

EDITORIALS.

AN ILLINOIS EDITOR'S VIEWS.

We have received a number of papers from Illinois containing accounts of the visit recently made by a party of editors from that State. They all speak well of this city and its surroundings, but they were, unfortunately, "stuffed" most unmercifully by those pleasant gentlemen (?) who make it a business to fill up tourists with anti-"Mormon" legends and libels. Some of the editors, however, took an impartial view of our people and affairs, and we clip the following from the Kankakee Gazette, as a sample of the opinions of one who tried to relate what he saw for himself:

"Salt Lake will surprise those who have thought of it simply as the headquarters of Mormonism, when it is a live, business city of probably 25,000 people and the centre of an extensive outlying trade. Its streets are eight rods wide, asphalt sidewalks are found, the electric light throws its glaring light—some of the stores would do credit to Chicago in their ornamental construction and the extent and variety of their stocks, the hotels are large and well-furnished, many of the private dwellings are modern in style, expensive in construction, rich in internal fitting and elegant in outward surroundings, while the public buildings and "church property" are in keeping with the possession and profuse use of wealth. Living water from the surrounding mountains, flows along the side of the streets and furnishes the means of irrigation which give a constant bloom to trees, shrubbery and vegetation. But the alkaline dust! We wish we could forget it, but its penetrating properties and abundance will keep it in remembrance long after its disagreeable effects have passed. The Lord, or good judgment in a locating band, surely led "the saints" to a locality that is attractive now whatever its original condition may have been, concerning which, by the way, "the saints" and "the gentiles" disagree, as they do about most other matters. The excursion party attended services at "the tabernacle" Sunday afternoon, where, it is suspected, a really able and logical sermon, from the Mormon standpoint, was preached for their especial benefit by one of the bishops of the church. It put the peculiar doctrines of the sect in its most favorable light, though it probably failed to change the opinions of a single hearer.

In regard to the subject of "Mormonism," he discourses as follows, and although making some mistakes has evidently tried to speak impartially:

A problem which has troubled the wisest and best men of the nation who are familiar with all its aspects, and is still troubling them, cannot be solved in a three days observation by a stranger who has given it nothing but a general attention. Yet there were some facts obtained which may be of interest to others. First, the number of polygamists is generally over-rated. The Gentile authorities do not place the number over 10 per cent, and some intelligent Mormons place it at less. It is rare to find any man among the polygamists with more than two wives. All the Mormons believe in a plurality of wives, though most of them find it either convenient or desirable to confine themselves to one. They defend the system by the Old Testament, just as they have built their church upon that part of the Bible. We found among the opponents of the Mormon Church less complaint about this peculiar feature than some others. Time, it is argued, will eradicate it. The strongest complaint was the claim of the predominance of the Church over the State where the edicts or doctrines of the Church come into conflict with the laws of the State. Another complaint was the entire exclusion of the Gentile portion from any participation in the civil administration of the affairs of the Territory when a popular vote chooses the officers. The feeling between the two sects (for really there are only two sects—Mormons and anti-Mormons, and the remark is common that Utah is the only place where a Jew is a Gentile,) is very bitter, and extends to social intercourse and relations. We found, however, more of this bitterness on the part of the Gentiles

than the Mormons, perhaps because we came more in contact with the Gentiles and heard more free expressions of feeling. The Edmunds bill is not regarded with much favor by the federal officers in Utah, and it is not believed it provides an adequate remedy for the evils it designs to cure. Indeed, we do not ourselves see how any remedy in the power of congress which would be satisfactory to them can be effective unless the territorial government is abolished and the territory put under the control of a gentile commission. So long as the territorial legislature and the municipal officers of the territory are elected by a popular vote the power which controls local legislation will remain in the Mormons. Mormonism, as it now exists in Utah, is certainly an uncongenial element in our republican government, but whether such an extreme measure as depriving any community of all political rights, is desirable we do not undertake to say. The problem, in its varied aspects, is a hard one to solve, and with what we have said we leave it. No one can question the sincerity of the belief of the mass of the Mormons, or their thorough devotion to their Church and its interests. They regard themselves as a persecuted people, and hold their faith with a tenacity inspired by a belief that they are persecuted for righteousness sake. They use their political power as other communities would where a similar condition exists and where a majority is on their side. A gentile majority would soon change conditions, but that kind of a majority does not now exist, and as long as the agricultural emigration, which is chiefly Mormon, continues larger than all other classes of emigrants, there is no prospect of a change. In this as in many other cases it is easier to see and deplore an evil than devise and enforce a remedy which shall be just to all parties involved."

