

LIBERTY JAIL.

A Description of Its Present Appearance.—Anecdotes of the Prophet.—An Interesting Correspondence.

LIBERTY, Clay Co., Missouri,
Sept. 18, 1888

Editor Deseret News:

Leaving Adam-ondi Ahman yesterday afternoon, we passed through the rich fields in the valley of the Grand southward until we came to the river. After making an unsuccessful attempt to get into and cross with a leaky skiff, we found fording more safe and expedient, and although the water was somewhat deep we reached the opposite shore in safety, and made our way through forests and fields back to Gallatin, where we arrived too late for the evening westbound train; consequently we spent another night in the chief town of Daviess County.

This morning early we took train for Cameron, a fine city in Clifton County, where we changed cars and continued our journey to Liberty, Clay County, arriving here at 11 a. m. Without difficulty we found the old jail where Joseph and his brethren were incarcerated from Nov., 1833, to April, 1839. By the assistance of a colored neighbor we succeeded in gaining an entrance to the interior of the half tumble down building, which we found very filthy indeed, filled with cobwebs and insects of numerous kinds which had their abode in the rotten timbers. Mr. Theodore Shively, who has charge of the property for the present owner (Mortimore Dearing, a wealthy banker of Kansas City) told us that the jail had not been opened and entered until today for many, many years. The smell from the decaying timber and dead insects was something sickening, and a couple of minutes stay there made us wish for the fresh air outside. How the Prophet and his fellow-prisoners could endure life in such a hole for upwards of five months is more than we can comprehend. Of course it was not so filthy then, but the openings for ventilation and light seem to have been so small that it cannot possibly have been a healthy abode for human beings at any time. We found the space inside to measure about 14½ feet from east to west, and 11 feet from north to south. From the basement floor to the ceiling we should judge it to be about 11 feet, three feet of which is under ground. The middle floor, which while Joseph and his fellow-prisoners were there, divided the space into an upper and lower story, has been torn away, but we could see where it had been, and should say that the cell or lower room at that time measured 6½ feet, and the upper about 7 feet from floor to ceiling. The only openings giving light and ventilation to the cell part are two very small grated windows through the wall, one on the south and another on the north side. These openings, each of which has a heavy square iron bar running horizontally through the middle are two feet wide and six inches high. Above them there are, near the roof, two larger openings two feet in width and one foot in height, giving light and air to the upper story. In each of these two upper windows there are five square iron bars standing perpendicularly and fastened very securely in the timbers of the building. In fact the whole structure is a double building, the inner being built of hewn oak logs about a foot square and the outside of rock. The floor and ceiling are constructed of the same material, thus making a huge wooden box. The rock walls are two feet thick, and in building them a space of about one foot was left between the rock and timber, which space was filled up with loose rock. Thus it will be seen that the prison walls are virtually 4 feet thick. Several loads of rock were also placed on top of the log ceiling in order to make escape through the roof impossible. The outside dimensions of the building are: 22½ feet long, 22 feet wide, 12 feet high to the square. The door is on the east end, facing the street, and is 5½ feet high and 2½ feet wide, and opens to what was the upper apartment. The west gable and most of the west wall has tumbled down, and also part of the north wall, thus leaving the timber or inside structure partly exposed. The east wall and gable are in a good state of preservation, and only one corner of the south wall is torn down. The building stands on the west side of what is known as Main Street, one and a half blocks north of the northwest corner of Liberty Court House Square. It stands back from the street about 20 feet, on an uncultivated acre lot, which the owner has offered to sell for \$2,500, but no one seems to care for purchasing the property. To reach the building from the street we had to make a path through the thick growth of grass and weeds. Some of the latter, being more than six feet high, partly hid the building from view from the street.

We also learned from official sources that the old jail had not been used as a prison since about the year 1836, when it was deemed unsafe and for a couple of years and more Clay County criminals were sent to Platte City for safekeeping. In 1838 the present courthouse, which by the way is a very fine building without, but exceedingly dirty within, was erected on the public square, with apartments also for prisoners. For years afterwards the old jail was utilized as an ice-house, but has not been used for any purpose whatever during the last decennium or more. The roof felt in years ago,

and the rock wall is crumbling down more and more every season, so there is every reason to believe that in a few years, even if permitted to stand as it does now there will be nothing but a heap of rocks and rotten timber left to designate the place where this historic building stood. We secured the aid of a photographer who took a very good negative, showing the ruins as they stand at the present time.

