

which this is amendatory, the following oath shall be taken and subscribed, to wit:

I,, being duly sworn (or affirmed), depose and say that I am over twenty-one years of age; that I have resided in the Territory of Utah for six months last past, and in this precinct for one month preceding the date hereof; that I am a native-born (or naturalized as the case may be) citizen of the United States; that my full name is, that I am years of age; that my place of business is, that I am a married (or single) man that the name of my lawful wife is, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and will faithfully obey the laws thereof; that I will especially obey the acts of Congress prohibiting polygamy, bigamy, unlawful cohabitation, incest, adultery and fornication; that I will not hereafter at any time, within any Territory of the United States, while said acts of Congress remain in force, in obedience of any alleged revelation, or to any counsel, advice or command from any persons or source whatever, or under any circumstances, enter into plural or polygamous marriage, or have or take more wives than one, or cohabit with more than one woman; that I will not at any time hereafter, in violation of said acts of Congress, directly or indirectly aid or abet, counsel or advise any person to take or have more wives than one, or to cohabit with more than one woman, or to commit incest, adultery, or fornication; that I am not a bigamist or polygamist; that I do not cohabit polygamously with persons of the other sex, and that I have not been convicted of any of the offenses above mentioned; that I am not a member of and do not contribute to the support, aid, or encouragement of any order, organization, association or society which teaches, advises, counsels, encourages or aids any person to enter into bigamy, polygamy or said patriarchal or plural celestial marriage, or which teaches or advises that any such law as aforesaid is not supreme, or that any alleged revelation on the subject of such marriage is paramount to any such law or any of the doctrines, tenets, teachings or instructions of which, or any alleged revelations to which require, encourage, advise, authorize or instruct any person, under any circumstances, to enter into or practice the relations of bigamy, polygamy, or plural, patriarchal or celestial marriage, or in which the solemnization or ceremonies of bigamous, polygamous, plural, patriarchal or celestial marriage is authorized, performed or provided for, or in which any person in any way is assisted, aided, or abetted in the solemnization of ceremonies of any such marriage, or in which any party participating in the solemnization or ceremonies of any marriage is bound to secrecy regarding the same, under any oath, obligation, covenant, penalty, or promise.

Sec. 3. That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after the date of its approval.

The Committee on Territories, to which the bill was referred, have had the measure under consideration and have attached an amendment, making the enactment applicable to all the Territories.

The bill introduced on April 10th by Senator Cullom is similar in every particular to that published above, consequently it is unnecessary to give it space here.

REMARKS

By Elder Franklin D. Richards, at the General Conference, held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday morning, April 8th, 1890.

[REPORTED BY ARTHUR WINTER.]

Beloved hearers: I esteem it indeed an inestimable blessing to be permitted, with you, to listen to the precious testimony that we have just been listening to from our venerable President. I know that the things which he has declared unto us are the eternal truths of heaven that have been revealed to us in the day in which we live. They are no more true from my knowing they are true, or from you knowing they are true, than if we did not know it; or if the wicked do not know it, they are no less true. They are the truths by which the people of this generation will have to be judged. President Woodruff has lived in this Church and in the knowledge of this Church almost sixty years. I have lived in it about fifty-two years. And I wish to say that I also know that this is the work of the living God. It has not been devised by man, nor by any combination of men. But it has been sent forth by the condescension of our Heavenly Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the ministry of holy angels. The wisdom of men has been brought to naught wherein they have thought that they were of necessary importance in the work of God. He has taken those who were young in years, ignorant of the learning of the world, and has taught them in the knowledge of Himself and of His purposes. This is the highest degree of knowledge that is conferred upon men in the earth, and the human family are going to find it so.

The present is a time when those who are doubtful and who are less established entertain feelings of trepidation in their hearts, not knowing what has been, as some of the older ones do know; therefore they are not prepared to understand, without the revelations of Jesus Christ, what is to come. But there is a philosophy in the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ which aids people so that they come to understand the necessity of some things that have to exist. Our children, the rising generation who have been born in these valleys, and the many who have emigrated to this country from foreign nations during the period of our existence here, are ignorant of the persecutions that occurred to the people of God in the States. They have not had a knowledge, and a sense, an understanding, and a conscious comprehension of those things; and they also must be made, by the blessings and providences of God, to come with us to a knowledge of His dispensations, to an understanding of His appointments and of the great truths that have been revealed. True, many of our children have come up in the Sabbath schools and in the various associations, and have obtained a knowledge by the testimonies of the Holy Ghost for

themselves. But there are many who have not; and it is pitiable to remember that some are associated with such parentage that they do not have the examples before them which are calculated to bring them to the knowledge of God in their earliest days.

We have had a period of almost unexampled prosperity. While our children and they of little experience have not had a full knowledge of these things, what have been the feelings of those who came from the States here, scattered and peeled, a little over forty years ago, when it was not known that man could subsist in these valleys? The feelings of those men and women are sentiments of the utmost gratitude to God that they were permitted to get away safely from their professed Christian friends and lawless mobbers and have a little rest in these mountains, where we could serve God according to the dictates of our consciences. The Lord graciously brought us out through great difficulties, a thousand miles from settlements, where we were hidden, as it were, from the people of the nation around us. And for quite a season (it is within the memory of some, and precious it is yet) the Lord blessed us to appoint the rulers from among our number, even the political rulers. We were blessed with the best of guidance and wisdom, by men who were inspired with the revelations of Jehovah to teach us. We were united, we were happy, and we knew nothing of drunkenness, and scarcely knew profanity; and blessed as we were in this excellent latitude of superlative health, it was a saying among the people for many years that we were not going to die here of disease. We did not, but died of old age. Presently the avenues of communication were opened up, and all manner of people came to dwell among us, and all manner of spirits and diseases dwell among us. It becomes now a necessity for every saint to have on the whole armor that he may be able to stand for himself before his God, and contend successfully against the powers of darkness.

This is our condition today. These things are calculated to put us, in common parlance, upon our metal, to find out whether we are right with God, having fellowship and influence with Him. Oh! if all those who are before me today would have and keep the testimony of Jesus, the spirit of revelation that our President has been telling us of, what would be the consequences? Would there be any difficulties among this people? No indeed! Every family would be living in the light and spirit of that revelation. Each family would govern itself. The Presidency of the Church, the Presidencies of Stakes and the Bishops of Wards, as well as the High Councils, would have little to do in settling difficulties. Why? Because, as the Prophet Joseph said, the people being taught correct principles they would govern themselves. This is what the Lord is trying to bring His people up to, and fortunate for us if we so live as to acquire those abilities of self-government