law, and polygamous marriages are condemned as a sin and a crime. The public opinion of the civilized world is against polygamy, and in the nineteenth century no institution can stand against this public opinion. Numerous examples of the truth of this assertion are to be found in the recent experiences of mankind, and nowhere more notable than in our own.

The institution of slavery, sheltered by the constitution of the United States, embracing a large part of the material wealth of the nation, woven into the most intimate and social and political relations of fourteen states of the Union, and defended in war by a people who have written the enduring record of their devotion and their courage upon a thousand battle fields, could not withstand its power. The same institution, grounded in customs hoary and revered with the sanction of centuries, in Russia has vanished beneath its pressure. In Brazil the same results are following, and even in Spain and Portugal, the two nations most impenetrable because the most unlightened of all the great nations of Europe, steps are being taken by their respective governments to make this concession to the opinions of the christian world by abolishing slavery in their dominions.

These are the effects of that mighty agency; that spirit of power unembodied and unseen, which in this day of quickened thought and extended human intercourse binds to its triumphal car the nations, and peoples, and monarchs of the earth, and with resistless force bears down and sweeps before it all opposition.

Against this institution of polygamy, this all-potent public opinion is arrayed, first concentrating itself in direct and pronounced antagonism in the forty million of people of the United States, and then gathering accumulated strength from all the nations of christendom. Against such a power and such odds can any reasonable people expect to contend? It is vain to say that polygamy was practised by the patriarchs and is recognized in the bible. The same was said of slavery. Neither one nor the other is consistent with, but both are opposed to the advanced and enlightened public opinion of the age in which we live, and as the one has fallen, crushed by its opposition, so will the other be swept away by the breath of its power.

I have not, nor do I purpose to enter upon a discussion of the morality or immorality of polygamy. Upon that point you would probably differ among yourselves, and a portion of you differ from the court. With the ethics of the subject neither you as grand jurors nor I as a court have anything to do. The law has settled that question for us, and has pronounced it a crime, and as the officers of the law we are bound by the solemn obligations of our oaths so to deal with it.

I have presented this view of the unequal and hopeless contest in its behalf to quicken your action and awaken your minds to the importance of the effective administration and enforcement of the law in this particular. If this law in polygamy is to remain a dead letter because of the continued omission of the grand

jurors to do their duty, other means more effectual than those now provided will be resorted to for its suppression, and with them must come unavoidably inequality of right and injury if not oppression. The evils which may result to the whole people and especially to that portion who profess the Mormon faith can be readily apprehended and need no rehearsal from me. The appreciation of the evils of a dual system of legislation and a reluctance to deprive the people of this territory of the right, common to every American community—that of legislating for themselves in reference to their domestic concerns, by congress, have been illustrated by long and patient forbearance. The indications are that this patience is near worn out, and unless you would have a system of special legislation for Utah begun, which once entered upon there is great danger may not stop this side of depriving your people of all right to legislate for themselves, or in another direction and another aspect result in still greater evils, you should at once by your action as a grand jury demonstrate that you intend faithfully to discharge your duty, and so far as depends upon you, to put an end to the commission of this offence so odious in law, and so offensive to the moral sense of the American people. This is the only one of your peculiar institutions which the law condemns, and upon which the public opinion of the people of the United States makes war. As to other matters involved in the peculiar creed of a large portion of our people, no matter how much they may differ from them, they say, both as people and government, that you are free to think and act for yourselves, and that in that freedom they will support and sustain you as they sustain all others in matters of religious belief; but that this institution of polygamy is a crime, and that it must be wiped out.

In what I have said to you I have been influenced by no prejudice, prompted by no unkind feeling toward any portion of the people of Utah. On the contrary, I am impelled alone by a sense of official duty and by a sincere desire to promote the welfare of all interested in the prosperity of our territory.

It is for you now to demonstrate whether you regard your obligations and will bravely and conscientiously discharge them, or whether, in the face of open and numerous examples of a violation of this law, you will shrink or neglect your duties, and afford an example to which your enemies may point as evidence that the Mormon people are not to be entrusted with the administration of the criminal law in the territory.

THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

A statement is going the rounds of the political press that the next Electoral College—including the new State of Colorado—will compose 370 members. Without the new State of Colorado the number was 366, with it the number is 369, as follows:

1. New York.....65	21. Texas.....8
2. Pennsylvania.....20	22. South Carolina.....7
3. Ohio.....23	23. Maine.....3
4. Illinois.....21	24. Connecticut.....4
5. Indiana.....15	25. Arkansas.....6
6. Missouri.....15	26. California.....5
7. Massachusetts.....13	27. Vermont.....3
8. Kentucky.....12	28. New Hampshire.....5
9. Tennessee.....12	29. Kansas.....6
10. Virginia.....12	30. West Virginia.....5
11. Georgia.....11	31. Minnesota.....5
12. Michigan.....11	32. Rhode Island.....4
13. Iowa.....7	33. Florida.....4
14. North Carolina.....10	34. Delaware.....3
15. Alabama.....10	35. Nebraska.....3
16. Wisconsin.....10	36. Oregon.....3
17. New Jersey.....9	37. Nevada.....3
18. Maryland.....8	38. Colorado.....3
19. Louisiana.....8	
20. Mississippi.....8	Total.....369

—Washington Chronicle.

At Moroni, Joseph Shepherd, born at Darnall, Yorkshire, England, August 1813.

He was baptized in the Fall of 1844; emigrated to America in 1850, and renewed his labors temporarily and spiritually at Alton, Illinois. Previous to November 4th, 1854, he had been appointed President of the Alton Branch. On April 6th, 1855, he was ordained to the office of High Priest, and as a Bishop held in St. Louis, and set apart as Bishop of the Alton Ward; he emigrated to Utah, in the St. Louis company, in 1856, arriving in Salt Lake City October 4th, and settled at Box Elder. He moved to Cache Valley in the Fall of 1857, and left there in the Spring of 1858, travelling south to Nephi until the settlement of Moroni in 1859. Deceased was a member of the Moroni City Council from the date of its incorporation, and also held the office of Justice of the Peace for Sanpete County. He was Vice President of the Moroni Convention in 1861. He was universally respected by all who made his acquaintance, and was a faithful latter-day saint.