PART 3. THE DESERET EVENING NEWS. 17 TO 24

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

FORTY-NINTH YEAR. SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1899, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH. NUMBER 146.

CHURCH INTELLIGENCE

MISSION FIELDS.

"Mormonism" in Iowa.

Winterset, Iowa, April 30, 1899.

To the Editor:

Notwithstanding the gigantic efforts carried by both press and clergy to promulgate anti-"Mormon" literature, and the hundreds of missionaries in Iowa, yet do we succeed in impressing upon the people that "Mormonism" is alive and has come to stay. "You don't surely mean to tell me that you are advocating 'Mormonism'" we are often asked by people and lately, and sometimes by those who make no pretension. "Yes, I am advocating what you call 'Mormonism,' but what I know is the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Some expect us to deny it; others to excuse themselves for being so, and yet others seem surprised that we have the "audacity" to acknowledge the truth in such a strong way. In this way an opportunity arises immediately for telling our business.

We often meet an old lady or gentleman who can not remember the Latter-day Saints, in their pilgrimage, to be such. Nothing else than a church, and it is one who had personal dealings with our people, and who has lived in Nauvoo, Salt Lake City, or elsewhere counts eighty of them and tells of the terrible sufferings they underwent as "Mormons."

One old lady named Clark living in Madison county, Iowa, told me that she lived in the same house with a "Mormon family, and they were good Mormons, and she knew that the people tried to do right, but that to her knowledge they never did anything wrong." Her recollections in Missouri or Illinois, all she was necessary was to run the word "Mormon" in stitches and the "Mormons" were accused of the offense.

On another occasion while talking to a "rank infidel" at the same place, he said we had no reason to be afraid and would not have anything to do with Christianity, was because that it made a study of the suffering caused by Christians, he could not comprehend it; cannot see betterment to the human family by its adoption and he asked me to tell him what good it did us. My wife and I looked at each other, we knew that we were ready to give a reason for our faith, and we said to him, "Do you mean to say that we are good enough to try to do anything with them?"

"Yes, let us take up a subscription and have them converted." He got action dollars from a little congregation, one poor old lady giving three dollars.

We supplied the unfortunate minister with a full set of tracts and a clipping from Deseret News, Salt Lake City, "A Pottawatomie Congressman," and asked him to tell us to what he would consent after he had read and found he was really believed and taught. The unfortunate man was so better informed than the congregation on the Mormon question, not even knowing why we are called "Mormons."

The next time we saw him he did not have a word to say about us, though we was preaching to his own congregation in his own school house. "Now he believed the Mormons were to hold forth four successive nights to his congregation."

Elder S. H. McClellan of Mormon and have just returned from a visit to Mt. Pleasant, in Union Co., Iowa, which we expected to attend. The Saints we experienced in visiting those old neighborhoods, are not for another. It is a very pretty place and was quite highly adapted for the temporary rest of the exiles from the East.

A successful method of calling attention, surrounded by a broken ridge with ends overlapping, or rather a ridge divided by a valley, adjacent to the Mormon trail, which was the southwest into Iowa, or rather the small stream flowing from the large, but very small, spring, the people encamped on the summit of the ridge of the ridge obtained their water supply. And over all this one far in the pre can think, we see a perfect level of blue-grass pasture, studded here and there with an old oak grove except where the hill side is very steep we see a forest of hardwood trees.

The place is owned by A. C. White, who takes special pains to point out the places of interest. It is fortunate that it has fallen into the hands of one so considerate, and whose hospitable and kindly interest and friendliness is so great.

We were surprised to see some here which we were informed were liberal Mormons, and some of the Brest and "Bastard" and some of the Brest and "Bastard" and some of the Brest and "Bastard"