

REMARKS

By JEDEDIAH M. GRANT, Tabernacle, March 2, 1886.

[REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.]

By Elder Kimball's request, I will occupy a short time.

I have meditated considerably upon the spirit manifested through our President last Sabbath and to-day, and also upon that manifested by br. Kimball, his first counselor.

I do not know what effect their views and sayings have had upon your minds, but I am under the impression that there is more blindness and stupidity, more fog and darkness in Israel than I had anticipated, previous to their remarks.

I am aware that persons not members of our society, listening to the teachings from this stand, might infer that we certainly were in a very bad state. But when they take into consideration that we do not allow any evil, or any kind of wickedness, to grow and flourish in the midst of this community, without revealing and opposing it, they can then understand the subject more clearly.

In the United States, generally, and perhaps in most of Europe, it would not be safe to speak so plainly from the pulpit concerning the wickedness existing in those regions, or to expose it so freely and fully as we expose from this stand the evils striving to creep into our midst, for the spirit which reigns abroad upon the face of the earth is different from the spirit that reigns here. If we know a wicked man we feel free to present him before the public, and frequently call him by name and expose him publicly.

This course would not always be safe in that portion of the southern States where I have traveled; you would be apt to be involved in a duel, or in a fight of some kind.

When the Latter Day Saints know of wickedness they are determined to expose it and bring it to the light, and that which should be made public they proclaim publicly, even though it may have been learned secretly.

I am satisfied of the blindness that exists in many of those whom we call upon to officiate in different capacities in the church.

The High Council have been referred to to-day as among the number who are in the fog. The reason why I verily believe that they are in the fog is because the light of the Holy Ghost which is in our President tells us the fact, and faith comes by hearing the word of God.

The reason why I especially and particularly believe that our bishops are in the dark, is from the fact that the manifestation of the Almighty through the President of the Church reveals that fact to the people, and he gives us that revelation without making any special reserve therein, hence my faith.

If I had no other evidence, his testimony would be sufficient for me to predicate my faith upon.

The President's remarks gave a very special rebuke to certain councils, and more or less, to those who speak from this stand. He is not fond of the smoothness that some are delighted with. I am aware that the saints come here to listen, and that many of them are fond of smooth sayings and nicely turned periods, being pleased therewith as with a beautiful song; their ears are tickled and their fancies excited, but they go away without being vitally benefited.

We have to deal with the people of God, and we care but little about the ebbing and flowing of nations, when their ebbings and flowings do not particularly effect the saints of the Most High. We expect to see abominations and commotions abroad on the earth, but I do hope that the time has actually come when filth will be cleansed from the midst of Israel.

As a people we are right in principle, in doctrine, and in precepts, but are we all perfectly right in practice? This is a question which we should well examine and understand.

Do all the people practice righteousness? Do they all live their religion, and the principles that they have received? In other words, do all the people act according to what they understand? Do they do the best they know how? If they were all doing the best they know how, there would be no fault found with them, but I am satisfied that they are not, for if they were, the President would not stand up here and rebuke you. You are rebuked because you suffer yourselves to be led by the enemy into the fog, because the Spirit of God and the light of the Holy Ghost are not at all times upon you.

Last Sunday the President chastised some of the apostles and bishops who were on the grand jury. Did he fully succeed in clearing away the fog which surrounded them, and in removing blindness from their eyes? No, for they could go to their room and again disagree, though to their credit it must be admitted that a brief explanation made them unanimous in their action.

Not long ago I heard that in a certain case, the traverse jury were eleven against one, and what is more singular the one alone was right in his views of the case.

Several had got into the fog to suck and eat the filth of a gentile law court, ostensibly a court of Utah, though I call it a gentile court. Why? Because it does not magnify the laws of Utah as provided for in the "organic act," by which "act" and laws it alone exists as a court.

A brief examination will soon convince a person of only ordinary observation that the laws of Utah are not administered in our courts, and that the judges must know that fact, and that they have been seeking from the first, with but few exceptions, to overrule them.

