

# DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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## NO REASON FOR ALARM.

THE critical condition of President Garfield gives rise to a great many absurdities. Why his sickness or health, his life or death, should have any effect upon the money market, should cause a rise or a fall in stocks, or have any bearing upon commercial affairs, is beyond our powers of penetration. Yet advantage is taken of the situation by speculators, and the daily bulletins are made to do service in acting upon the pulse of Wall Street. There is no real connection between the President of the United States and the private business of the country, which is entirely independent of any control or influence from the Government, and a change of incumbents of the Executive Chair has not the remotest necessary influence upon current trade or finance.

The remarks which are made and the forebodings expressed upon the probable accession of Vice-President Arthur to the chief office in the nation, are in our opinion uncalled for and irrational. The President is not a ruler. He is the servant of the Republic. He cannot change the policy of the nation by arbitrary power and the force of individual will. He does not make laws. Neither does he control the forces of the country, military, naval or financial, except as provided by law and hedged about by provisions which prevent his playing the monarch.

The constitutional provision for the assumption of Presidential duties by the Vice-President, in case of a vacancy in the highest office, smooths the way to a peaceful and quiet continuance of public affairs without any need of a jar or cause for anxiety. There is no occasion in the present instance for even party alarm. Arthur is of the same political faith as Garfield. One is as much a Republican as the other. The Vice-President is as pronounced a partizan as the President. And he is not a fool or a weakminded makeweight, chosen for his money or other such unworthy motive. He is a shrewd and active politician, and has shown himself during the excitement that followed the President's prostration a man of good sense, warm heart, balanced mind and sensible demeanor.

It is not probable that in the event of his accession to the Presidency, there would be any sudden revolution in the management of national affairs. That some changes in the Cabinet would be made after a time is quite probable. But Arthur has too much good sense to attempt anything rash, or that would violate public sentiment. He would understand perfectly well that in the event of anything wrong in the administration he would be held responsible, and he has exhibited prudence enough in his past career to warrant the assurance that he would proceed with caution, and make no startling movements that would either shock the country or arouse animosities within the ranks of the Republican party.

In our opinion there need be no fears of anything that might occur from the influence of Conkling. That he would have some voice, private if not public, in shaping the policy of the new Executive is quite likely. And in time its results would be seen in the constitution of the Cabinet as well as in other directions. But this is no real cause for alarm, except to a few politicians and incumbents of important posts, and is of more personal than national consequence; for the ex-Senator is a statesman and a power in politics, and is generally conceded to be honest if imperious and able if proud. He made a blunder in his latest public step, but his record is a great one and his influence upon national affairs need not be dreaded by any one except his enemies.

President Garfield seems to be slowly sinking. Without Divine in-

terposition there is little prospect for his recovery. He may linger for some time, and he may depart within a short period. His death is to be greatly deplored. His assassination was totally unjustifiable. His manly endurance of suffering and his patience under his affliction have endeared him to the people. All earnestly desire that he may be spared. But the anxiety that is felt for the man, and the sympathy entertained for his family, are chiefly personal; for while the country needs his great abilities and his steady hand to guide, yet principles and institutions are more than men, and they will remain should Garfield pass away, and the transfer of authority into other hands need not cause more than a slight ripple upon the tide of public affairs in the great and well guarded Government of the United States.

## A MAN OF A THOUSAND.

WE give place to-day to an article that appears in the Boston Christian Register on the subject of the "Mormons," written by a minister who paid a visit to Utah and, singular to say, is not afraid to express in public his favorable opinion of a people whom it is the fashion to denounce and despise. Mr. Kimball makes but few mistakes, and they are of minor importance, in his earnest and praiseworthy attempt to do justice to a religion and a community who have suffered so much injustice. We are grateful for his kind endeavor and admire him for his outspoken defence in the face of violent popular opinion.

There are many persons from various parts of the world who have seen the Latter-day Saints as they are, and who have been free to express their surprise and pleasure at the peace, good order, union, thrift, faith, devotion and sincerity of the people of Utah, while they remained amongst us. But usually after leaving they have been either ashamed or afraid to speak a word in our defence, when misrepresentations of the most flagrant character have been uttered against us from pulpit and press, in public and in private.

This is not very surprising to one acquainted with the ways and spirit of the world. There is no particular reason, from a selfish standpoint—and most people are selfish—why a lady or gentleman should attempt to stem the tide of opprobrium, though undeserved, against so unpopular a society as the "Mormon" Church. And if a man were to attempt to defend the Saints among those who are hostile, he would have to meet the galling insinuation that he was polygamically inclined, and a lady, that she was struck after some "Mormon" dignitary, and thus their motives would be impugned and their defence be ridiculed.

The time has not yet come for justice to be done to the Latter-day Saints. The world is too corrupt to understand the motives that prompt this people and the actual purity of their character. The sentiments of the crowd in relation to marriage of any kind are low and animal, and they cannot comprehend the principles which underlie our patriarchal system, nor the high and holy influences which enter into it and guide its practical supporters. Therefore the course of such men as Mr. Kimball, who has the independence to investigate for himself, instead of looking through glasses provided for by him by anti-Mormons, and the courage to publicly express convictions so contrary to the common idea, is worthy of all commendation, and the man is deserving of our admiration and respect. He is one of a thousand.

