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Truth and Liberty.

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

SEPTEMBER, 1841.

Saturday, 25.—Hyrum Smith, son of Hyrum and Jerusha Smith, died, aged seven years, four months, and twenty eight days.

A Conference was held at Vinna Haven, Fox Island; eight elders, one priest, two teachers, one deacon, and one hundred and forty members, were represented, and the work progressing.

I extract the following from Elder W. Woodruff's Journal:—

"We left the Manitou Island, Lake Michigan, at 4 o'clock, p.m., on the steamer Chesapeake, which contained 300 passengers, 6 of whom were members of the church; a large quantity of freight and coal, 80 cords of wood, 8 mules, pigs, chickens, geese, ducks, &c.

We continued our journey towards Chicago without any interruption, until 11½ p.m., when we were overtaken by a tremendous storm of wind and rain; it blew a hurricane, and the lake became as rough as it could be by the force of wind, and such a scene as quickly followed I never before witnessed in my travels, either by land or sea. The captain, officers, hands, and most of the passengers expected to go to the bottom of the lake, to have judged from outward appearances I should think there were twenty chances of being lost to one of being saved, yet I did not once expect to be lost, for I believed the Lord would save me, my wife and child, who were with me, from a watery grave, by some means.

We were some 40 miles from land when the gale struck us, and I was awoke from a sound sleep by the cry, "We are all lost." The first thought that entered my mind was, "No, we shall not be lost."

I immediately leaped out of my berth, and went on to the upper deck. I saw we were in imminent danger of being wrecked; the bow of the boat was heavily laden, and frequently engulfed by the heavy waves that washed over her; there were judged to be 50 tons of water at a time upon her bow; at one time her bow ran under water, and some thought she would never rise: the water set the mules and all the live stock afloat; washed away the partition; and the mules, pigs, chickens, ducks and geese, were all hurled in one mass down into the steerage cabin, mixed pell-mell with 60 Irish passengers, men, women, and children; at that moment the roaring of the wind, the rush of the waters, the peals of thunder, the flashes of lightning, the braying of asses, the squealing of pigs, the quacking of ducks, geese and chickens, the praying, swearing, and screaming of men, women, and children, created a compound sound which rent the air, and sent a gloomy thrill through the heart.

We immediately went to work, and helped all the passengers out of the water, and from among the beasts, upon the deck, so their lives were preserved, while all the fowls, pigs, and part of the mules were drowned or killed; many tons of water rushed through the boat, until the water stood nearly to the boilers; it drove the firemen from their places.

About this time, when the boat was laboring against wind and tide, one of the wheel chains broke, and the boat rolled over on to one side. I again heard the cry "that all was lost," but about 30 of us caught hold of the two detached pieces of chain, and held them together until the engineer mended them with wire.

It took three strong men to manage the wheel; while the boat lay upon her side, it washed away a part of the state rooms; orders were given to clear the boat of everything that was moveable; all the wood was fastened with stanchions, on the side that was down the stanchions were knocked out by the passengers, and 40 cords of wood tumbled into the sea at one surge; this caused the boat to right up, and we expected every moment our state room would be washed away. I left it three times with my wife and child, and stepped upon the main deck, expecting to see it washed away; and to add to the horror of the scene, we were wrapped in darkness, as all the lanterns were dashed to pieces.

The men at the wheel labored hard for five hours to turn the boat round, before they accomplished it, so that they could run before the storm. At length daylight appeared, and with it a cessation of the storm in a measure. We returned to Manitou Island at 4 o'clock, being 24 hours out, mostly in the storm.

Thursday, 30.—Copy of a statement of expenses consequent upon the arrest of Joseph Smith, upon demand from Governor Boggs, and sent to the Deputy Sheriff of Adams County, he having officiated June, 1841.

"Nauvoo, Sept 30, 1841.