Whether that course is prompted from the city of Washington, I know not. Our laws have been set at naught and walked under foot, and in lieu thereof a constant effort has been made to rule in common law, English law, and law after law totally inapplicable.

Do you suppose I respect persons who so conduct themselves? No, I do not. We have some gentiles here whom I respect. We had a Shaver whom I respected; he was a man, and a true

Virginian, well represented the chivalric spirit of the South, and sought the good of his country.

But when we have a set of politicians here, who can blow hot or cold to suit their own convenience, they can officiate as constables, jurors, marshals, judges and legislators; they can turn the law, create the law and execute the law to suit themselves. Do I respect them? No, and I am in hopes that some of their friends present will tell them so. (Voice, I do not know that they have any.)

They act as though they took it for granted that we were a set of ignoramuses, unacquainted with the usages of courts and unaware that they were setting aside our laws. They have sought to overthrow our laws, when there is not a law in force in Utah that will sanction their rulings, and you cannot bring an upright lawyer, one who actually understands his profession, but what will say that I am right. Every man, who is conversant with the laws of the United States and of Utah, will say so.

We do not find fault with the laws of our country, they are good, but we deprecate the acts of men who strive to trample upon them; men who are filled with gentile leaven, and we dislike that leaven and the fog which accompanies it.

We have a few whoremasters here; do you wish to know who they are? I can tell the first letters of their name, and I can tell where they have been practising their abominations in this city. And even some who profess to be "Mormons" are guilty of enticing and leading girls to prostitution, saying, "if you want a new dress you can get it very easily."

I have a gun and dirks in good order, and powder and lead, and am ready and able to make holes through such miserable corrupting rascals. These characters take 'Mormon' girls and debauch them, telling them that the United States will send their troops here, and that this people will be broken up and driven.

We are a part of the United States ourselves, most of us were raised in America, and we are all cradled in liberty, and if the United States desires to drench the earth with our blood we are on hand.

Who is afraid to die? None but the wicked. If they want to send troops here let them come to those who have imported filth and whores, though we can attend to that class without so much expense to the General Government; we can wipe them out cheaply and quickly, for they are only few in number.

They will threaten us with the U. S. troops! Why your impudence and ignorance would bring a blush to the cheeks of the veriest camp follower among them. We ask no odds of you, you rotten carcasses, and I am not agoing to bow one hair's breadth to your influence. I would rather be cut into inch pieces than succumb one particle to such filthiness.

I want the gentiles to understand that we know all about their whoredoms and other abominations here. If we have not invariably killed such corrupt scoundrels, those who will seek to corrupt and pollute our community, I swear to you that we mean to, and to accomplish more in a few hours, towards clearing the atmosphere, than all your grand and traverse juries can in a year.

There are a few professed 'Mormons' who, for a few dimes, wink at their iniquities and keep the poor, mean, lazy scamps in their houses, saying, "O, they are honorable men." I admit that there are a few honorable men here who are not in the church, some of whom I respect much.

This eternal threatening of us with the armies of the United States! I wonder what men think we are made of, when they threaten us! As if they expected that we were going to succumb to whoredom! If we were to establish a whorehouse on every corner of our streets, as in nearly all other cities outside of Utah, either by law or otherwise, we should doubtless then be considered good fellows.

If we were to allow gambling, drunkenness, and every species of wickedness, the 'Mormons' would then be all right, they would not then threaten us with the armies of the United States. O, no.

What is it that maddens the devils? Simply that we are determined to do right, and to set at defiance wickedness and wicked men, and to send them to hell across lots, as quick as we can.

I do not ask any odds of them myself, I never have. If they behave themselves as white men ought to behave, we will treat them as such.

The armies of our nation will have plenty to do without attending to us; they will need us to help them. Yes, instead of bringing their armies to fight the people in Utah, they will need Utah's armies to help them. They are threatening war in Kansas on the slavery question, and the General Government has already been called upon to send troops there. Well, all I have to say on that matter is, "success to both parties."

