

Tooele, or San Pete, or Box Elder, or in any other of our settlements, before they begin to feel that there is no people like the people in the place where they are living. I do not mean Bishop Warren Snow, for it will not hit him, no but it will hit lots, I don't mean Lot Smith, but I mean that it will hit many.

I am national in one respect; I am strongly in favor of the house of Israel and of all good men and women of every nation, clime and country, for they are of my kindred and have sprung from the same Father and God that I have. But, as br. James W. Cummings said when speaking about them, do I love the wicked? Yes, I love them inasmuch that I wish they were in hell, that is, a great many of them, for that is the best wish I can wish them. And those that killed Joseph and Hyrum and David W. Patten and other Patriarchs and Prophets, I wish they were in hell; though I need not wish that, for in one sense they are in hell all the time; and if they have not literally gone down into hell they will go there, as the Lord God lives, every one of them and every man that consented to the acts those murderers performed. That is loving the wicked, to send them there to hell to be burnt out until they are purified. Yes, they shall go there and stay there and be burnt, like an old pipe that stinks with long usage and corruption, until they are burnt out, and then their spirits may be saved in the day of God Almighty. It is my feelings that they may be damned for their awful iniquity in shedding innocent blood, as also all who sanction their acts, both men and women, together with all who associate with them and partake of their spirit, for that spirit is opposite to God and his servants.

As br. Brigham has said, I can say that every word is true that br. James has spoken. God bless him and fill him with the Spirit of righteousness, that the power of God may be upon him; and God bless every good man and woman; the blessings of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob shall be upon them, and you cannot help it. We will arise and live our religion and serve our God; instead of running down into degradation we will regenerate ourselves.

Brethren, do listen to what I said here a few weeks ago. It was spoken in plainness, but it has gone from my mind and I am glad of it, for through tradition and human weakness I presume I should feel bad, if I could think what I did say. It was the truth of God, and it laid the ax at the roots of trees, for I told you where you were corrupting yourselves. You are corrupting yourselves where? In the root. Now let us take a course and pursue the other path and go on unto perfection, unto the restitution, and go back to God from whom we sprung.

Does the Lord hear me when I pray to him? Yes, I do not know that I ever asked him in earnest for a thing that was right, but what I received an answer from him. I know that he lives; I know that his Son Jesus Christ lives; I know that the Holy Ghost lives; and I know that the angels of God live. I know that Joseph, Hyrum, Willard and Jedediah, and all other good men who have died in the faith, live and associate with those who held the priesthood before they did. And they are with br. Brigham and with us, and will be with us for ever, for we never will be separated, and I know it. I know that, br. Brigham, just as well as I know that I see this people to-day; and I shall be with you and we will have a happy time when we meet Joseph and Hyrum and Willard and Jedediah and father Smith; will not the old gentleman be jolly? Yes, for he always was, and he will be more so in proportion to the greater light and knowledge he has. Those are the men we are going to meet with, also with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, three of the old polygamists.

Do you suppose that Joseph and Hyrum and all those good men would associate with those ancient worthies, if they had not been engaged in the same practices? They had to do the works of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in order to be admitted where they are; they had to be polygamists in order to be received into their society. God knows that I am not ashamed of those good men now, and how much more I shall prize my associate polygamists, when I am further advanced in knowledge, I do not know. I am talking in earnest, and from the experience I have had.

I know the character of the human family and the course that many men and women are taking; they are making a desolation and taking a course to bring destruction upon their root; they are following a course that would ultimately depopulate the earth. All will come to that, if they do not take a course of continual increase for ever and for ever.

How long do you suppose it will take a little man like me, though I feel perfectly able to thrash any six common wicked men, if I am faithful in keeping the commandments of God and true all the days of my life to my brethren, as I have been hitherto and mean to be more so, to get into the celestial kingdom of God with my whole posterity, in case there should be no obstruction? How long do you suppose it will be before my posterity increases to over a million? A hundred years will not pass away before I will become millions myself. You may go to work and reckon it up, and twenty-five years will not pass away before br. Brigham and I will number more than this whole Territory. Now, if that number proceeds from us, I tell you our roots are fruitful. Take away every cause of death to those roots and nourish them and cherish them, and they will increase and you cannot help yourselves. In 25 or 30 years we will have a larger number in our two families than there now is in this whole Territory, which numbers more than seventy-five thousand. If twenty-five years will produce this amount of people, how much will be the increase in one hundred years? We could

not number them, or if we did sum up the amount to any given time, they are still on the increase.