"The Deputy Sheriff of Adams County:

The following is a statement of my expenses, costs, and liabilities, consequent upon my arrest and trial while in your custody; to wit:

To amount of fees to Esquires Ralston, Warren, & Co. - - - \$250.00

" Esquires Little, Williams, Walker, and Browning - - - 100.00

" 7 days for self, horse, and carriage, at \$5.00 - - - 35.00

" Money expended during that time, consequent upon the arrest - - - 60.00

" 12 witnesses, to wit: E. Higbee, J. P. Greene, A. Lyman, D. Chase, F. Higbee, C. Higbee, R. Cahoon, G. W. Robinson, J. Younger, L. Woodworth, V. Knight, and R. B. Thompson, 4 days each; their time, carriages, horses, and expenses, at \$5.00 each day - - 240.00

\$685.00

Dear Sir:—You will please take such measures as to put me in possession of the above amount, which is justly due me as above stated; to say nothing of false imprisonment and other expenses. Would have been presented earlier, but for the sickness and death of R. B. Thompson, my clerk. Receive my respects, &c.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Per John S. Fullmer.

Friday, October 1, 1841.—Among the interesting relics of antiquity which have been brought to light in these days, is the following sentence from the "Courier des Etats Unis."

"SENTENCE RENDERED BY PONTIUS PILATE, ACTING GOVERNOR OF LOWER GALILEE, STATING THAT JESUS OF NAZARETH SHALL SUFFER DEATH ON THE CROSS.

"In the year seventeen of the Emperor Tiberius Cæsar, and the 25th day of March, the city of the Holy Jerusalem, Anna and Caiaphas being Priests, sacrificators of the people of God, Pontius Pilate, Governor of Lower Galilee, sitting on the Presidential Chair of the Prætorium, condemns Jesus of Nazareth to die on the cross between two thieves—the great and notorious evidence of the people saying: 1. Jesus is a seducer. 2. He is seditious. 3. He is an enemy of the law. 4. He calls himself falsely the Son of God. 5. He calls himself falsely the King of Israel. 6. He entered into the Temple, followed by a multitude bearing palm branches in their hands. Order the first centurion, Quillus Cornelius; to lead him to the place of execution. Forbid to any person whomsoever, either poor or rich, to oppose the death of Jesus.

The witnesses who signed the condemnation of Jesus are, viz.: 1. Daniel Robani. 2. Raphael Robani. 3. Capet, a citizen. Jesus shall go out of the city of Jerusalem by the gate of Struenuus."

"The above sentence is engraved on a copper plate; on one side are written these words:—"A similar plate is sent to each tribe." It was found in an antique vase of white marble, while excavating in the ancient city of Aquila, in the kingdom of Naples, in the year 1820, and was discovered by the Commissaries of Arts attached to the French armies. At the expedition of Naples, it was found enclosed in a box of ebony, in the Sacristy of the Chartrem. The vase in the Chapel of Caserta. The French translation was made by the members of the Commission of Arts. The original is in the Hebrew language. The Chartrem requested earnestly that the plate should not be taken away from them. The request was granted as a reward for the sacrifice they had made for the army. M. Denon, one of the Savans, caused a plate to be made of the same model, on which he had engraved the above sentence. At the sale of his collection of antiquities, &c., it was bought by Lord Howard for 2,890 francs. Its intrinsic value and interest are much greater."

"A few years ago, there was found at Catskill in New York, a shekel of Israel, of the time of our Savior. On one side was the representation of a palm leaf, on the other a picture of the Temple, with the words underneath, 'Holy Jerusalem' in the Hebrew tongue."

Relics like these, properly authenticated, have about them an inexpressible sacredness.

George M. Hinkle, who robbed my house in Far West, while I was in prison, passing down the river with a flat boat, I commenced suit against him before the District Court, now sitting at Burlington, Iowa. I sent Elias Smith and George W. Gee to attend to the suit; but Hinkle gave security, and got it put off till spring.

Day stormy and cold, a few assembled, but conference did not organize.

I received a letter from Benjamin Winchester, requesting to be excused from accompanying Elder Snow on his mission to Salem, Massachusetts, on account of ill health and pecuniary embarrassments; and expressing his conviction that Elder J. E. Page had means enough to accompany Elder O. Hyde to Jerusalem.

Saturday, 2.—"Conference met in the Grove. The Presidency being absent laying the corner stone of the Nauvoo House, the meeting was

called to order by President B. Young; the several quorums were organized and seated in order. President Brigham Young opened conference by prayer.

The conference then made choice of President Joseph Smith to preside, and Elias Smith and Gustavus Hills, clerks. Meeting adjourned until 2 p.m.

