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## AT THE TABERNACLE.

We had the gratification of listening on last Sunday afternoon to brief addresses in the Tabernacle, in their order, from Elders S. W. Richards, A. M. Musser and President Young, principally on two subjects—Self Preservation and Fellowship. The addresses were timely, plainly and forcibly spoken, and found an affirmative response in the breasts of every true man and woman present.

For some time, the first speaker was un-audible to a large portion of the congregation, from the noise of late arrivals passing to their seats, and but little attention was seemingly given to the speaker, till he approached the subject of Self Preservation, then all eyes and ears were open. The gist of his address was an expose of the folly of the people in their commercial intercourse with merchants and speculators. He handled severely one or two nameless individuals in Main street who thought they were sliding into favor somewhere by raising the price of flour, while in reality their motives were but the additional sale of gew gaws. The speaker claimed that the people were entitled to their wheat and flour at established prices, while those who wanted to speculate should pay for the experiment. Another class of persons in the same street were exposed for their duplicity in making false representations to the farmers in order to procure from them their produce for speculation.

Elder Musser thought that there was enough of wheat in the country for the use of the people till another harvest—if none was exported, and he had confidence that the great mass of the people would do right. In his travels, he had noticed how the people were often imposed upon and induced by heartless merchants to part with their flour, butter and eggs for worthless gew gaws. "A merchant south" had a very interesting notice. He was deservedly severe upon a class of persons who visited the outside wards of the city, representing themselves very poor, in order to obtain wheat at a low price, and who afterwards brought it into Main street and sold it to speculators.

President Young gave a general review of the remarks of the preceding speakers, and clearly spoke the sentiments of the people he addressed in proposing to prune the vineyard, and disfellowship the transgressor and those who lived in the violation of the commandments and revelations of God. There was a spirit and influence with the remarks of the President that cannot fail to be felt not only here but throughout the Territory.

## THE MORALITY OF THE POSITION

It is hardly possible for the Saints ever to occupy any position as a people without being furnished therein abundant opportunity of demonstrating the potency of their faith, over the evil around them. In our mind, if there be any collateral evidence sustaining the great work in which we are engaged, more forcible than another, it is the constantly recurring similarity of experience in the lives of the Saints in all ages.

Before becoming acquainted with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his plan of human redemption, we read the scriptures, like every other native born Christian, in our schools in week days—as select reading, and committed to memory, at the dictation of our Sunday teachers, every prominent episode in the public life of Christ and the former apostles till we could with unerring exactness give chapter and verse of every thing in the four gospel. With all the books from Genesis to Revelations, we were expected to be familiar and were so, till probably Bible items formed the largest share of our historical acquisitions for years after we had entered our teens and got through them, and such has probably been

the experience of nine-tenths of the Saints both here and abroad. Yet, with it all, we knew no more of the principles with which prophets, patriarchs and apostles, were familiar, and to the dissemination of which they devoted their lives, than if we had never heard of their existence. Great preachers and great commentators only made obscurity and midnight darkness and every effort to grasp and comprehend the design and object of our creation, and the personal duties and obligations devolving upon us before our Maker, was only futile, and invariably ended in the diminution of our faith, till scarcely a vestige of hope was left within us. Such was our condition and such has been the mental condition of a great many of the Saints, and we most sincerely believe that there are few intelligent men and women who dare to think, who are not in the same uncomfortable and unenviable condition of mind everywhere in Christendom to-day.

Illiterate unpretending men told us of the restoration of the gospel; they opened a new life to us, read to us a new history, and principles of hope, happiness and life burst upon us from the light of their testimony. We listened, we believed, we humbled ourselves and joyfully obeyed the mandate that severed us from the kingdom of darkness, and from that hour our course was changed. We have witnessed over and over again the same routine of experience with the rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, the aged and the youth, and have beheld the whole united in the holy bonds of brotherhood, with but one testimony, one experience and with the same ambition to advance the interests of that kingdom, for the establishment of which upon the earth, they had been taught to pray with the prattling tongue of infancy. No more gratifying experience can mortals desire than the dawning upon their minds of the glorious truths of revealed religion. They feel that the galling chains of superstitious bondage which held them in abject fear and slavery have burst from off them, that they are free indeed—and can call no man master.

