

Mormonism From a Woman's Standpoint.

"G." writes from Salt Lake City to the Washington Chronicle in this way—

The covenant of marriage in the Mormon ceremony is one of polygamy, as parties first entering into these covenants solemnly vow to keep all the ordinances of their church (the most prominent feature of which is polygamy) equally with those who make the same vows a short time after.

Then, there is a little difference between a marriage contracted in the civilized world, between parties where polygamy is never thought of or tolerated and a marriage contracted in an isolated community, where polygamy is the prevailing custom of the country, and where a man openly avows himself a Mormon and a polygamist before marrying at all. Hence women marrying Mormon men know their fate beforehand, and whether they are first or last to enter this state of conjugal bliss they understand that polygamy is its conditions.

When we investigate the systems of the day—throughout the civilized world—so false and so corrupt, we are led to exclaim, "Where is truth and purity to be found?" That it is to be found in the hearts of thousands of these noble Mormon women, whose lives are daily sacrifices, and whose many virtues are apparent to all unprejudiced observers, I do most solemnly attest, and with a spirit of submission equal to our blessed Savior's, when he prayed, "Let this cup pass from me," have many thousands of women kissed the rod (polygamy), because they thought they saw the divine hand holding it, and with His childlike trust have they said: "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him." It is this element in the Mormon woman's nature that I would have recognized by the intelligent everywhere. The truly intelligent are not given to prejudiced opinions, but will see truth when it is shown them, and are just as willing to do justice to the Mormons as to any other sect. Credit where credit is due is their motto, and sincerity commands respect, even when we cannot agree with its cause.

That the Mormon women have been sincere in their religious zeal is proved by their sacrifice (I wish I could say as much for the men), and that Mormon women to-day is the spiritual power in the Mormon church any candid observer can see. When it comes to a test of faith in principle, it is the women who have been able to stand the test. Men are very apt to weaken and retreat when their only support comes from religion; being made of more material stuff than women, they rely more upon outward than inward strength.

Remarkable Disappearance of Georgia Lakes.

A third lake in Lowndes county has been emptied of its waters by subterranean passages during the last six months. What is the matter? The Times has several times alluded to the fact that Lowndes county had within its borders numbers of lakes, from ten to five hundred (and several beyond a thousand) acres in size, and can it be that these lakes are connected with a grand underground water course? It seems so. In September last one dried up, or ran off, and left bushes upon bushes of fish in holes of water about upon the bottom of the lake. In January another, about five miles from this did, the same thing, and now Grassy Pond, a lake covering about five hundred acres, just between the two above mentioned, has left its millions of fishes out of the water. About three weeks ago it was reported that the waters of this lake were sinking below low water mark, and every day or two we would hear that it was still going down. Last Friday a report spread all over the country like wildfire that Grassy Pond was low enough to rake the fish out with nets, and by sundown more than one hundred people had collected at the place. Some had dip nets, some cast nets, and there was one seine in the party. The first haul with the seine caught enough trout, jack, bream and speckle perch to make a "mess" for every one present. During that night all the water disappeared and there were millions of fish left dead upon dry

land. Saturday, next day, the planters hitched up their wagons and hauled load after load and scattered them in their fields for manure; and thousands were left at the mercy of buzzards, hogs and other creatures of prey. Such quantities of fish and such destruction has never been known in the history of Lowndes county. No one ever dreamed that there was half that quantity of fish in Grassy Pond, though it was celebrated for its fine fishing grounds in the spring of the year. The other two lakes above mentioned did not thus completely dry, and the fish that were not caught were saved by the water returning in a few days from its hidden retreat in the bosom of the earth. We learn that Grassy Pond is filling up again, but it is too late to save the finny tribe. These statements are not at all exaggerated, and can be testified to by several hundred people living in this county, though it is marvelous to all.—Valdosta (Ga.) Times.

New King of Palestine.

