

members and annihilate the organization, union and faith and determined devotion were exhibited, instead of the expected discord and dispersion. It was clearly manifested that the death of the head was not in any sense the death of the body.

History will repeat itself. Our departed President was one of the greatest men of the earth. He was inspired of God to take a prominent part in the latter-day work. He lived to carry out the principles revealed through the Prophet Joseph. He was so identified with every movement and every development of the Church that "Mormonism" and Brigham Young have come to be almost synonymous in the world. But his departure does not peril the life or stay the onward march of the system for which he worked so faithfully. This is not the Church of Joseph Smith, nor of Brigham Young, but of Jesus Christ. And no man realized this fact more than our revered President, who has just left us to join his predecessor. It is evident to those familiar with the closing acts of his eventful life that he was moved upon by the Almighty, whose spirit he always sought to guide him, to so arrange and set in order affairs, that after his decease all things in the Church should progress harmoniously, according to the order of the holy Priesthood, without a jar and without a pause.

The strength of this work is its divinity. The Latter-day Saints worship God, not man. They partake, individually, of the same spirit that rests upon their leaders. There is no blind path. They walk in the light, and cling to the men who are placed in authority, because the spirit of truth bears witness to their calling, and because they understand something of the order of that priesthood which God has restored to direct erring humanity in the road which leads to His Eternal Presence.

"The Mormon system" has always been on its trial. It has been continually subjected to severe tests, from the day of its birth into the world. It is no more in danger now than at any period of its earthly existence. It will steadily advance, spreading the knowledge of the truth concerning God and His designs in relation to the human family, working out the plan of salvation for the living and the dead, and preparing the way for the feet of Him whose right it is to reign over all the earth.

No man's death will interfere with its destiny. Indeed Brother Brigham will be more potent behind the veil in promoting the cause for which he labored in the flesh, than while here in our midst bound by the cords of mortality and subject to human weaknesses.

The work will continue. The path is plain. "A wayfaring man though a fool need not err therein." The plan is revealed and placed on record, and President Brigham Young devoted much care and patience during the last few months of his life, to clear the way of the Church so that their might be no obstruction to its unimpeded career.

All that the Latter-day Saints have to do is to live their religion, seek for the spirit that guides unto truth, learn fully the order of the priesthood which is perfect and full of heavenly beauty, and be patient, wise and unexcited and the great work which is more to us than wealth, or kindred ties, or any earthly consideration, will roll onward in its strength and majesty, until the earth and its inhabitants are redeemed from sin and death; and no power beneath the throne of Omnipotence can stand in its path, for God, the Father of all, is its living and Eternal Head.

LATTER-DAY FAMINE.

FAMINE is one of the signs of the latter times, given by our Savior as tokens of his approaching advent as King of Kings. There are few persons in this country who realize the extent and the horrors of the famine now prevailing in Asia.

More than half a million persons have perished in India for lack of food. Only think of the widespread misery that must prevail in a country where so many human beings have been literally starved to death! And now as one of the consequences of this terrible cala-

mity cannibalism is reported. Babies are said to be worth a rupee in the market, that is about fifty cents. It is expected that in Southern India six millions will shortly perish of famine.

In the Corea also, thousands are perishing for lack of food. Provisions are distributed every ten days by the Government, but the supply is totally inadequate to meet the demand, and whenever a vessel enters the port, laden with rice, corn or any kind of eatables, the hungry natives fight for a chance to obtain the needed food, and blood is shed in their frantic struggles. Pestilence treads on the heels of Want, and dead bodies lie for days in the streets unburied and spreading disease. And during the time these horrors have prevailed in the East, one hundred thousand tons of Indian wheat has been shipped to England. While hundreds of thousands have perished with hunger, this enormous amount of the staff of life has been exported to a country unafflicted with such destitution and able to obtain supplies from other sources. This seems to us to be miserable management, and exhibits either woeful incapacity or utter disregard of human sufferings and human life.

But such scenes as are now presented in India, the Corea and some parts of China, where also starvation with all its terrors is laying low its thousands, are only to be expected, without her awful judgments upon the inhabitants of the earth, prior to the great change that is to be expected by the establishment of that kingdom which shall be thrown down no more for ever.

The eyes of the Saints should be open to the signs of the times, but, as Daniel predicted concerning this period, "The wicked shall do wickedly, and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand."

AN ILLEGAL CONVICTION.

THERE is a man now incarcerated in the Penitentiary, named Alonzo Colton, who has been confined for eight months, who is suffering severely from rheumatism, and who is under illegal sentence of five years imprisonment. His case makes a shameful stain upon the reputation of the Second Judicial District Court, of this Territory.

Alonzo Colton was indicted and tried at Beaver, before Associate Justice Boreman, for "lewd and lascivious cohabitation." The alleged crime was committed with his plural wife. The case was an attempt to punish polygamy, an offense against a statute of the United States, under a law of the Territory of Utah. Unable to reach the man legally, officials sent here by the Government to magnify the law, reached under the cloak of a local enactment to violate law and assassinate justice, setting at naught that honor and dignity and probity naturally expected in representatives of the United States.