Prayer by O. Pratt.

Two p.m., President Joseph Smith opened the meeting. Choir sung 18th Hymn.

The President then read a letter from Elder Orson Hyde, dated Ratisbon, July 17, 1841, giving an account of his journey and success in his mission, which was listened to with intense interest; and the conference, by vote, expressed their approbation of the style and spirit of said letter. The President then made remarks on the inclemency of the weather, and the uncomfortable situation of the Saints with regard to a place of worship, and a place of public entertainment.

The conference was then called upon by the President to elect a general Church clerk, in place of R. B. Thompson, deceased. James Sloan was nominated and elected.

Elder Lyman Wight nominated Bishop George Miller to preside over the High Priests' Quorum in place of Don Carlos Smith deceased, who was duly elected.

President B. Young then presented the business commenced at the late Special Conference of the 16th of August; with regard to the appointment of suitable and faithful men to the several important stations of labor in this and other countries.

Elder Lyman Wight addressed the conference on the importance of order, uniformity of instruction, and unanimity of effort to spread the work of the kingdom.

President Joseph Smith made some corrections of doctrine, quoting 1 Cor. 12, 28, showing the principle of order and unity in the offices of the priesthood.

The Patriarch Hyrum Smith made remarks disapproving of the course pursued by some elders, in counteracting the efforts of the Presidency to gather the Saints, and in enticing them to stop in places not appointed for the gathering; particularly referred to the conduct of Elder Almon W. Babbitt of Kirtland.

Elders Lyman Wight and Henry W. Miller testified that they had travelled in places where Elder A. W. Babbitt had, on his return from his visit to Nauvoo, taught doctrine contrary to the revelations of God, and detrimental to the interests of the Church.

Moved and carried, that Elder Almon W. Babbitt be disfellowshipped until he shall make satisfaction.

Choir sung Hymn 124. Prayer by Elder George A. Smith.

Conference adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

Sunday, 3.—Conference assembled at Nauvoo according to adjournment; prayer by Elder H. C. Kimball.

President Joseph Smith, by request of some of the Twelve Apostles, gave instructions on the doctrine of Baptism for the Dead, which was listened to with intense interest by the large assembly. He presented baptism for the dead as the only way that men can appear as saviors on Mount Zion.

The proclamation of the first principles of the gospel was a means of salvation to men individually; and it was the truth, not men, that saved them; but men by actively engaging in rites of salvation substitutionally, became instrumental in bringing multitudes of their kin into the kingdom of God.

A Crimean General.

A correspondent of the London "Times" thus speaks of General Burgoyne, the commanding engineer officer in the Crimea:

"It is a curious coincidence in the history of one life, that Sir John Burgoyne should, in the prime and at the end of his military career, have commanded the engineers in two great sieges, and twice have been foiled from the very same circumstance.

In 1812, when the Duke of Wellington advanced against Burgos, the town was unfortified, but an old castle had been modernized, and the French had thrown up three lines of earthworks round the spot on which it stood. These had been executed in haste and in defiance of all rule, but against this we fired, sapped and mined in vain; 2,000 French soldiers held the place against an English army, commanded by a general undefeated up to that time, but who was then forced to retreat, to abandon his siege train, and the campaign of that year was a failure.

After forty-two years, Sir John again commands before Sebastopol, and again the same thing occurs. A few earthworks are thrown up in haste before our own eyes, and the career of a victorious army is arrested. And why is this? Had Sir John been able to read the signs of the times, the lesson so rudely taught him at Burgos would not have been thrown away. Our engineers would have known what earthworks were, and been prepared with means to destroy them, if such be possible; or we should not have sat down before them as we have done, to have the fearful risk of failure.

We are reduced to our present state simply and solely because Sir John, at the head of a large party of veterans, has, during the forty years of peace, resisted every improvement in military science as a personal insult to their

superior knowledge and experience, and they have, in consequence of their position, been able to keep things pretty much as they were at the end of the last war.

Sir John Burgoyne is pre-eminently what is termed in official parlance 'a safe man'; he never troubled the minister for money to make scientific experiments, or to improve the education of engineers or artillerymen. For every inventor he had a bucket of cold water administered in the blandest manner possible.