Students of the philosophy of history very generally conclude that the Turks will not long be allowed to remain in Europe. The semi-independent tribes now inhabiting a part of the continent included in the map of Turkey are gradually encroaching, and it is believed that, with Constantinople as an independent city, no European power would seek or be able to incorporate in its own dominions the present domains of the Sick Man. The Greeks, the Herzegovinians, the Montenegrins and the Servian races will not tolerate the presence of the Mohammedans, and the latter must retreat into Asia. But in Asia itself the sway of the Turks may possibly be curtailed. The theory that the Jews are bound to reoccupy Palestine is supported by many traditions, and the hopes of the Jewish people of a realization of their dream never waver. Sir Moses Montefiore has for twenty years supported a Jewish colony in Palestine. Rumor reports that Baron de Rothschild, the head of the great family of that name, has had an interview with the Sultan, and proposed that for a consideration his house would pay off the debt lately almost repudiated by the Ottoman Porte. We read a few days ago that Turkey was offering 18 per cent. interest and found it difficult to raise any money even on these exorbitant terms. The Rothschild conditions for paying the Turkish debt are that the house should have the security of the gross revenue of the Imperial domain, the absolute property of Vokouf where there are very rich mines that could, very profitably, be worked at small cost, and besides a feudal tenure of a great part of Palestine, Jerusalem included, with the recognized title of Rothschild, the first, King of the Jews.

The story of the Rothschild scheme may be absolutely without foundation, and, indeed, it has been scouted in some quarters as supremely ridiculous. It is curious, at least, and in that view worth noticing, and it can furthermore be shown that it is supported by some elements of probability. Syria and Palestine have been laid waste by famine and pestilence, the people being too poor to furnish irrigation, and the bad policy of past ages in stripping off the forests having terminated the rainfall. The Turkish tithe farmers have exacted so much in the way of taxes that the inhabitants could not cultivate the soil. An energetic and industrious people like the Jews would soon turn the desert into a garden. A strong and friendly government in Asia Minor would be an able ally to Britain against Muscovite aggressions, even if Russia was supported by all the Mohammedan nations in the vicinity. Britain could defy Russian invasion of North-western India, as the Russians would have to traverse great deserts to get at the borders of the territory controlled by Britain.

Mr. Disraeli is credited with favoring the scheme of a Jewish kingdom. He certainly has no expectation of seeing England lose India. The visit of the Prince of Wales to the East, the purchase of Suez Canal shares, and the creation of the Queen's new title, are all indications of his Indian policy. With Mr. Disraeli's Jewish descent, and his views upon the retention of India, it would be a great event if the return of his people to their own land should take place during his

incumbency. The tottering state of Turkey and the indifference of England to its fall are suggestive. That the British Government is anxiously awaiting a crisis in Turkish affairs to proclaim a British protectorate of the Jews in Palestine is firmly believed in by the great body of the Jews resident not only in England but permeates all Jewish society, not only in Berlin, where they are so powerful, but through Russian as well as Prussian Poland. In Vienna, where they are very numerous, and even in Constantinople, where their numbers surpass even the Turks, the belief is universal that perhaps within this present year the Jewish restoration will be effected.—London (Canada) Western Advertiser, Mar. 31.

Wonderland.

One Judge Cousins having written a book called, "Wonderland" descriptive of what he saw in Arizona, has since, in connection with Capt. Somebody been lecturing in Boston and other eastern cities and has organized a colony to settle in this county. Forty-five young men constituting the advance guard are now on their way to the Little Colorado where they propose to locate homes for themselves and some hundreds of men, women and children who are to follow them.

We have not learned what branch of business these colonists intend to pursue, but unless they come sufficiently stocked with greenbacks to erect their own machinery, build houses and fences, and support themselves at least a year without any income, until they can raise a crop, we cannot see how they are to make it profitable or even comfortable. They can erect saw mills and make any amount of lumber in the Mogollons, but beyond the amount needed by themselves they will probably be puzzled to find a market, so also of the products of any other factories they may establish.