Having made all the observations we wanted around the jail, we visited a number of the old settlers of the town among whom were Col. Luke W. Burris, a county official, Ben. H. Stearn, a bright business man, James H. Ford, an ex-official, Dr. Marsh and others. Mr. Ford was 72 years old, served as deputy sheriff of Clay County in 1833-39, and had Joseph Smith and fellow prisoners under his charge during their incarceration, acting under the direction of Samuel Hadley, the county sheriff. On many occasions he had taken the prisoners out one at a time for walks around the town in order to give them an opportunity to enjoy the fresh air and get better meals than the jail fare allowed. On these walks he had often had lengthy conversations with the Prophet who to him appeared to be far above the average of men in intelligence, and seemed to be very deep and thoughtful, although good-natured and even jocular in his manners. He had never looked upon Joseph Smith and his friends in prison as real criminals, but ascribed their incarceration mainly to the excitement and bigotry of the times. Mr. Ford remembered the time when the prisoners tried to break jail, and said he discharged his pistol on that occasion, but hoped he did not hurt anybody. This is evidently the shot fired after Cyrus Daniels, one of the visiting brethren, who fell into a hole just as the report of a pistol was heard, and a ball came whistling by. Mr. Ford said that in stopping the prisoners from getting out he also struck a heavy blow at the head of a boyish looking man whose name he believed was Snow. Mr. Ford also accompanied the prisoners to Gallatin, Daviess County, in April, 1839, and said when they arrived there they were handed over to some half a dozen of the strongest and roughest men in Daviess County, who at first crowded the prisoners into a corner of a room, refusing to allow them any liberties at all, but after a little, when they began to converse with the prisoners, they became quite sociable with them, and a reputed champion wrestler of Daviess County wanted to try strength with the Mormon prophet. Joseph excused himself, saying he was a prisoner and could not engage in exercises of that kind under the circumstances. But finally through the solicitations of the guard and the man promising not to get angry if he was thrown, Joseph consented to wrestle with him. Consequently a ring was made and the two stepped forth. The Missourian took recourse to all the tricks known to him in the art of wrestling, but was unsuccessful in his attempts to throw Joseph. Finally the latter gathered up his strength, made a first real attempt and threw his opponent flat upon his back in a pool of water. This made the fellow mad, although he had agreed not to get offended if thrown, and he wished to fight; but the guard interfered and the Daviess County champion was much humiliated afterwards in being made the object of considerable ridicule on the part of his companions, he having previously boasted that he could throw Joseph Smith.

We asked Mr. Ford if he knew anything about human flesh having been offered the prisoners. He answered emphatically no. So far as his knowledge went such a thing was not even thought of. We suggested that it might have been done without his knowledge, but he thought not. Samuel Tillery, he said, was the man who boarded the prisoners, and he did not believe him guilty of such an act. Mr. Ford was satisfied that the prisoners were treated humanely throughout, and given all the attention and privileges the law and circumstances would allow.

Liberty is now a town of 2,500 inhabitants. There was a boom here a few years ago, but it is gone down and with it the price of property. Two weekly papers, one democratic and the other republican, are published here; there are a number of substantial brick stores and some handsome private residences. On a hill immediately east of the court house stands the William Jewell College, claimed to be one of the best institutions of learning in Western Missouri. We did not here find that animosity of feeling toward the Saints among the old settlers that we did in Ray and Daviess Counties, and in alluding to this we told some of the leading men with whom we conversed, that the Saints in Utah always remembered with gratitude the kind treatment the "Mormons" received by the citizens of Clay County in the years 1833-34, after their expulsion from Jackson County. This seemed to please them and they told us in return that they had no ill-feeling toward the "Mormons." It could amount to no more than a difference in religious opinion anyway, and they agreed with us that men should not hate, persecute or kill each other because of religion, but rather in meekness and a spirit of kindness try to enlighten each other and always be willing to allow the free exercise of conscience, as long as the common rights of humanity were not infringed upon in the name of religion. We have been asked many questions in regard to whether the "Mormons"

ever expect to come back to Missouri to live. We have answered "Yes, they will most assuredly come back when the proper time comes; but we can afford to wait until the Lord opens the way."