To individuals and to the community, the dark and cloudy day that will "try men's souls" has also occasionally shadowed its advance. Father has turned against the son, the daughter against the mother, and the before unclouded friendship of affectionate hearts has been severed, and faces ever joyous and places before familiar and sacred have changed as if they had never been known. The tongue that spoke peace and comfort has been turned against us to wound and to curse, and the hands that were strengthened and encouraged by us have partaken of the same change and been the readiest to smite us. The Saints have passed through it all and can look back upon their history and read there, with themselves as individuals, or in a collective capacity, the great struggle for supremacy.

The arch rebel has held the world in his grasp for many generations. He has taught for wisdom the destructive, damning principle of self-aggrandisement, till man has come to look upon his fellow man, as another creature. Some few, in every age of the world's history, have seen that the end thereof was death, and have zealously labored to unite men in fraternal bonds for mutual protection against the appalling dangers of unrestrained self; but the enemy against whom they have battled has been too powerful for their unaided efforts, and the world to-day presents the sad picture of fractured, dilapidated and broken up organizations and institutions enough to satisfy the most sanguine of reformers that no human power can save the world from universal desolation. If to others this conclusion is not legibly written in the pages of history, to the Saints, it has ever been a palpable fact. Read what we may of sacred history and we feel the breathings of inspiration whispering from Adam to Noah and from Noah to Christ,—ye are brethren—be ye one—there is One above who is your Father. In other history it has been rule who can.

In the Providence of the Lord, we are now in a position to demonstrate how well we live the faith, how much we are in earnest for right and equity, how sincerely we labor for the establishment of the kingdom of righteousness. Let every one of our brethren and sisters who may read our wandering thoughts calmly ponder over the past. Let them review what they have experienced since the day they embraced the truth and they will

therein read the history of Saints in all ages. We know Jesus to be the Son of God; we know Moses the enlightened and educated leader of Ancient Israel; we know the despised Peter the fisherman of Galilee, and we know the thousands of men who have been prominent in the eastern and western continents anciently, in the propagation of the principles of life and salvation, to be our brethren, engaged in the same glorious cause. Their experience thousands of years ago is ours to-day—our future was their future. The principles they taught, observed and reduced to practical life, we thoroughly understand, and know the spirit that animated them, as well as we know and can understand the spirit of men with whom we now have daily intercourse. Local circumstances were different with the antediluvian Saints, to those in which moved the Saints in the days of Abraham, and so were different the teaching of Moses to that of Malachi; but the same spirit and one purpose is everywhere palpable.

When the Saints were driven from their possessions in the States and were wandering westward into the wilderness, an honest traveler who witnessed that wearisome pilgrimage wrote:—"the Mormons have a Destiny." While our enemies reviled our names, cursed us because they had robbed us, and rejoiced in the prospect of our starvation from want, or our destruction by the bloody axe of the Indian, the traveler's unprejudiced eyes could discover within our grasp the elements of life, and the fostering hand of Almighty God preserved us from death, when no eye pitied and no hand was extended to help us.

We came not here for silver and gold nor for fine apparel—the Lord had a purpose, and they are blind indeed who cannot read it to-day. We look around and behold evidence upon evidence of that Destiny, and are fully satisfied with the labors of men for the House of Israel and against it; but happy, think we, are they whose hearts have not wandered after folly and who have not walked in forbidden paths, they will realize "all that has been promised," while the unprincipled will fail in the day of trial. Now is an excellent time for men to show themselves whether they are for God or Mammon—never forgetting that we are all writing our histories, that we are all shaping our destinies.

