

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN DEFENDING
BRIGHAM YOUNG AND MORMONISM
ON SCRIPTURAL AND MORAL
GROUNDS.

At one of Mr. Train's recent lectures on his New England tour, the audience, as usual, being allowed to draw upon him at sight for a subject, some one called out "Mormonism," when Mr. Train electrified the vast assembly by a rapid defense of Brigham and his colony, from which we give the following sketch, as taken by a correspondent of the Times at present on an Eastern tour:

MR. TRAIN.

Who established the first newspaper west of the Missouri, in 1832, at Independence? The Mormons. Who in 1846, penetrated from Iowa, the western land and moved towards the Pacific the great column of progress? The Mormons. Who first raised the American flag in the great western basin? The Mormons. Who made the Utah wilderness blossom as the rose? The Mormons. [Applause] What other sect, creed, or church in America ever expended five millions in immigration? (That's so.) How does it happen that the red Indian never interferes with a Mormon train? That the American government never spent but \$75,000 for the Indians in the Mormon land when they threw away millions outside of that? [Applause] Who was it discovered the great gold mines of California? The Mormons. The first emigrants at Yerba Buena landed from the Brooklyn, a Mormon ship; and the first "brick" made in California was mined by a Mormon, and the first printing press was taken there in '48 by a Mormon. Who sheltered and fed the poor, starving emigrant bound for the Eldorado in '48 and '49, when, foot-sore and heart-sick, they found themselves in the wilderness? The Mormon colonists. [Applause, and "That's so."] Who made the Pacific Railroad a necessity? Brigham Young and his Mormon host. Who fed the miners, gave Montana food and clothing, and the first "brick" made in California was mined by a Mormon? The Mormons. [Applause] Yet what has the Government ever done for them, but to insult them? The public land system was only allowed last year, hence rendering the homestead law obsolete in Utah. Where are there better roads, better telegraphs, better houses, better farms, better culture than in Utah? Burton, Bowles, Greeley, Richardson and Dixon—all prejudiced against polygamy—testify to the wonderful industry and astonishing enterprise of Brigham's followers.

Think of 500 miles of telegraph, 1,000 miles of canal, 100 villages, 30 cities, and a population of 100,000 people in 20 years, colonized 1,000 miles out of sight of man. (Loud applause.) What other colony can show 75 per cent. of their population living in their own houses? built by their own industry? And yet these people were the poorest of the poor. Again, Brigham Young's statesmanship is American. Producer and consumer live hand and glove with capital and labor. ("Good for American industry.") The Mormons manufacture their own clothes; in their three cotton and four woolen mills; their shoes, from leather made in their twenty-five tanneries. Their furniture, their nails, their hardware, their hats are all self-created. Their one hundred and fifty grist mills grind their corn and flour. Their hundred and twenty school-houses educate their eighteen thousand children. Their one hundred churches furnish seats for all their worshippers. The grape and the silk worm, the tobacco plant and the cotton boll, the sheep fold and the cattle pasture, all show the terrible perseverance, patience and pluck of the Mormon colonist. (Loud applause.)

Thus in a paragraph I have boiled down the enterprise of this Napoleon of colonists—Brigham Young. And after this wonderful success the spoiler is at his work. This fabric in the forest must be leveled. Utah must be wiped out, and the farm in the mountain valleys is to be divided up among the cormorants of Christianity! Christianity! Bah! There are no Christians in America! [Sensation.] Hypocrite, cant and humbug rules in the day, and crime walks broadest in the night. There are no founding hospitals required in Utah, and infanticide and Restellism are unknown among the Mormon wives. Yet Puritanism says the Mormon colony must perish. [Shame.] Take my advice, Brigham: fight for your rights! Religion must be as free as the air; the breathe or the water we drink. [Good again.] You have given us a new code of morals; your religion is practical—pure, theoretical; you practice what you preach. Our people must either let you alone with your multitude of wives or throw up the Bible. If they touch you, down goes the basis of their Christian teaching, for polygamy is sanctioned from Genesis to Revelation. Stand up for your faith, Brigham, and I will back you; for yours is the only colony ever established in Christendom without a gambler, a drunkard, or a prostitute. [Sensation and applause.]—*Omaha Evening Times.*

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