

lived with two wives, and was released on \$1,000 bail.

John Gray was arrested on Saturday on the customary charge, and went before the Commissioner, where he gave bonds in the sum of \$1,000 to answer to the grand jury.

Today the preliminary examination of the case of the United States vs. Joel Hicks, accused of unlawful cohabitation, was to be held before Commissioner Goodwin.

Big Fire at Stockton.—Early on Saturday morning Stockton, Tooele County, was the scene of a disastrous fire. The evening before some one had started a fire between Franks' and Kelly Brothers' saloons, which was discovered and extinguished without harm. A large packing box had been saturated with oil and ignited. This circumstance, added to the fact that a strong wind was blowing at the time, caused some anxiety to those in the vicinity, and a watchman was put on guard. About 4 o'clock on Saturday morning, however, another and successful attempt was made by the incendiary. The flames broke out in two places, one between Mr. Frank's residence and the Kelly saloon, and the other at Mr. Frank's saloon. The fire made rapid headway, as there was very little water available, and in a short time John Frank's livery stable and saloon, Kelly Brothers' saloon, A. W. Young's store, Co. Rourke's dwelling, Thomas Guodry's bakery and E. B. Shoebridge's drug store were destroyed. But little property was saved, and the loss will probably aggregate \$20,000. The insurance will amount to about one-half that sum and is chiefly with companies represented by Darke & Co., of this city.

Yesterday morning, Mr. Fuller, of Darke & Co., went out to the scene of the fire, and will probably return this evening, with fuller details of the occurrence and of the losses sustained. There seems to be no doubt, from the circumstances, that it was the work of an incendiary, and possibly the perpetrator of the crime may be apprehended. It is said that a woman threatened to burn one of the saloons because the proprietor sold her hard liquor, but whether this threat had anything to do with the starting of the fire is very doubtful. The incendiary, if caught, will doubtless receive merited punishment.

THE BASSETT CASE.

The Defendant Placed Under Bonds—He is also Charged with Polygamy.

Exorbitant Bail Demanded.

This afternoon the hearing in the case of Bishop Wm. E. Bassett, of the Twentieth Ward, came up before Commissioner McKay. Judge J. Z. Stewart, of Cache County, Mrs. Sarah Williams Bassett, former wife of the defendant, Mrs. Annie L. Cowley, and a number of other witnesses from Logan City were present.

Sarah Ann Williams Bassett was called as the first witness. She testified—I live at Logan; was married May 2, 1872, to the defendant, in Carville, Wales.

Mr. Young objected to the further testimony of this witness on the ground that a wife could not be compelled to testify against her husband. The testimony was allowed to go in respect to the ruling of Judge Zaue.

Witness continuing—I lived with him Aug. 17, 1884; have not lived with him since; I know Kate Smith Bassett; am not acquainted with her; have known her by sight a number of years, since 1870; Mr. Bassett told me she was his wife.

Objected to by the defense, as a confidential communication of the husband.

Witness, to Mr. Varian—I have never lived with him since; I understood she was his wife; he left my house August 12th, 1884, and came back on the 16th; next day he told me Kate Smith was his wife; he said he was going to Richmond on Church business; I severed my relations with him on the 17th; I was then living in Salt Lake; we came from Logan in May, 1884, and lived in Salt Lake; he told me that while he was at Logan he had married Kate Smith; he did not live with me since; he claims to have received a divorce; I received a summons from the Salt Lake County Court.

Judge J. Z. Stewart testified—I am Probate Judge of Cache County; have held that office about three years; there is no record in that county during that time of a divorce between defendant and Sarah Williams Bassett.

Mr. Varian sent Deputy Smith out for a warrant of arrest for Bishop Bassett, on the charge of polygamy.

Mrs. Sarah Williams Bassett, to the Commissioner—I have never been divorced; I was summoned to appear, but Mr. Bassett kept me out of court; this was the last of December, 1885; he met me at the train, took me to the Valley House and left me there; he claims that he has a divorce.

A complaint charging Bishop Bassett with having committed

POLYGAMY

at Logan, August 14, 1884, by marrying Kate Smith, while he had a wife living, was sworn to by Mr. Varian. The defendant was arrested and arraigned on this charge, and pleaded not guilty. The defendant asked that the examina-

tion be waived. This request was denied.

Mrs. Kate Smith Bassett testified—I am married to the defendant, and reside in Salt Lake City.

Mr. Young objected to the testimony of this witness. Overruled.

Mr. Varian—You were married at Logan?

Witness—I was married in Salt Lake City.

Mr. Young here asked that the questions be withdrawn, but Mr. Varian refused. Messrs. Young and Varian then held a private consultation, and the witness was excused.

Miss Margaret D. Smith testified—I am not married to Mr. Bassett; have never been married; my home is in Logan; I have been with my sister, in this city since June last.

The witnesses were subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury, which was ordered convened as early as practicable.

Commissioner, to Bishop Bassett—You are Bishop of the Twentieth Ward, aren't you?

Mr. Bassett—Yes, sir.

Commissioner—Well, on the polygamy charge you will give bail in \$10,000 bonds, and for unlawful cohabitation \$5,000.

Mr. Moyle objected to such an exorbitant bond.

The Commissioner said that where the relationship had been entered into a long time since, he was disposed to fix the bail low, but in these cases he wanted it high, and would fix it at the same figure in future cases. He said "I want these people to understand that this thing must be stopped. It makes no difference what he is worth in property."

The Commissioner then remarked to Deputy Pratt, "If he don't get bail he is in your custody all night."

The bonds of Mrs. Kate Smith Bassett and Miss Margaret D. Smith, were fixed at \$500.