As we have repeatedly said, Arizona is a good country for the judicious investment of capital by companies or individuals, but we doubt its capacity to sustain large colonies of people having a common interest in business. The valleys are too small and we think it will be found by experience that the better plan will be for each family to look out for itself.

There are hundreds of small valleys where from one to half a dozen farms can be made that will produce equal to any in America, but even these are often cut up by dry washes and gravelly districts that are worthless, so that a colony of half a dozen families would find themselves separated and occupying lands quite different in quality.

We certainly hope these colonists may find what they have been promised in "wonderland," and that they may flourish in worldly affairs, establish churches, schools, theatres, etc., and become a rich, happy and intelligent people, zealous in good works, but fear they will find many obstacles in the way of maintaining a colonial organization.—Arizona Miner.

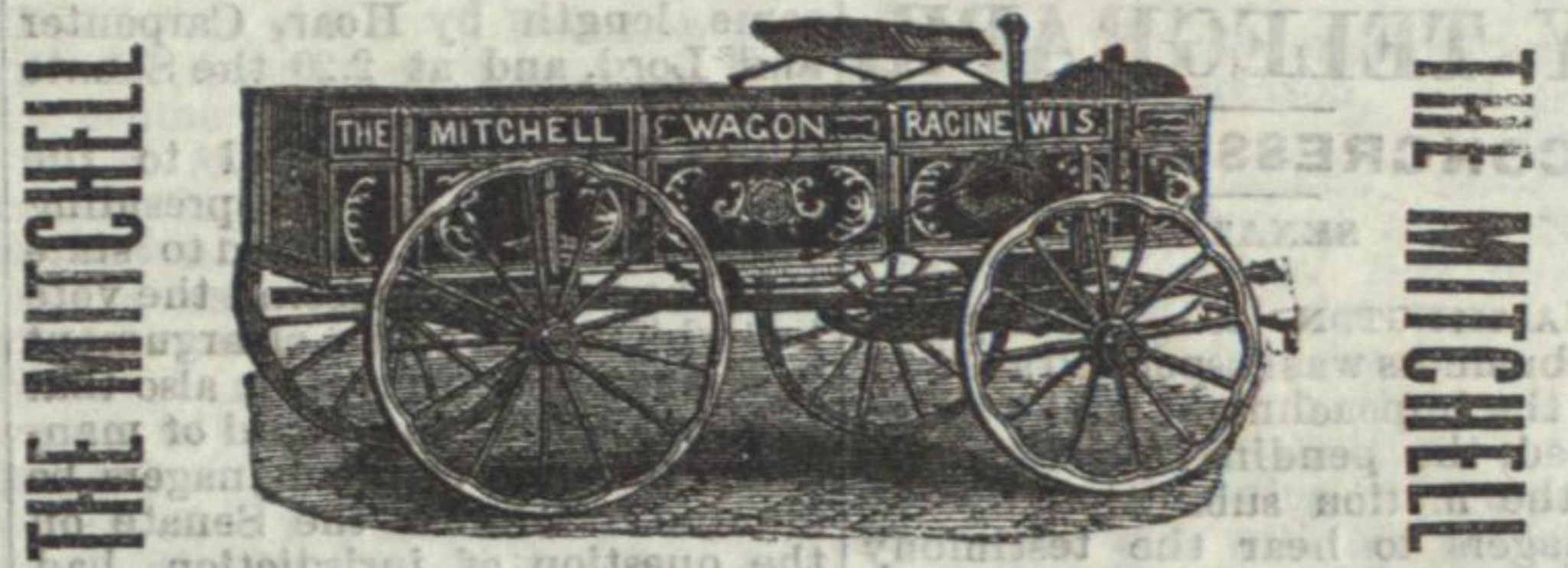
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