If a few more of the numerous visitors to Utah who have come to the same conclusions as Mr. Kimball, were brave enough to proclaim them, something would be accomplished towards correcting error and establishing truth, and those who thus aid in defending the innocent shall, verily, in no wise lose their reward.

## CENSUS OF CHURCH STATISTICS.

THERE still seem to be some misunderstandings and complications in regard to the filling up of the schedules furnished by the census agent for the compilation of statistics of the churches. It was anticipated that some confusion would arise because the forms provided for

the various sectarian organizations were not adapted to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. But it was thought that by changing some of the headings and substituting the names of our Church officers for those in the printed schedule, uniform reports could be obtained which would answer the purpose designed. It was conceded by the agent for this Territory that the last two pages of the schedule were unadapted to the circumstances of our Wards and Stakes, and that therefore they need not be filled up.

To make the matter plain, so that "he who ran might read," we published on the 4th of June an explanatory article on the subject, with a transcript of one of the schedules that had been filled up as far as necessary, as a sample for those Bishops who had not attended to this requirement. But even this it appears has not been sufficient. For the benefit of all parties concerned we now reprint the article which is here annexed:

As we have already shown in these columns, the schedules forwarded to the Bishops and Presidents of Stakes by the census agent, with a view to obtaining statistical and other information relative to the churches, are not suited to the peculiar organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, for which either a special schedule should have been arranged, or which would have been better, a special report by the General Church Authorities could have been furnished, with fuller details than those already given, if the particulars required had been explained.

As it is, in order that accurate information may be given and uniformity so far as possible secured, it is necessary that in filling up the blanks forwarded by the census agent, the writers should all understand them alike, and that the changes needed in the form should all correspond. We therefore give below the questions necessary to be answered, with the replies so far as they can be given in one selected case, which will answer as a guide to the Bishops or Presidents of Stakes in filling up the forms. We take Tooele as an ensample because we happen to be acquainted with the particulars of that Ward, and can give the answers required. The changes made from the original text of the schedule are in italics. Thus, "Ward" is substituted for Parish, "Bishop" for Clergyman, etc. Accuracy is desirable as well as completeness, and the Bishops should bear in mind our former remarks in relation to the necessity of stating the Ward property as such, and not as Church property. This form will of course be filled up to suit the circumstances and conditions of each separate Ward, the particulars of which can only be furnished by the local authorities.

### I.—INQUIRIES AS TO LOCATION, CLERGYMEN, MEMBERS, ETC.

#### 1. LOCATION, DENOMINATION, ETC.

(a) Territory of Utah, County of Tooele.

(b) City, village or town (say which): City.

(c) Name of Ward: Tooele.

(d) Full name of denomination with which connected: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

(e) Name and full post office address of Bishop. (In the absence of such an officer, give name and address of the officer in charge): Thos. Atkin, Jun., Tooele City, Tooele County, Utah.

(f) Has the Bishop in charge been regularly installed, or is he temporarily engaged? Regularly installed.

(g) How long has he sustained the above relation to the Ward? About seven months.

(h) Number of different Bishops who have been in charge of this Ward within 10 years: Three.

(i) Within 20 years: Three.

If assistants to Bishop, state how many, and for what purpose: Two Counselors.

#### 2. ORGANIZATION, MEMBERSHIP, ETC.

(a) Date of the ecclesiastical organization of the Ward: June, 1877.

(b) If the records have been preserved, please state number of original members:

(c) What are the qualifications essential to membership? Faith in God, repentance of all sins, baptism (immersion) by one having authority, for the remission of sins, confirmation, with a covenant to obey the commandments of God for ever.

(d) What are the tests to qualification for membership? An open profession of faith, reformation and a godly walk before the world.

(e) Number of members on roll in 1880: 996.

(f) Total increase of membership since census of 1870: —

(g) Number of present members under the age of 20: Males, — Females, —

(h) Number of members actually resident in the Ward (exclusive of those who removed from the Ward and other permanent absentees) at the date of this report: 956.

#### 3. ATTENDANCE.

(a) Average fair-weather attendance at morning service, Ward: About 350.

(b) Average fair-weather attendance at afternoon service, Ward: About 350.

(c) Average fair-weather attendance at evening service, Ward: About 350.

(d) Estimated proportion of population in the town above named who attend church service, including all sects: About one-third at a time.

(e) Estimated total of church-going population: They all attend worship.

(f) Estimated total of population upon which above computations are based: 1,275.

#### 4. OTHER CHURCHES OF THIS OR OTHER DENOMINATIONS WITHIN A RADIUS OF THREE MILES.

Name and denomination of Church: Methodist Episcopal.

Address of Pastor or other officer: J. P. Morris, Tooele City, Tooele County, Utah.

#### 5. SABBATH SCHOOLS.

(a) Number of Sabbath schools conducted under direction of Ward: Two.