Several have remarked that immediately after the civil war would have been a very good time for the Saints to have returned, as lands then could be bought very cheap, nearly the whole country having been reduced to a wilderness. A great many who possess imperfect titles on account of original entries being made by "Mormons" who never sold their property, feel somewhat uneasy, thinking perhaps that if these original owners should assert their rights there might be trouble, and in some instances that may be one reason why people are so anxious to sell.

We start for Kansas City this evening and from there will continue our journey to Chattanooga tomorrow.

ANDREW JENSON,
EDWARD STEVENSON,
JOSEPH S. BLACK.

CURRENT TOPICS IN EUROPE.

Railway Development.—Spain. Resorts and Scenery.—Lawlessness in London.—Lord Wolseley in Favor.—England's Indian Hero.—London's Present Appearance.—Gladstone Busy.—Germany's Celebration.—Changes in German Politics.—Italy and France.

In America we are so absorbed in our own rapid development, that we sometimes forget the changes that are taking place in other lands. A very significant announcement was made on the first of September. A special train of tourists had left Paris going by rail to Vienna, Cracow, the ancient capital of Poland, to Kief, so celebrated for its churches, relics and catcombs, and to Odessa, Sebastopol and Balaklava, thence across the Black Sea by steamer to the wilds of Circassia, thence by rail to the shores of the Caspian, across this sea by another line of steamers, and then by rail over the wide desert plains of Tartary to the great Mohammedan city of Samarcand.

Just think of our American men and women visiting the tomb of Tamerlane, and the eastern boundary of Alexander's empire! It is enough to make even a stupid man reflect.

Even conservative old Spain is waking up. The new railway from Paris to Madrid by way of Oloron and Huesca will be of immense advantage to the travelling public. For many reasons Spain should be one of the most attractive of countries. Not merely the regions of the Pyrenees, the Sierra Nevada, and Sierra Morena, which rival even the Alps in beauty and magnificence. But further south are the beautiful vales of Andalusia, the land of song and wine, of glowing oranges and stately palm-trees. There stand Cordova and Grenada, the former capitals of Moorish monarchs, Seville with her sublime cathedral, and graceful Giralda, so famed for her schools of science and arts, to which place came students from far off lands in bygone days to study geography from globes, and learn for the first time the roundness of the earth.

Other parts of Spain are associated with reminiscences of British valor, and of victory after victory, wrested from Napoleon's favorite marshals, by the footsore and immortal heroes under the leadership of immortal Arthur Wellesley. There are also landscapes of wondrous beauty to be found among the great chestnut forests, of Navarre, and the weird rocky fastnesses of the Vascongadas. In a word Spain has many inducements, natural and artificial, scenic and historical, to cause the tourist to linger long and lovingly within its majestic boundaries of sea and mountain. It is to the poetical mind a sort of enchanted country where such men as Byron and Shelley, Moore, Longfellow, Taylor and Washington Irving have written their best productions. Well, this old land is opening up, to the railway companies, the tourists, and it might be added, to the military engineers as well, for at many sea coast towns and at every available pass of the Pyrenees new fortifications are being erected.

It is the fashion of the average European to bewail the insecurity of life on the Western hemisphere, and to point with pride at their own law-abiding subjects. Yet we have many ugly reminders that even here the law is none too strong. London is beset with roughs. Seldom have so many really appalling and barbarous murders been committed within a short time. A little while ago it was a woman snatched, then another stabbed in thirty places, and September 2nd still another, found with wounds upon her which would make even savages stand aghast with horror. The worst of the papers dare not describe the fearful manner in which this wretched woman was backed to pieces. And all this takes place in what is called the centre of civilization.