But some of you are taking a course to spend your lives for nought, while br. Brigham and I are becoming like Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and the Prophets. Why do you not be profitable to yourselves and put out your lives to usury? Do you understand me? That is the principle I love to talk about, and I would just as soon talk about it here to-day, before you, as in the chimney corner. Some say that I am vulgar, but I never spoke a word of vulgarity here. Those who are vulgar receive my language as such, but the pure never received it so. To those who are pure, all things are pure; and to those who are vulgar, all things are vulgar.

I have not spoken vulgarly, but have spoken of the acts wherein some have degraded themselves in the eyes of heaven. God cannot abide with such persons, nor his angels, and the Holy Ghost will not dwell with them, when they are so corrupt. Some still continue in the corruption they were in while they mingled among the wicked in the world. Is it not time for all to quit it—to reform and break off from those things? Br. Brigham, Heber, and Daniel do not do as you do. We have taken another course—a course of exaltation, and put out our lives and strength to usury, while some of you are throwing away your lives—spending your existence for nought—the ax is laid at the root of the tree—and you will be cut down by and and bye, except you forsake such evils.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire.—[St. Matthew's gospel, 7th chap.]

My feelings are that I may be like clay in the hands of the potter, or like a fiddle in the hands of the performer. I am not going to dictate God, but I feel to say, Father play through me in a manner that shall be for the salvation of this people. These are my feelings all the time and my prayer, and that should be the prayer of every man and not get up here, as almost every man does, and say, "I am no preacher, I am not an eloquent man, I have not got silver lips," and this and that. We know all this, and what do you want to tell of it here for? It is like a fiddle's getting up here to make an excuse for the fiddler. I would knock a fiddle into a cock'd up hat, if it should undertake to dictate me, would not you, br. Smithies? Br. Smithies is our chorister and is a very modest man, but he would not permit the fiddle to dictate him. I do not like to hear the Twelve, the High Priests, the Seventies, the Bishops, nor any member in this church and kingdom who has got the priesthood, get up here to make apologies.

While speaking of our sins, br. James said let us forsake them and turn over a new leaf, that is, throw the old one entirely overboard and commence a new life, as though we never had commenced. I will illustrate this idea by bringing up a figure. Suppose that you have an old scrap-book in which you have written from your childhood all kinds of scribbles, pot hooks and hook pots, and marks of every kind and description, using it one year one end up, and then turning the other end up and writing down again, inasmuch that the old scrap-book presents to view a miserable mess of confusion. Now, can you correct that book and put every character into line? You cannot correct it, except you entirely blot out the old marks, and commence afresh to write in it and keep it as it should be, so that you will not be ashamed for the angels to look upon it and be able to say, "it is well done." You cannot correct the old book, for it has become a blot. What shall you do with it? If you do as you have been told, you will take the old scrap-book and tumble it overboard or lay it aside and take a new blank book and fill it up anew, and learn to be men and women approved of God.

Br. Brigham says that if you will all quit your sins and follies and begin now to pursue a righteous course, your sins shall all be remitted; the old book will be laid aside and never again presented before you. But if you persist in your sins after this mercy, the old book will be brought up against you again and you will have to pay the debt or be judged by it. If you will now quit your sinning, God will have mercy upon you and his servants will, and you will be blessed. Do you not know that the Prophet says that if the people turn away from their sins and repent and forsake them, thus saith the Lord, I will no more remember their sins against them for ever; but if they turn from their righteousness to their unrighteousness I will bring all their former sins back upon their heads, those which they have committed in all their days? And if you persist in your sins, you will have to be judged out of the old scrap-book. Is not this a great promise?