(b) Name and full postal address of superintendent of each: Thomas Atkin, Jr., and Joseph Rouberry, Tooele City, Tooele County, Utah.

(c) Total number of youth and children enrolled as members of classes:

Home school: 247.

Mission school, —

Total: 247

(d) Different persons in regular attendance on above school or schools:

Home school: 307.

Mission school —

Total: 307.

Proportion of above who are males: 172.

#### 6. INDUSTRIAL OR WEEK DAY SCHOOLS.

(a) Are there industrial or other week day schools conducted under direction of this Ward? Three week day schools.

(b) If so, give full name and postal address of proper person or persons from whom information regarding each may be obtained: John W. Dunn, Trustee, Tooele City, Tooele County, Utah.

#### 7. UNION OR OTHER UNDENOMINATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN THIS TOWN WITHIN A RADIUS OF THREE MILES:

Name of School —

Name and address of Superintendent or other officer —

#### BUILDINGS OR OTHER PROPERTY.

##### 8. BUILDINGS, ETC.

(a) Date when first house of worship was erected: 1851.

(b) Date when present house of worship was erected: 1869.

(c) Seating capacity of same: 500.

(d) Seating capacity of chapel audience-room: —; mission chapel do —

(e) If the Sabbath-school occupies a separate building, when was it erected: —

(f) What is its seating capacity? —

(g) If the Ward provides a residence for the Bishop in charge, does it own or hire it? None.

(h) If owned, in what year was it provided? —

#### 9. PROPERTY OWNED BY THE WARD AND CONGREGATION.

Property—Main house of worship and grounds, including organ, bell, furniture, &c., value in 1880: \$6,000; in 1870, —; increase of value, —

Chapel and grounds, including organ, bell, furniture, &c. —

Sabbath-school and mission buildings and grounds, including organ, bell, furniture, &c. —

Sabbath-school libraries. (Number of bound volumes) —

Other than Sabbath-school libraries. (Number of bound volumes) —

Total value of properties as above.

Some of the Bishops filled up the forms as required. But others, so we learn from the agent, went beyond what was agreed upon and attempted to fill up the last two pages of the schedule which were discarded. If they had acted according to instructions and gone no further, there would have been no difficulty. But this put the agent in a quandary and he considered it necessary that the rest of the Wards should report in similar manner so that uniformity might be secured. He has therefore returned the schedules in many instances and called for further particulars, several of which are not printed in the forms, but are added by him in writing, as follows, under the heading of "Income and Expenditure,—Income for year 1880:"

Voluntary contributions (tithing).  
Monthly fast day donations.  
Relief Society donations.  
Temple donations.  
Assembly Hall donations.  
Christmas donations for poor.  
Sunday School collections.

Here, again, comes confusion from a misconception of our Church affair, and from the non-adaptability to them of schedules arranged for other churches. Relief Society donations are not paid to the Bishops, and they do not manage the distributing thereof. Assembly Hall donations are only applicable to the Salt Lake Stake, not to others, and are not a Ward affair. Tithing is not paid into the Wards and is not a Ward nor a Stake fund, but a general Church fund, and therefore the Bishops of Wards cannot respond to this query. Indeed, it is not required, but is an addition to the schedule, and the Ward Bishops need not puzzle themselves over it, nor over any other question that does not come within their province to answer, but just leave it blank as in other instances where the inquiry does not apply and cannot be properly answered.

There are no accumulated funds in the various Wards, but donations for various purposes are applied to the object for which they were subscribed as soon as received. Time enough has been spent now in fussing over this simple matter, with its additions, and changes, and omissions and returns. The best way is for the parties who furnish the statistics to fill up the forms according to the best of their ability, and where they find themselves unable to respond, leave the place for the answer blank, or use the word "none" or such other word as will be applicable, seeking to perform what is required by law and then troubling themselves no further on the subject. It is time the matter was settled and done with. There has been already too much difficulty over a very simple affair.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Fifteen thousand dentists torture the native American.

A bogus English lord has been exposed at Saratoga. He absent-mindedly lit a match by striking it on his heel, and then everybody knew he was an American.

The supreme court of California has decided that growing grain is personal property, and that an attachment upon it will hold good against subsequent mortgage.

Paul de Cassagnac, the Bonapartist editor of the Paris Pays, has fought 110 duels in 25 years, and now feels so brave that he would not be afraid to act as umpire in a base-ball game.

Nym Crinkle says that the "anti-Mormon" play of "One Hundred Wives" is the only drama that has made one hundred failures. That is not as many as anti-Mormonism" itself has made.

One beauty about scientific papers is the sweet simplicity of their titles. The following were among the subjects considered by a New York association the other day: "Chlortribronpropionic," and "Dibromiodiacrylic and Chlorbromodiacrylic Acids."

At the camp-meeting at South Framingham, Mass., "the whole plan of salvation" can be learned by all sinners willing to pay twenty-five cents for admission, season tickets one dollar. This camp-meeting apparently has some of the characteristics of John Gilpin's wife, for though "on pety 'tis bent, it has a frugal mind."