And in relation to the election of a Speaker in the House of Representatives at Washington, the North and South, the East and West have each other by the ears; "success to all parties," say I.

To send men here as spies to watch us! Curse the spies and those who send them, and all who sustain the system of whorehouses and the debauchery of the innocent and unsuspecting, and all who threaten that the United States are agoing to drive and kill the 'Mormons.'

Did you ever hear such a man as Judge Shaver threaten us with the United States? Did you ever hear Judge Reed do such a thing? No. Or Millard Fillmore, or Andrew Jackson? No, such men would scorn to threaten an innocent people with the armies of the nation.

Have we been disloyal to our country? Have we in one instance violated her laws? No. Have we rejected her institutions? No. We are law-

ful and loyal citizens of the government of the United States, and a few poor, miserable pusillanimous, rotten, stinking rebels, come here and threaten us with the armies of the United States. We wish all such characters to understand that if the generals and armies and those who wish to send them, are as corrupt as those who threaten us, and as vile as most of those heretofore sent here, we defy them, and the sooner we come in contact with them the better. These are my feelings every time, on that point.

As for you miserable, sleepy Mormons, who say to those wretches, "give us your dimes, and you shall have our wheat, and our daughters, only give us your dimes and you shall have this, that, and the other," I not only wish but pray, in the name of Israel's God, that the time was come in which to unsheath the sword, like Moroni of old, and to cleanse the inside of the platter and we would not wait for the decision of grand or traverse juries, but we would walk into you and completely use up every curse who will not go right.

We are speaking against none who are good, they have our protection; but against those who are evil. We have many good friends who are not members of our church, but when men come and threaten us with the armies of the United States, and under that color seek to practice every kind of debauchery, telling a young girl that "we are going to be destroyed, and for that reason she had better forsake the 'Mormon' church and make merchandise of her body," to serve their vile purposes, poor, miserable devils, what ought you to expect?

I wish the saints to see and understand men and things as they are, if they have any judgment and eye sight. I could give you a list of the practices I have been speaking of, and of the names of the men engaged in them. If we love salvation and liberty and must fight for them, let us fight, and they will find that the 'Mormons' are on hand to die, those who are right, and what would be the use of living, if we cannot have our rights? If we are to be driven, as we have hitherto been, the sooner we die the better; and the sooner we kill a poor set of miserable devils, the better for those who remain.

I wish all the saints to do right, and as for those who will not, my prayer is "that they may all go hellwards, the way Ward's ducks went."

May God bless those who do right, and enable them to break in pieces wickedness and put it down, that we may be saved; I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH & LIBERTY.



Public Lecture.

Professor A. CARRINGTON will lecture before the Deseret Typographical and Press Association on FRIDAY evening, 14th inst., in the SOCIAL HALL.

Members with their families, and the public generally are invited to attend.

Doors open at half past 6. Lecture to commence at 7 o'clock.

Admission free.

CALIFORNIA BARLEY is much wanted for seed. Any one having or knowing of any for sale, will confer a favor by reporting at the Governor's office.

Fair-Weather Disciples.

Were it not for the concurrent testimony of all history and experience, it would seem strange that persons, whose judgments have been thoroughly informed and convinced of the strict truthfulness of a particular course of conduct, should through the force of trifling obstacles and slight hardships swerve from the path of rectitude. But such is the daily experience of this probation; such it has been from the beginning, and such it will be, at least until the good are separated from the bad.

To give this probation requisite force, the spirit of man is so intimately connected with the body, and the body partakes so much of its earthly nature through which the enemy has power, that it behooves every one to keep constant watch, or the whisperings of the "still small voice" will be drowned by the war of passion and the allurements to evil. For this reason hundreds, who run well for a time, prove recreant to their faith, and before one is fully aware of their real feelings they are off on a tangent, overcome by the enemy of souls.

