

APPRECIATED KINDNESS.

THE Antonito (Col.) *Sentinel* re-produces the following kindly disposed article which originally appeared in the Deming (N. M.) *Headlight*:

"There is little doubt that the Mormon", as a class, have entered upon another and a fourth movement in the nature of a flight, though this time freed from many of the annoyances, the haste and the cruelties of former instances of banishment from homes their industry and frugality had created.

"There is something pathetic in the history and movements of these people. Beginning in north-eastern Ohio, they were forced by local persecution successively through Missouri, Illinois, and across the great plains—thousands of miles of weary march on foot, dragging their carts, and living on such roots and game as they could find, oftentimes half starved—into the mountain deserts and fastnesses of Utah, where it was supposed civilization, in other forms, could never come.

"They were not then polygamists. Mormonism was simply a form of Divine worship differing from other forms of devotional exercise. Yet they were persecuted through the three States named with all the vigor that characterized the persecutions of the early Christians. They were robbed, beaten and stoned, and their Prophet murdered—not because of any lawlessness or crime, not because of any unfaithfulness to their obligations of citizenship, or for the non-performance of any public duty, or for any dishonesty in their dealings with their neighbors, but simply because they had evolved a new religion and chose to adhere to it, and to those of their faith, as all other devotees do and always have done.

"But they are again on the move, this time for Old Mexico. They are going, this time, quietly and in peace—singly and in small parties, as suits their convenience and pleasure, and beyond the bounds of the United States.

"Though they are American citizens, attend strictly to their own business and pay their debts, for sixty years they have received nothing but beatings under the American flag; and now they are going to try a foreign country, to cast their lot with an alien people, and swear allegiance to a foreign flag.

"Large numbers of these people are already located in the vicinity of Ascension and Diaz, some one hundred or two hundred miles south of Deming, and more are passing here for that locality almost daily. They have purchased from the Mexican government considerable areas of land, are reducing it to cultivation, living quiet and orderly lives, and building themselves comfortable homes.

It is to be hoped that they will now be left alone so long as they continue to live quiet and orderly lives and obey the laws—and that they are certainly doing, so far as anybody can be judged by appearances."

The passage toward Old Mexico of Latter-day Saints seeking homes in that country formed a justifiable basis for the presumption that a general exodus was contemplated. This, however, is not the case. Several settlements have been es-

tablished in Mexico and the attractions of soil and climate, together with a prospect of immunity from the assaults of bigoted religionists and self-seeking politicians, are inducing a number of "Mormons" to pull up stakes and seek the new field for colonization.

The *Headlight* is right in its estimate of the people to whom it refers in words of kindness.

The *Sentinel*, from whose columns we clipped the article, speaks in the same vein of commendation regarding the Saints who once settled in Conejos County, Colorado, with whose status its editor appears to be familiar. It characterizes them as the most thrifty farmers, and says they "make the best of citizens."

In conclusion it says:

"The San Luis Valley farmers owe much of their success in growing crops from examples taken from the Mormons. They are our best farmers, especially those from the northern Territories."

The gentlemen who conduct the two journals from which we have quoted may rest assured that their words of kindness and sympathy, spoken at a time when the people they refer to are vituperatively assailed from almost every quarter, are much appreciated. It has always required unusual courage to be a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and maintain that status. It now requires no small degree of the same quality in a journalist who will say a word in defense of that community. The editors of the *Sentinel* and *Headlight* appear to possess it.

NOT ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE

H. F. THORUP was convicted May 14, in the Third District Court, of unlawful cohabitation.

Let any unprejudiced person examine the evidence and he will be forced to the conclusion that the conviction was in direct opposition to it.

There was no testimony to the effect that the defendant had ever visited the house of his plural wife. The case therefore rested solely upon the question of parentage of a young child.

The officers who visited the house of the plural wife with a view to arresting the defendant, found the woman with a young child on her lap. They testified to this fact, the theory of the prosecution being that the infant was the child of the woman having it in her immediate care. Mrs. Hannibal gave similar evidence.

The only other witness besides the officers—Messrs. Vandercook and Cannon—and the other one referred to, was the alleged mother. She testified to the same facts as did the officers, but in addition that she had no children, all her little ones being dead, and that the infant she was nursing when the marshals visited her house was the offspring of the legal wife of the defendant.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty. The defense asked the court to set aside the verdict, on the ground that it was not based on the evidence. The court refused to do this, stating that the jury elected to believe the testimony of the officers in preference to that given by the woman.

The absurdity of this declination of the court for that reason is apparent, as the verdict could only be based upon proof of the plural wife being the mother of the infant. The only evidence given on that point was her own testimony. She testified that the child was not hers.

The verdict was, in our opinion, an outrage, and the refusal to set it aside was, to our thinking, of the same nature, and unworthy a man of Judge Zane's ability. We believe that had the defendant not been a "Mormon" he would have been promptly acquitted, if indeed he would ever have been pursued by the minions of the law.

Trial by jury, so far as relates to "Mormons," is practically abolished in Utah.

FRUITS OF THE PROPOSED WRONG

LESS than ninety days of "Liberal" rule in this city has afforded much evidence of what may be expected to follow the domination of that party over the Territory as a whole, and the municipal subdivisions embraced in it. During the period named, real estate here has fallen at least twenty-five per cent, is still falling in price and the amount of sales, and a feeling of distrust has taken the place of the confident anticipations which prevailed before the election.

This is particularly true among parties who contemplated investing in such enterprises as involved the obtaining of franchises from the City Council, such as electric light, natural gas and rapid transit plants. The feeling is that investors in property of this sort have no protection against having their plants duplicated, by the connivance of the city government, and their investments greatly depreciated in value.