THE "MORMON PROBLEM."

FACTS AND FIGURES:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, READ AND PONDER.

My readers must not confound nor associate in their minds the thousands of upright, honorable non-"Mormons" in Utah, with the small ring of soulless and utterly unprincipled local anti-"Mormons," whose acts, sayings and fruits are as antipodal to every sentiment of truth, charity, probity and honor, as the north and south poles are distinct and apart; with the natural, scriptural, logical, philosophical and honorable sentiments, acts, fruits and general conduct of the Latter-day Saints and "Mormonism;" for we would not in the remotest sense associate, in thought or word, these two distinct classes of "outsiders" in the same category.

The United States census of 1880 classifies the population of Utah as follows:

Mormons	120,283
Gentiles	14,156
Apostate Mormons	6,488
Josephites	829
Miscellaneous or doubtful	1,716
Total	143,963

Mormons	120,283
Gentiles (under 12 per cent)	14,156

OR AGAIN.

Mormons	120,283
Non-Mormons (under 17 per cent)	23,680
About 49,000, or one-third, of the Mormons are over 21 years old.	
About 7,500 of the Gentiles (or 15 per cent) compared with the Mormons, are over 21 years old.	
About 37,000 of the "Mormons" are of foreign birth.	

With this preface, I would like to submit some FACTS for the thoughtful readers of the NEWS, and it may not be inapt to present them in the form of a series of pertinent categorical queries, the answer to which can be vouched for by the records and verified by the unperjured attestations of any respectable man and woman who has lived in Utah 5 years or upwards, and who has used his eyes and ears.

Who raise the cereals, vegetables, fruits and flowers so abundant in Utah? The "Mormons."

Who planted the countless trees, shrubs and plants, seen on every hand, and opened and maintained a water course to every one of these numberless trees, shrubs and plants, the untold labors of a united and happy people? The "Mormons."

Who laid out and made the Territorial, County and City and Cañon roads, built the bridges, killed the snakes, placated and subdued the Indians, and gardenized the arid wastes? The "Mormons."

Who own the many thousand

farms and ranches, and have made the vast improvements seen in every valley at a cost of many millions? The "Mormons."

Who own the almost numberless flocks and herds of sheep and kine and horses and mules, and who have imported at great expense the valuable thoroughbreds and grades of all these animals? The "Mormons."

Who own the principal merchantile and banking houses, grain and feed and notion houses, art galleries, tailoring and millinery, music, sewing machine and furniture houses? The "Mormons."

Who own the principal tineries, plumbries, stone and marble quarries, lime and brick kilns, iceries, theatre, museum, butcher shops, green groceries, coaleries, fisheries, and legitimate pleasure resorts? The "Mormons."

Who are the principal builders and contractors, druggists, gas-fitters, plumbers, artists, farmers, mechanics, freighters, common laborers, etc? The "Mormons."

Who own 90 odd per cent of all the school and meeting houses, temples and tabernacles, printing and publishing houses, book binderies etc? The "Mormons."

Who in Utah are the sole producers, and who live in 95 per cent. of their own houses and on their own lands, and are steadily following the peaceful pursuits of industry, economy, sobriety, etc? The "Mormons."

Who so steadfastly mind their own business, and let their neighbors alone? The "Mormons."

Who graded and tied 1,200 miles of the trans-continental and local railroads, and built 1,000 miles of the first trans-continental telegraph lines and some 1,600 miles of local telegraph lines and introduced into Utah the first telephones and phonographs? The "Mormons."

Who for a great many years protected the United States mails and overland travel from Indian depredations and white brigandage? The "Mormons."

Who built and own the street railways, gas and water works, etc? The "Mormons."