## DOWN EAST POLITICIANS.

In addition to the general entertainment from war news, the great American public have recently been feasted with a terrible dose of vicious political speeches in the Atlantic States. The papers received by Overland Mail during the past week are surcharged with reports of Monster Meetings of the Democracy, and of Glorious Meetings of the Republicans, preceding the State elections, with a vituperation manifest in both camps that equal the palmiest days of yore. An English writer once said that a stranger would suppose from the opposition speeches of politicians during a Presidential campaign in the United States that it had been the misfortune of each party to have fallen upon the very worst man in the country for a candidate. Of course, a large portion of the men who make the speeches are themselves the furthest from believing what they utter; but then the multitude like things done up well, and to carry them to the Polls, the basest passions of human character are pandered to. From the speeches we have read, more particularly from the lips of New York politicians, they afford but little evidence of the gagging of the press, or the restriction of free speech. It would be pretty difficult to conceive of worse charges than those pressed home upon the chief Executive, and the prominent members of his cabinet and those who support them. The Republicans seem to have had good machinery at work, or to have plied their opponents, for in nearly every place the Democracy have been worsted in the fight. From this time on to the next general election of the Chief Magistrate but little else need be expected from the east than stump speeches, with the occasional variation of a good battle. Already the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Chase, is trotted out for next President, and Mr. Lincoln has given no indication of objection to re-election. Mr. Chase is understood to have all the support of the Secretary-of-war, Mr. Stanton, and the extreme anti-slavery politicians, who are in for sub-

jugating the South and placing the country reconquered in the position of the Territories. Mr. Lincoln apparently has the good wishes of the Secretary-of-State, Mr. Seward, and of the Postmaster-General, Mr. Blair, with the more conservative class of Republicans who are willing to close the war at any time if the South would only cave in, "for the sake of saving the Union." The coming representative man of the Democracy, is still to be named. Once, all eyes were turned to Gen. McClellan; but he is shelved, and has apparently been labelled to rest there, and now there is no other great name with great deeds looming up anywhere. Great men are particularly scarce at the present time.

## AS IT IS.

The interest of the people of Utah in Jackson County, Missouri, prompts the publication of the following extract:—

The depopulation of the Counties of Jackson, Cass, Bates and Vernon is thorough and complete. One may ride for hours without seeing a single inhabitant, and deserted houses and farms are everywhere to be seen. The whole is one grand picture of desolation."—St. Joseph Herald, Oct. 18th.

THE THEATRE.—Ingomar, the Barbarian, was played on Wednesday evening to a full house. Mrs. Irwin justified the highest expectations of her admirers as an artist; her representation of Parthenia was very fine. Various opinions were entertained of Mr. Irwin's Ingomar. Evadne, or the Hall of Statues, was played on Saturday evening, and gave great satisfaction. Mrs. Irwin, Mr. Irwin and Mr. McKenzie seemed to share equally the encomiums of the patrons of the drama. To-night, Evadne is repeated and followed by the screaming farce The Omnibus—there will be a full house.

ABSENT FOR A FEW DAYS.—On Monday, the 15th inst., President Young, with his sons Joseph A., Brigham, jr., and John W., also several home missionaries and others, in all, quite a company, started on a visit to the settlements in Sanpete County. They expect to return next week.

PAYING THE PREMIUMS.—We are informed that the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society have secured a limited quantity of pure Sugar Cane Seed, also a choice and extensive lot of Madder Seed, Siberian wheat and Millar Oats, with which they will pay the premiums awarded at the late Fair. So far as they have Agricultural and Horticultural works on hand they will be issued to those who prefer the same. Messrs. Hemenway, Ellerbeck, and others having liberally donated flower seeds, grape vines etc., they will also be paid where preferred.

Parties interested are requested to call at the Historian's Office at as early a date as possible to receive their premiums.

The Society have appointed Messrs Harrison and Tullidge agents to sell the Madder, Siberian wheat, and Millar oats to the public, for the purpose of extending throughout the Territory the benefits of their cultivation.

REPAIRING THE DITCHES.—It is no small compliment to an official to say "he can be spoken to," "and can take a hint." A couple of weeks ago, we drew attention to the probable injury to the streets from the terribly impaired ditches. Street Commissioner Groo listened, cast his eyes around, and with commendable alacrity attacked the work assigned to his department. We know nothing of the extent of labor he proposes on the ditches; but we are satisfied that if there is anything going to waste for want of his services, it will arise from want of the "sinews of war"—the fulcrum that moves everything in this lower world. Groo has thanks for what he has done.

GOOD FOR THE TIMES.—An elderly lady had contracted a small obligation some time since, to be cancelled by the payment of butter at thirty cents a pound. She came up yesterday with a countenance beaming with honest confidence—"I am no speculator, I can get a dollar a pound for it; but my word is more than money." That is the talk—that is the course that will stand now and forever. We wish we could say the same of everybody of our acquaintance.

THE WEATHER.—We have had a few indications of coming winter; but weather is again very agreeable.