The statute under which this infamous prosecution was brought reads as follows:

"SEC. 32. If any man or woman, not being married to each other, lewdly and lasciviously cohabit together; * * * such person so offending shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding ten years, and not less than six months, or fined not more than one thousand dollars, and not less than one hundred dollars, or both, at the discretion of the court."

The evident intention of the Legislature which enacted this law was to protect the public morals, by punishment for openly lewd and indecent conduct. This was not alleged against the defendant. He was simply living and associating with his wives, and the offense with which he was charged, and for which he was sentenced to five years imprisonment in the penitentiary, was simply cohabitation with his own wife, married to him by a Church ceremony which they both held sacred.

The prosecution and the sentence were both in open violation of the principles that always govern respectable Attorneys and Courts with any claim to judicial honor. They were an outrage to common sense, and sufficient to disgrace forever, in the eyes of the bar and the thinking public, the officials who figured in the disreputable business.

Alonzo Colton was a "Mormon." That was his crime. He practised a part of his religious belief without disguise. The prosecution and the court were anti-"Mormon" to the last degree. They could not touch polygamy by the only law that made it an offense, so they determined to reach it unlawfully. They knew that they were prosecuting a man under a statute which had no application to his case. But they pushed their disgraceful attack to the bitter end, and succeeded in getting one "Mormon" shut up in the penitentiary.

What a glorious achievement! What a remarkable display of legal and judicial acumen! A Public Prosecutor and a District Judge joining to convict a man of an offense of which they knew he was not guilty. (!)

But this was not the worst. At the time Alonzo Colton was convicted and sentenced under a prostitution of the Act above named, that law had been wiped from the statute book and had no actual existence. And those United States officials knew it. The Attorney who pressed the prosecution and the Judge who pronounced the sentence, knew the law had been repealed and were angry that it was obsolete! Could official villainy any further go?

The defendant was unrepresented by counsel. If he had obtained competent legal advice and assistance he would not have gone to prison. The neglect to secure this was his only fault. But was it within the lines of honor or even common decency, for a Judge of a District Court of the United States, to take advantage of the defendant's helpless condition, and blot out five years of his social life because no one was present to plead his cause at bar?

This shameful act of the Judge at Beaver was the last relic of the illegal policy inaugurated by that mission jurist, who came to Utah with the avowed intention of making war upon "Mormonism" and executing its leader, and who is now so low and despised that there is none to do him honor except in irony.

Such deeds should put a brand upon the brow of those who perpetrate them, which shall never be effaced but prove a bar to their entrance into honorable circles and to the exercise of judicial functions any more for ever.

The confinement of Alonzo Colton in the Penitentiary is a standing reproach. Steps should be taken at once for his release. Either by *habeas corpus*, or petition to the Executive for his pardon, his case should be properly investigated without delay. And we are confident that when the whole shameful facts are presented to the Governor, or to the Supreme Court of the Territory, the illegally convicted and sentenced sufferer will be immediately set at liberty. If not, there is no justice to be obtained from Federal authority in Utah.

A FAIR REPORT.

THE New York *Herald* of August 31st contains a report of an interview with Brother Spencer Clawson, who is now in that city on business for Z. C. M. I. As anything fair touching on the Mormons and their leader has been rare of late in the *Herald*, we publish some extracts. After considerable conversation upon the probable effects of President Young's death upon the Church, the following colloquy ensued:

Reporter—How will business affairs be affected by his death? Will the same commercial institutions be preserved?

Mr. Clawson—I see no reason why they should not continue; yet I would not presume to speak for others. This question seems to have been anticipated at home, and I received a telegram this morning on that subject.

Reporter—A private telegram?

Mr. Clawson—No; it was sent to me for use among the firms with whom we do business. You can see it, if you desire.

Mr. Clawson handed the following circular, which speaks for itself:

ZION'S CO-OPERATIVE MERCANTILE INSTITUTION, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

New York Office—Benedict, Hall & Co., 136 Grand Street, New York, August 30, 1877.

DEAR SIR—I am this morning in receipt of the following despatch—

SALT LAKE CITY, August 29, 1877. President Brigham Young, after a brief illness, died at four p.m. Last apprehensions arise prejudicial to the interests of the Institution, say to our friends that his death will in no way affect the business or management of the Institution, which continues as heretofore. Its financial condition warrants us in saying that obligations will be met with the same promptness which has characterized all its transactions.

THEODORE MCKEAN,
W. H. HOOPER,
H. S. ELDREDGE,
H. B. CLAWSON, Directors.
D. O. CALDER,
GEORGE REYNOLDS,
JAMES JACK,
WILLIAM JENNINGS,
J. P. FREEZE, Stockholders.

Very Respectfully,
SPENCER CLAWSON.

Reporter—This was a Church institution, was it not?

Mr. Clawson—Yes, it was established by the counsel of President Young, in 1863, and began operations in 1869.

Reporter—Has it been a success or a failure, from a commercial standpoint?

Mr. Clawson—We think it a success. For some years it paid twenty per cent. dividend, and since the stringent times came on we have lost no money. It has a paid up capital of \$800,000. We are satisfied with its prosperity.