Who own the woolen and cotton mills and factories, boot and shoe soap, broom and match factories, tanneries, machine and carpenter shops, smithies, grain, flour, lumber, shingle, lath and planing mills, bakeries, confectioneries, etc., in Utah? The "Mormons."

Who laid out, established and built up this beautiful city and her 200 and odd sister cities, towns and villages? The "Mormons."

Who made the opening and practical working of the Utah mines possible and comparatively easy? The "Mormons."

Who made it practically possible to open up the mining and other industries of the neighboring States and Territories, west and north of us? The "Mormons."

Who own the mines and smelters and other mining industries of Utah? For the most part non-resident non-"Mormons."

The interests held in the mining pursuits by Utah people are very largely in the hands of gentlemanly non-"Mormons," who understand and appreciate the eminently good qualities of the "Mormon" people.

Who, without let-up, shamefully vilify the "Mormons" and abuse everybody who does not side with them? The anti-"Mormons."

Who, in Utah, are the speculators, dead-beats, litigants, agitators, conspirators, premium truth-economizers, maligners, nullifiers, lie-breeder, and to a man, non-producers? The anti-Mormon phobias.

Who are in practical possession of the city prisons, county jails, penitentiary, gin mills, breweries, gambling dens, bowling alleys, pool tables, brothels, assignation houses and kindred institutions? The anti-Mormons.

Who have the unenviable local reputation of being the most lecherous, profane, perjurious, drunken, and lawless and who commit the greatest number of homicides and other crimes in Utah? The anti-Mormons.

Who favor and promote lawful wedlock and the raising of healthy and beautiful children to the "honor and glory of God" and of the nation; and detest and oppose with the supreme sentiments of their beings, the prevailing laxity of morals seen in the social evil, free love and kindred malignant sexual disorders so universal throughout Christendom? The "Mormons."

Who oppose child-bearing and "forbid to marry," and favor and encourage by precept and practice, bastardy, infanticide, brothels, promiscuity, divorce and every species of diabolism? The anti-Mormons.

What Territory, according to the U. S. census and other sources of official information, and the ratio of population has by far the fewest sinks of corruption and dens of vice? Utah.

What Territory, according to the U. S. census and other sources of official information and ratio of population, has the fewest number of insane, idiotic, illiterate, drunken persons, with kindred tendencies, habits and conditions of body and mind? Utah.

What Territory, according to the U. S. census and other sources of information and the ratio of population, has the fewest number of paupers, convicts, homicides, suicides, infanticides, divorces, etc? Utah.

What Territory, according to the U. S. census and other sources of official information and the ratio of population, has the greatest number of day schools, Sabbath schools and school attendants, churches, printing, publishing, bookbinding establishment, and kindred institutions? Utah.

Visitors should be invited to bask themselves to the foothills overlooking the city, valley and lake, notice the millions of trees, shrubs, plants, flowers and the general vegetation which abound as far as the eye reaches, and recall this FACT, that the miles and miles of canals, dykes, ditches, aqueducts and minor waterways which convey the life fluid to every single one of these trees, shrubs, plants and flowers, etc., were built and kept in unceasing repair by "Mormon" hands, perpetually incurring untold labor, patience and perseverance. Then recall this additional FACT, that all this labor, etc., of which you behold the gigantic fruits, are duplicated in the other valleys of Utah, aggregating a great number of flourishing cities, towns, hamlets, rancheros and farms, with an estimated gross valuation of \$60,000,000.

Keep before them this further FACT, that the "Mormons" have made nearly every material local and general improvement, and that nearly all of them are practical producers, being farmers, mechanics and solid citizens. They are eminently law-abiding, industrious, temperate and peaceable. They are here to stay, and expect to have to develop every undeveloped material industry and improvement yet to be made in Utah.

Let them further know that many of the non-"Mormons" of Utah are ladies and gentlemen, and are not anti-"Mormons," but are the friends of the "Mormons;" also that the anti-"Mormons" have not come here to stay; that they own but very little property and pay comparatively no taxes; that they are mostly speculators, middlemen and consumers, and not producers; and as the bottom falls out of their speculations, they sicken and leave the Territory, and that notwithstanding their numerical weakness, their ranks have furnished nearly 80 per cent. of all the convicts in the penitentiary, county jails, and city prisons.