He possessed, above all men, the art of keeping things smooth and quiet in Pall-mall, and rose in favor and in fortune accordingly. He hoped, of course, that these things would last his time, and so they would have done but for this ugly Russian war, which has destroyed these visions of quiet; and we now find ourselves engaged in a struggle with the most barbarous nation of Europe, whose soldiers are serfs, whose officers are half-educated, and whose military system is corrupt to the core, yet in every scientific point they have shown themselves as superior to us in military, as we are to them and the rest of Europe in civil engineering.

Their artillery silences ours without difficulty. Their shells are larger and thrown with greater precision than ours, and their skill in fortification amazes our officers, who can make no head against it. Their science, in short, has made up for all their other deficiencies, and neutralized all the intelligence and bravery of our noble soldiers. It is for all this we have to thank Sir John Burgoyne and his band of co-obstructives, who have reduced the skill of the most scientific and enterprising people of Europe below the level of the most barbarous."

PAPAL CHURCH—Macaulay's Testimony.—The great historian of England, in reference to the Church of Rome, has made, for the benefit of the present and future ages, the following clear, pointed, truthful and enduring record:

"During the last three centuries, to stunt the growth of the human mind has been her chief object. Throughout Christendom, whatever advance has been made in knowledge, in freedom, in wealth, and in the arts of life, has been made in spite of her, and has everywhere been in inverse proportion to her power.

The loveliest and most fertile provinces of Europe have, under her rule, been sunk in poverty, in political servitude, and in intellectual torpor—while Protestant countries, once proverbial for sterility and barbarism, have been turned, by skill and industry, into gardens, and can boast of a long list of heroes and statesmen, philosophers and poets.

Whoever, knowing what Italy and Scotland naturally are, and what four hundred years ago, they actually were, shall now compare the country around Rome with the country around Edinburgh, will be able to form some judgment as to the tendency of Papal domination.

The descent of Spain, once the first among monarchies, to the lowest depths of degradation, the elevation of Holland, in spite of many natural disadvantages, to a position such as no commonwealth so small has ever reached, teach the same lesson.

Whoever passes, in Germany, from a Roman Catholic to a Protestant principality, in Switzerland from a Roman Catholic to a Protestant canton, in Ireland from a Roman Catholic to a Protestant county, finds that he has passed from a lower to higher grade of civilization.

On the other side of the Atlantic the same law prevails. The Protestants of the United States have left far behind them the Roman Catholics of Lower Canada, who remain inert, while the whole continent round them is in a ferment with Protestant activity and enterprise.

The French have doubtless shown an energy and an intelligence which, even when misdirected, have justly entitled them to be called a great people. But this apparent exception, when examined, will be found to confirm the rule; for in no country that is called Roman Catholic has the Roman Catholic Church, during several generations, possessed so little authority as in France."

WHY THE FOURTH OF MARCH WAS SELECTED.—The Portland Advertiser, correcting the blundering statement which every year or two goes the round of the papers; to the effect that the fourth of March was selected as the beginning of the Presidential term because it will not fall on Sunday for three hundred years to come, says: "The selection of the fourth of March as the day for the beginning of the presidential term seems to have been the result of accident. The old Continental Congress, when the ratification of the new constitution by the necessary number of States had been ascertained, passed a resolution, Sept. 13, 1788, appointing the first Wednesday of the next January for the choice of the presidential electors, [the first Wednesday of February for the election of President and Vice President, and the first Wednesday of March as the time for the organization of the new government. The first Wednesday of March happened to be, in the year 1789, the fourth of March, and as the administration which began on that day was limited to four years by the Constitution, the next and all succeeding administrations have begun on this day of the month."

A SHORT SERMON ON MANLINESS.—Learn from the earliest days to insure your principles against the peril of ridicule. You can no more exercise your reason if you live in the constant dread of laughter, than you can enjoy your life if you are in constant terror of death. If you think it right to differ from the times, and to make a point of morals, do it, however antiquated, however rustic, however pedantic it may appear; do it, not for insolence, but seriously and grandly—as a man who wore a soul of his own in his bosom, and did not wait till it was breathed into him by the breath of fashion.—[Sidney Smith.

The man who "kept his word," gave serious offence to Webster, who wanted it for his Dictionary.