Reporter—Mr. Clawson, did you know your late president very well?

Mr. Clawson—From my earliest recollection of anything I always knew him, intimately and affectionately.

Reporter—The public has had so much from those who were opposed to him, I would like to present the views of a friend. If you do not feel it a task I would like to report your statement fully:

Mr. Clawson—It is no task to me to speak of President Young, and after the many abusive things I have been forced to read in some papers here about him I shall give you my version of his true character. I always found President Young to be an honest, upright man. He has been to my father and to myself a good, kind father, and I never knew him to do an injustice to any one intentionally. It would be strange if a man who had as much to do with so many persons as he had to do with, and for such a long period of time, that he did not hurt somebody and make enemies where he had reason under other circumstances to look for friends. He was no exception to all other men of prominent position—a target to shoot at—and because he was so eminently successful in the handling of his business affairs, that was an additional incentive to pick at him.

Reporter—Without trenching upon privacy, what do you think he was really worth at his death?

Mr. Clawson—He could not avoid becoming rich with all the business opportunities that his position brought to him. No man of his great ability and his capacity for the direction of labor could fail to become wealthy in a new country. It would have been singular indeed had he not overtopped everybody in Utah. Men with a great deal less ability than he had, got rich there. Much of his wealth accrued to him in directing the labor of others, and as their labors grew in value so did his property grow in value with them. He had a whole people willing and desirous to serve him, and they discovered nothing good or valuable but what they wanted him to share with them.

Reporter—He is said to have been an oppressor of the poor.

Mr. Clawson—It is easy to make charges against him or against any person. He was kind and liberal where he judged it right to be so; but he had a horror of mendicancy, and he instructed everybody who had means to give labor to the poor and not alms. No person ever famished for bread in Utah, and in the winter seasons when strangers were among us without the means of existence he has always taught the bishops to set them to work, so that they might have food and not be forced to steal. For self-protection, if for no higher consideration, he taught the people to be careful of the poor.

A young lady in Bellevue, Iowa, who was engaged to be married shortly, and was in vigorous health, went into a cool cellar to make butter a few days ago, and was foolish enough to stand on the ground with bare feet. She is now the bride of Death. But for this unwise act she might be a living happy wife. Girls, take warning.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, SEPT. 7.

NOTICE.

There will be a Priesthood meeting of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, in the New Tabernacle in this city, Saturday, September 15th, at 11 o'clock a.m. A punctual attendance is required of the members of the High Council, all the Bishops and their counselors and of the Presidents of the various Quorums, (High Priests', Elders', Priests, Teachers and Deacons,) that are organized in this Stake of Zion. We invite the Presidents of Seventies of the several quorums residing in this Stake. Members of the various quorums of the priesthood, residing in the Stake, who desire to attend, are at liberty to do so.

The Bishops will be required to give a report of their several Wards.

This report will be filled in the blank already furnished and include all items according to the headings, together with such other information as shall fully indicate all changes and the condition of each Ward, on the 31st day of August during said month.

These meetings are to continue to be held monthly, and monthly reports are accordingly required from each Ward of the Church in this Stake, according to previous arrangements.

ANGUS M. CANNON,
DAVID O. CALDER,
JOSEPH E. TAYLOR.

Presidency of Salt Lake Stake of Zion.
September 7th, 1877.

Without License.—To-day, several parties were fined, in the police court, for carrying on business without license.

Removed.—The ore crusher, which was erected by Mr. Johnson, of Liverpool, England, in the 6th Ward, has lately been removed to another location, outside of the City.

Changed Hands.—The Utah Fire Brick Company's yard, materials, &c., have been purchased by Messrs. Morris & Evans, and the kilns, stock and other appurtenances are being removed by them to their yard in the 5th Ward.

The Match.—The second base ball match game, between the Deserets and Red Stockings, for the championship of Utah, to-morrow afternoon, is likely to attract a large crowd to witness the playing. The game will begin at 3:30 o'clock.

Locked In.—Last Sunday evening a couple of small boys, sons of Brother Elliot Willden, of Beaver, fell asleep in meeting, and were locked in the meeting house. After awaking they went to work to open the door, and had just succeeded, when an elder brother in search of them approached their temporary prison. So states the *Square Dealer*, of the 4th inst.

Unintentional.—Mr. Richard Tilt called upon upon us with regard to a reference in the News to his running his horse against one of the guard ropes placed across South Temple Street, last Sunday. He states positively that it was purely accidental, as he did not see the rope, and that the officers on duty there were entirely mistaken in supposing it were otherwise. He says the reason he did not stop and explain on the spot was, that he felt so ashamed and sorry at the accident occurring that he was glad to get away as quickly as possible.

A Building "Bee."—The foundation of the Fifth Ward new school house being completed, the work of raising the adobe walls will receive a push next week, by means of an old-fashioned "bee." The ladies intend getting up a dinner one day next week, when all the male residents of the locality who can lay up the building material or assist in any manner in that direction, and there are plenty of them, are expected to turn out, do the work, and consume the viands. It is an old-fashioned method of helping along a public improvement but it frequently operates very satisfactorily.