LAUS DEO.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

The Alabama Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was held near Moscow, Lamar County, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 11th, 12th and 13th. There were present on the stand John Morgan, President of the Southern States Mission; John Robertson, President of the Alabama Conference; N. W. Haws, M. A. Empey, Z. K. Judd, B. L. Bowen, O. L. Mayhew, Wm. M. Rydall, Geo. W. Bramwell, Jr., Traveling Elders in said conference, and E. W. McBride, President of the Miss Conference; Joseph S. Clarke, S. D. Moore and J. B. Fairbanks, Traveling Elders in the Mississippi Conference.

Friday 10.30 a. m.

After the usual opening exercises President Robertson explained that the object of the conference was to counsel together and strengthen each other, spoke on the principle of revelation, and the plan of the organization of the Church in the days of the Saviour.

Elder Bowen read the 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians said it was necessary to have charity in order to serve God, spoke on the several principles of the Gospel and bore a faithful testimony.

Prest. Morgan spoke on the power of God. Singing and benediction.

Saturday, 10 a. m.

Meeting was opened in the usual manner.

Elder Empey spoke concerning spiritual gifts, reading a portion of the 12th chapter of First Corinthians.

Elder McBride spoke concerning the kingdom of God, showing what the plan and organization of the kingdom was, as laid down in the holy scriptures.

Elder Rydall spoke concerning the principle of repentance. Singing and benediction.

2.30 p. m.

After the usual opening exercises,

Elder Moore spoke on the plan of the organization of the Church of Christ in the days of the apostles, and compared it with the different denominations of the present age.

Elder Mayhew bore a faithful testimony to the work of God, as revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith.

President Morgan delivered a powerful discourse on the Kingdom of God. Showed that it was taken from the earth soon after the days of the Apostles; quoted from the prophecies of Daniel in relation to the latter-day kingdom. Singing and benediction.

Sunday, 10.30 a. m.

After the usual devotional exercises, President Robertson presented the general authorities of the Church, as they were sustained at the last semi-annual conference of the Church, who were unanimously sustained.

Elder John Morgan was sustained as President of the Southern Mission. John Robertson was sustained as President of the Alabama Conference.

The following were sustained as Traveling Elders in the Alabama Conference: N. W. Haws, M. A. Empey, J. B. Fairbanks, B. L. Bowen and O. L. Mayhew. N. W. Haws was sustained as clerk of the conference.

Elder Bramwell spoke on the organization of the Church of Christ, and showed that the signs followed the believer.

Elder Judd spoke of the position which the Elders occupied; showed that the Saints enjoyed the spirit of God, and that the truth in all ages of the world was persecuted.

President Morgan took up the organization of the Church; referred to the 12th chapter of First Corinthians, showing that the different officers spoken of therein were necessary in the Church of Christ. Singing and benediction.

Sunday, 2.30 p. m.

Meeting opened with the usual services.

Elder Clark bore his testimony to the truth of the work in which he was engaged.

Elder Fairbanks spoke on the principle of faith, showing that the faith enjoyed by the ancient Saints was the faith required in the present dispensation of the gospel.

Elder Haws read a portion of the 11th chapter of Hebrews, and commented on the same, and bore his testimony to the gospel.

Prest. Robertson made a few closing remarks, thanked the people for their kind attention and good attendance during the Conference.

Conference was adjourned. Singing. Benediction was pronounced by Prest. Morgan.

N. W. Haws, clerk.

ITEMS FROM SUMMIT COUNTY.

COALVILLE, August 22nd, 1882.

Editor Deseret News:

The black diamonds are not played out yet, although there is small demand for them; but this is the "slack" season, so we are content to wait for hard weather and turn our attention to other matters. The principal one is our Stake House, which is up within a few feet of the square, and will soon be ready for the roof, which we expect to get completed before winter.

A very enjoyable affair took place here a few days ago which is worthy of mention, because they are too rare. The Coalville choir planned and carried to a happy success a surprise upon their leaders, Brothers J. W. Simister and Thomas B. Ard. Thursday evening was the regular time for the practice meeting. During the day everything had been prepared, and imagine Brother Simister's surprise on opening the meeting-house door, to see some 120 guests seated