At the present moment, Lord Wolseley is in high favor at the court, in token of which he has recently received, as a present from the Queen, the house and grounds of the latter of Greenwich Park. With these, and a good house in London, Lord Wolseley may calmly await the invasion of

England or the entanglement of his country in a European war. Twenty-five thousand pounds for the Ashantee expedition, a peerage and thirty thousand pounds for the Egyptian affair, besides honors and orders too numerous to mention. A royal residence in a park, Adjutant General of the army, besides a considerable private fortune—surely his hair is not white from disappointment. Yet some people say an Irishman has no chance in England. Some Englishmen are said to believe that England's greatest general does not reside at Greenwich Park. For true military genius and daring, they look to the brilliant leader of the famous march to Candahar. But then General Roberts is far away in India and is little heard of.

The arrest of certain Irish members of Parliament, for breaches of the Crimes act in Ireland, does not appear to have attracted much attention, which looks very much as if the interest in the proceedings of their self-elected chiefs was diminishing. Although boycotting and moonlighting are still rife in certain Irish districts, there can be no doubt that both are gradually disappearing.

At the present moment the decorator and house cleaner is king. He reigns supreme. He has taken the metropolis by storm. Everywhere in all the principal streets, one can see up against ladders and poles, a lot of dirty water. "Wet paint," is scrawled upon a label or the pavement every few yards. Inside and outside, over the roofs and into the cellars the house cleaner has penetrated. His reign is one of terror. The owner flees the city, and the cleaner smokes his pipe filled with rank tobacco in "the ladies' sacred bondoir." He is lord of the house, and he knows it. He glories in his supremacy.

There is another gentleman also that seems to be everywhere present, and that is the roadmaker. A stranger arriving in London just now, might imagine the city in a state of barricade, as though there had been a popular rising. Wood blocks and stones for paving are raised in many of the streets six feet high, and palings are placed right across the street. These latter are very disappointing to men hurrying to business or to catch trains, and in many places, in consequence, it is quicker to walk than to take a cab. To add to the discomfort huge vats of asphalt or coal tar belch forth their unpleasant fumes upon the wretched passengers.

The leaves on the trees are growing dingy and the red color of the leaves of the Virginia creeper indicate that summer is passing away.

During the recess of Parliament Mr. Gladstone is by no means idle. Twice on the Sabbath, in the church of Hawarden he labors in presence of an enthusiastic auditory and on ordinary days he labors in the field of literature. A gentleman having asked Mr. Gladstone whether the pamphlet was true which is largely circulated in London under the title of "Echoes from the Vatican," purporting to be an account of Mr. Gladstone's interview with the Pope, the following was the reply:

Aug. 30. Sir.—The pamphlet you sent me is a pure forgery and fiction.

Accounts received from Berlin indicate that the anniversary of Sedan was celebrated with enthusiasm all over Germany on Sept. 1st. The late Emperor William's will, in one clause declares the extension of popular rights to be the safeguard of the nation.

Sir Murell Mackenzie's friends are coming to the front. Dr. J. L. Kleist has published a pamphlet at Charlottenburg, in which he declares that Sir Murell's treatment lengthened the life of Frederick and so enabled him to come to the throne for a short time, which will be remembered by the German people with gratitude that cannot be effaced.

The appointment of Herr Von Bennigsen, the chief of the national liberals, to the post of chief president, that is to say, governor of Hannover, marks a new departure in German politics. Herr Von Bennigsen favors a considerable modification of the present system of home government, and his appointment is regarded as a proof that the Emperor is not disposed to be drawn further in the direction of ultra conservatism.

The discussion between France and Italy seems to have terminated with M. Goblet's last dispatch, which is written in a very temperate and conciliatory tone. Two important parts of the article, however, is the declaration that France will not oppose the acquisition of Tripoli by Italy. In reference to this discussion, the able French journal *La Liberte* writes: "This country is satisfied with its position on the two shores of the Mediterranean. Toulon on one side, and Algeria on the other, are sufficient, if need be, for the protection of French interests. France has no occasion for the further extension of her African possessions either to the east or west. Can Italy say as much? Is it not incontestable that Italy regards Tripoli as a possible conquest, which must not be allowed to escape her? What has really changed the equilibrium of the Mediterranean is the occupation of Egypt by England. This power holds the keys of Gibraltar and the Red Sea, while Egypt, Cyprus and Malta combine to turn the Mediterranean into an English lake. Yet Italy has only polite words for England while she regards France with mistrust." J. H. W.