Little by little, as prosperity dawned upon them, as gentle peace surrounded them and the smart of the scorpion lash of mobs ceased to be writhed under, they neglected first one duty and then another, until their vision passed from the twilight caused by minor errors into the deep darkness induced by gross transgression. Then they are prepared to put error for truth and truth for error. They cannot even see through a glass darkly, slight the counsels of their best friends, set at naught or get angry at the rebukes of the priesthood, and discern not the hand-dealing and kind providences of the Almighty in adversity as well as in prosperity.

The Lord has gathered his people into these peaceful vales, a place by nature and location un-

desired by the wicked, that he may teach them more thoroughly the plan of salvation, and prove more definitely their integrity where there are none to molest. After deliverance from oppression, after years of prosperity and the enjoyment of the rich blessings of heaven and earth, the Lord in his wisdom sent the drouth, the devourer, the cold and the deep snow. Before their touch green fields were turned to dreary wastes, the expectations of the husbandman were cut off, the grain became exhausted from the store-house, and the animals perished through lack of food.

Was this a time in which to pale the cheek through fear and prove recreant to the faith? Is it not rather a time of encouragement and thanksgiving, that the Lord should deem us worthy of being proved by such sudden contrasts and transitions? For "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son and daughter whom he receiveth." Then no truly wise person will give way to despondency, waste time in useless regrets, or barter his salvation for a "mess of pottage" by fleeing to other climes. Verily no, but I will the more anxiously study and practise strict economy in the use of that portion of food which has fallen within his stewardship, dispense thereof to the worthy destitute, so far as within his power, and put forth every reasonable exertion for the accomplishment of the purposes designed in our being so secluded, so far removed from the abominations not of our own working.

This therefore is a choice time for developing many traits of those who have and those who have not sustenance in store, the full fed being allured to withhold through fear of want, and those illy provided for being tempted to covet, find fault, murmur and deny the faith. It is easy to comprehend that such is the case, provided one has "eyes with which to see things as they are," a great blessing which our President expressed an anxious desire that he could bestow upon us, but is unable from the fact that it is only attainable by an individual's living in obedience to the commandments of God. It is having or not having just such eyesight, living obedient or disobedient, which constitutes the difference between true saints and 'fair-weather disciples,' between those who stand firm for right and the time-serving, between those who will obtain a full celestial reward and those who will come more or less short of their fancied anticipations.

The present is rather a hard time for 'fair-weather disciples,' and we trust that the fan will measurably cleanse the threshing floor, that our moral atmosphere may constantly grow clearer, and that faith and good works may continually increase. Through this hope we rejoice in the lightnings and thunders of truth as it emanates from the First Presidency of the Church, and begin to be assured that the time is not far distant when 'fearfulness will surprise the hypocrite in Zion,' and when false colors cannot abide the test.

THE CONVENTION, to be held on Monday next, 17th inst., in the Council House in this city, for the purpose of forming and adopting a State constitution, electing delegates to Washington, &c., it is presumed will not be forgotten by those entitled to seats therein, and that each member thereof will come prepared to aid in planning and adopting the measures best calculated to promote the speedy admission of Utah into the Union as a State, a position so justly her due.

Advertising.

Readers of the 'News' and those wishing to advertise will be pleased with the alteration of prices for the insertion of advertisements, as made known under the appropriate heading on page 8. A comparison of the new and old rates will show that two insertions will cost the same as heretofore, but beyond that number the rate is now higher. This method gives new advertisements a reduction of fifty cents on the first insertion, and adds fifty for the third and each subsequent insertion, thus directly benefiting the advertising community, and at the same time accommodating the readers by tending to check off old advertisements, which lumber columns uselessly, as they are seldom if ever read.

There are some business men who wish regular advertisements, and we call their attention to the very reasonable rates established for that department.

ANOTHER HERALD OF TRUTH.—It ever gives us much pleasure to announce contemporaries on the side of right in the arduous struggle against wrong. For this reason we print in full the "Prospectus of the Western Standard," feeling well assured that our tried and worthy fellow-laborer, Elder George Q. Cannon, will at least equal if not exceed the expectations induced by the rich bill of fare, as set forth in the Prospectus, will write and cater mental aliment adapted to