It is easy to do right, to lay aside old erroneous notions, hypocrisy, thieving, lying, and a thousand other things that are rebellion against God and against his authority. I want to know if God will love and respect and send his angels to one of my wives, though she were fifty, sixty, or a hundred years of age, if she is disobedient to me when I am as merciful, generous and kind a man to her as ever lived? If she disobeys me, persists in taking a course contrary to my will and the will of God all the time, saying, "I will do as I please, and the angels will come and visit me?" Neither God nor his Son Jesus Christ will send the holy angels to minister to such a woman, and she need not tell about their coming to visit her, nor about receiving revelations from heaven concerning br. Brigham and about what br. Brigham and br. Heber should do. Damn such fixings, they are not of God; they never saw him, nor never will, unless they repent of such foolishness. I discard such things, and so does our God and so do angels. Get revelations for

the Prophet of God to be subject to your requests!!! Get out, you stinking things; and your swamp angels too. I am as independent of you as God upon his throne, and of all such creatures; and so is any man of God that is valiant in the latter days. I ask no odds of the world and its corruptions, nor of anything that pertains to it, for God my Father and my Elder Brother Jesus Christ and his faithful servants are my friends.

I have spoken these things with good feelings, and these principles are laying the ax at the root of the trees, and that tree will fall which is not connected with God and his children. The Scripture says that there is an ax laid at the root of every tree, that is, it is laid at the foot of every man and woman, and that ax will be used to slay them, if they persist in iniquity. If there is an ax at the root of my tree, let me so live that I may be worthy to pick up that ax and slay the wicked, and not be slain. That man or woman who will not do that, will be slain.

God bless you. I feel good; I feel to bless you. I bless the Saints, the good men, the good women, and the good children the wide world over, and I bless the earth we inherit; but I feel to curse the wicked, and the ungodly, and those who are taking the road to destruction. I bless all Saints, and all good people: Amen.

THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH & LIBERTY.

ALBERT CARRINGTON, EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25.

To our Agents.

The next number will close the current Volume of The Deseret News, and as it is expected that the number of subscribers for Vol. seven will be increased AT LEAST in proportion to the increase of the population and, it is to be hoped, MUCH MORE, we suggest to the Agents in the several cities, wards and settlements in the Territory that they send in their orders at their earliest convenience, so that the requisite number of copies can be forwarded at once on the issuing of the first number of the next volume: also that we may know how many additional numbers to publish in order to supply the increased demand.

By reference to the new list of Agents it will be seen that several changes have been made on account of change of location or other causes, and it is expected that both the old and newly selected Agents will act promptly in the matter, not only in view of liberal compensation, but more particularly through a sense of duty in spreading the truths of salvation. Unless the Agents report the number they wish forwarded to them, we shall continue to forward the same they have been receiving, until otherwise directed.

The city subscribers are expected to call at the Office and renew their subscriptions, and the few who have not paid up for Vol. six will do themselves a favor to call and attend to it as soon as convenient.

NEW LIST OF AGENTS.

G. S. L. COUNTY.	
A. O. Smoot,	Kanyon Creek Ward
Reuben Miller,	Mill Creek Ward
Archibald Gardner,	do
Milo Andrus,	Big Cottonwood Ward
Andrew Cahoon,	South Cottonwood do
Joseph Hammond,	do
Isaac Ferguson,	do
Silas Richards,	Union
Guernsey Brown,	Draper
Samuel Bennion,	West Jordan
Daniel R. Allen,	Jordan Mills
McGee Harris,	Fort Herriman
CEDAR COUNTY.	
Allen Weeks,	Cedar Valley
UTAH COUNTY.	
D. Evans,	Lehi City
Le E. Harrington,	Lake City
T. J. McCullough,	Lone City
W. G. Sterrett,	Pleasant Grove
D. Carter,	Provo
A. Johnson,	Springville
J. L. Butler,	Spanish Fork
James Holman,	Santaquin
JUAB COUNTY.	
T. B. Foote,	Salt Creek
SAN PETE COUNTY.	
Geo. Peacock,	Manti
MILLARD COUNTY.	
S. P. Hoyt,	Fillmore
IRON COUNTY.	
T. Lewis,	Parowan
I. C. Haight,	Cedar City
WASHINGTON COUNTY.	
J. D. Lee,	Fort Harmony
GREEN RIVER COUNTY.	
I. Bullock,	Fort Supply
TOOELE COUNTY.	
J. W. Cooley,	Grantsville
DAVIS COUNTY.	
John Stoker,	Stoker
Wm. R. Smith,	Centerville
James Leithhead,	Farmington
Samuel Henderson,	Kaysville
WEBER COUNTY.	
C. W. West,	Ogden
Thomas Dunn,	North Ogden