BORN.

DUNFORD.—To the wife of G. H. Dunford of this city, Sept. 25, a daughter. Mother and child doing well.

DEATHS.

BARNEY.—In Spring City, September 18th, 1888, Deborah Barney, deceased was born September 22d, 1808. She was a quiet and pious old lady, and died in full hope of a glorious resurrection.

BLISS.—In Washington, Washington County, Utah, Sept. 14, 1888, of congestive chills, Lydia Stout, relict of the late Norman J. Bliss, of Toquerville.

Deceased was the daughter of Allen J. and Amanda M. Stool, and was born April 16, 1819, in St. Joseph, Mo. She leaves six children, and died a faithful latter-day Saint.—[Cont.]

THORN.—In the Fourth Ward, Salt Lake City, September 29th, 1888, Joseph Charles, son of Joseph W. and Mary Jane Knight Thorn; born March 17th 1857; aged 1 year, 6 months and 13 days.

In 1850 "Brown's Bronchial Troches" were introduced, and their success as a cure for Colds, Coughs, Asthma and Bronchitis has been unparalleled.


The "Exposition Universelle de 1889" awarded the highest honor to Angostura Bitters as the most efficacious stimulant to excite the appetite and to keep the digestive organs in good order. Ask for the genuine article, manufactured by Dr. J. G. B. Sierert & Sons, and beware of imitations.


DOCTORS' BILLS.

Nearly all diseases originate from infection of the liver, and this is especially the case with chills and fever, intermittent fevers and malarial diseases. To save doctors' bills and ward off disease take Simmons' Liver Regulator, a medicine that increases in popularity every year, and has become the most popular and best endorsed medicine in the market for the cure of liver or bowel diseases.—*Telegraph*, Dubuque, Iowa.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One brown MARE and COLT, mare about 11 years old, branded  on left shoulder

and vented on left thigh, also  on left shoulder.

If not claimed in fifteen days from date, will be sold at the estray pound at Junction, Platte County, Utah, on Tuesday, the 9th day of October, 1888, at 10 o'clock a. m.

JOHN S. BAKER,
Poundkeeper.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One bay HORSE, five or six years old, white stripe in face, right hind foot white, saddle marked, branded O or a diamond on right shoulder and A E (very dim) on left thigh.

If damage and costs on said animal be not paid within fifteen days from date of this notice, it will be sold to the highest cash bidder, at the Nephi estray pound, at 2 o'clock p. m., on the 15th day of October, 1888.

Dated at Nephi Precinct, Juab Co. Utah, this 29th day of September, 1888.
PETER SUTTON,
Poundkeeper of said Precinct.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:


One four-year old light red STEER, illegible brand on the right thigh, crop and sit in the right ear and under half crop in the left.

If said animal is not claimed within 15 days, and all damages and expenses paid, he will be sold at auction in the estray pound, Cedar City, at 9 o'clock a. m. on the 5th of October.

RICHARD PALMER,
Poundkeeper.
Cedar City, Iron Co., Sept. 27, 1888.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:


One Sorrel, three-year old MAKE, strip in face, hind feet white, branded  on right thigh.

If the above described animal is not claimed on or before October 12th, 1888, it will be sold at public auction, at the estray pound in Tooele City, at 11 o'clock a. m. October 12th, 1888.

M. H. NELSON, Poundkeeper.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:




One spotted blue and white STEER; 2 years old; branded  on right hip; under half-crop in each ear.


If the above described animal is not claimed and taken away on or before Oct. 10th, it will be sold to the highest cash bidder, at Enterprise estray pound, at 1 o'clock p. m.

J. W. OVARD,
Poundkeeper.
Peterson Precinct, Morgan County, Utah, Sept. 26th, 1888.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One black MARK, 5 or 6 years old, both hind feet white, collar marked, branded  on left shoulder,  on left thigh, and  on right shoulder.

One old sorrel MARE MULE, saddle marked on back and ribs, hind in left eye, branded  on left side of neck, illegible brand on right thigh.

If not taken away before Friday, 12th day of October, will be sold to the highest bidder, at 10 o'clock a. m.

J. J. FREEMAN,
Poundkeeper.

Herriman, Sept. 27, 1888.