BOX ELDER COUNTY.	
Salmon Warner,	North Willow Creek
Samuel Smith,	Brigham's City
CALIFORNIA.	
D. M. Thomas,	San Bernardino
Geo. Q. Cannon,	San Francisco
MISSOURI.	
H. S. Eldredge,	St. Louis
NEW YORK.	
Mormon Office,	New York City
ENGLAND.	
Millennial Star Office,	Liverpool

EASTERN MAIL.—As yet there has been nothing further heard of the mail from the east, since Mr. Gerrish left it a long time ago at the Platte bridge. True to his uniform imbecile and reckless course, the late contractor McGraw does not appear to care one farthing about completing his contract, having failed to again secure the same route on which to carry no mail.

Luckily for Utah, as learned from The Mormon, though no official notice has arrived on account of the above failure, the contract has at last fallen, though at a very low figure, into hands that will put the mail through promptly, safely and regularly, unless obstacles arise more serious than any that have occurred since our settlement in the mountains. Even upon unofficial information and at an inclement period, measures were at once taken to begin and continue the regular transmission of mail matter between here and Independence, in compliance with contract and contract time. As noticed at the time, Mr. Hickman started early in February with the first mail under the new contract; Mr. Groesbeck will start on the 2nd of March, and soon the route will be amply supplied with energetic men and plenty of animals, carriages, &c., precluding all risk of failure, except through some unusual and unforeseen circumstance.

CURIOSITIES AND QUESTIONS.—It is curious to see professedly enlightened nations so blind as to suppose that the Lord will interpose in their behalf in periods of disaster and distress, while they are all the time virtually saying to him, "We want none of thy counsel in our civil and military affairs, and church and state must have no concern with each other, any further than that the church must be subject to the state." Under such a system, how long ere the kingdoms of this world will become subject to the kingdom of the rightful Ruler? O foolish generation, how have you "changed the ordinances!"

It is curious that some professed Saints hold their stock, produce and labor at higher rates to the 'News' and their brethren than they do to those who are not of the household of faith. Who hath so bewitched you? And when do you expect to prosper in such a course?

It is curious to see persons, for the salary of a paltry office, leave their homes and friends, if they have any, and come amongst people whom they hate and strive to corrupt and traduce. By what spirit, suppose ye, are such persons actuated? Verily they will meet their reward, if they faint not in the service of their father the devil.

HINTS.—Before the weather settles sufficiently for the hurry and rush of plowing and seeding, it may not be amiss to put fences in repair, haul out manure, see that farming and gardening tools are in order, &c.

THE D. A. AND M. SOCIETY, as will be seen by reference to other columns, are beginning their operations in season to give all a fair chance.—Self interest may be deemed a sufficient stimulus to action on the part of all, and among Saints duty might be thought to cover all necessary ground for improvement of every description, but with the great majority of human beings competition, notice, rivalry and rewards still have great influence, and the Society is wisely and most liberally taking advantage of every reasonable facility for arousing the skill and energy of the people to the development of our resources for self-support.

It will be noticed that the list of premiums, so far as printed, is quite minute and high priced, thus giving all a chance for honorable distinction in a fair, highly beneficial and peaceful competition.

To enable the Society to carry out the designs of its organization, it will not only be necessary for the people to put forth their skill and energy in the various useful channels commanding premiums, but also to increase the funds of the treasury by becoming members, by donations, &c., so far as may be consistent.

SALMON RIVER.—Col. T. S. Smith lately arrived from Fort Limh, and reports the prevalence of peace, prosperity and good health in that region.