The defendant was sworn and testified—I am 35 years of age; I have no property, having turned it all over to my first wife when she was divorced; I cannot get a \$15,000 or a \$10,000 bond, I might give a smaller bond.

Commissioner to Mr. Young—What do you think of George Q. Cannon? He objected to the bail, yet ran away from a \$45,000 bond.

Mr. Young—Sir, I made a respectful request and expect a respectful answer.

Commissioner—Well, I'll let the bond stay as it is.

The witnesses were ordered to appear on Thursday, the 21st, at 2 p. m., before the grand jury of the Third District.

OGDEN DEPARTMENT.

OGDEN CITY, Utah,
Oct. 17, 1886.

Editor Deseret News:

THE WEATHER here for the last two days has been magnificent. The atmosphere has been soft, balmy, pleasant and inviting to pedestrians to be abroad, and partially as a result of this, our city has been thronged with visitors from the adjoining settlements; some on business and some on pleasure bent, taking advantage of the fine time as they do not know how long it will continue.

IN BUSINESS CIRCLES there has been considerable improvement and much activity of late. Some of our merchants have been laying in immense stocks of fall and winter goods, and are offering the merchandise which they have carried during the summer at low figures, to make room for their fresh supplies and latest styles of new goods.

A GENTLEMAN of the house of Judah is announced to lecture here on the 26th and 27th prox., on subjects pertaining to the Orient. His name is Wad El Ward—James Rosedale. The gentleman has had a lengthy and interesting experience in oriental countries as traveler, guide and interpreter. The lectures will be delivered under the auspices of the Methodist church in this city, and will doubtless be interesting and entertaining.

YESTERDAY Mr. O. E. Hill, of the Commercial National Bank of this city, forwarded to the Mayor of Charleston, for the relief of the sufferers in the late earthquake catastrophe, \$121.00, which has been raised by the Women's Relief Corps and other parties in Ogden. The relief fund was inaugurated by the members of the G. A. R. of this place, and thus far their efforts in the laudable enterprise have been successful.

THE CURFEW LAW has thus far been of great benefit to parents in the city. At nine o'clock in summer, and at eight o'clock in the fall and winter evenings, the iron tongue of the curfew bell tolls its solemn warning to the boys and girls to vacate their congregating places and seek the hearths and homes beneath their parents' roofs. This has afforded heart-ease to many an anxious mother and fond father, to know that their children are, at seasonable hours, beneath their own guardianship and watchful eyes. But some of the youngsters are now inclined to disregard the sound of the bell-clapper and to violate the curfew law. They will do it but about once, for the police will surely arrest them when found, and escort them to the City Hall, where they will learn obedience by enduring a night in confinement.

The two days' quarterly conference of the Weber Stake has just closed.

It commenced on Saturday morning in the Ordentabernacle at 10 o'clock.

Besides the Stake and many local authorities, there were present F. D. Richards and John Henry Smith, of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. The morning meeting was addressed by Bishops R. McQuinn, David McKay, J. A. Albrecht, E. S. Ratford, Thos. Wallace, Counselor B. White and President C. F. Middleton. Their addresses consisted of testimonies of the truth of the great latter-day work of the Lord, recounting the dealings of the Almighty with his people in former times and at the present day; speaking in appreciation of the great blessings and privileges, both temporally and spiritually, which the Latter-day Saints enjoy above many thousands of their fellow beings of the world, and exhorting them to live lives of purity, truth and honor before each other and the world.

In the afternoon Elder John Henry Smith delivered a stirring discourse on the duties of the Saints at the present time, treating on their present condition, and the attitude of the world towards them, and pointing out to them the necessity of all who have a membership in the Church, obtaining a knowledge of the truth of this work, for themselves, that they may be able to give their testimony in its favor to the world, and to stand firm and immovable when the day of trial and test of their integrity shall come.

This morning the Tabernacle was filled to its utmost capacity. The reports of the Bishops of the several wards was read by the clerk. From them it was ascertained that the Latter-day Saints in this county are improving and advancing in faith, and many other good works. Their faith in the authorities of the Church is not only unshaken, but it is increasing and grows stronger each day as persecutions and prosecutions increase against them and the people. They are increasing in numbers, naturally and by immigration. All the institutions of the wards are in excellent condition, the Sabbath schools are flourishing and the poor are liberally provided for. The Improvement Associations are doing a good work among the youth of both sexes, and are of great help to the Stake and Ward authorities. The statistical report gives to this Stake 10,013 souls. Included in this total are over 2,000 persons who hold some portion of the Priesthood from the apostleship to the deacon, nearly all of whom are in the harness, and are laboring (except the very aged) in some capacity or other among the people at home or abroad. The mortality has been comparatively small, only 29 all told since last report. Eleven of these were males. The births have been more than four times the number of the deaths. The increase by baptisms is 132 during the past three months. When the general and local authorities of the Church were presented they were sustained in their several positions by the simultaneous uplifting of a vast forest of hands, with not a dissenting vote throughout the presentations. Thus it will be seen that the boast of the crusaders of the diminution of the faith of the people in their leaders is all empty bombast. On the contrary, there never was a time when the vast majority of the Latter-day Saints had more faith in the integrity of the authorities of the Church than was manifested in their actions to-day. Not the least factor, by any means, which helps to make up the strength of Israel in this Stake, is over eleven hundred young men—members of the Improvement Associations—who are making themselves familiar with the revelations of God, both ancient and modern, and are disseminated volumes of truth and intelligence among their fellows and qualifying themselves for more important fields of usefulness in the great work of human redemption.

This afternoon the time was occupied by Apostles J. H. Smith and F. D. Richards. They each delivered an excellent discourse on the subject of marriage. Their remarks were replete with sound instruction. They showed the design and purpose of the Almighty in instituting the marriage relation—that it was to fill the earth with a population of righteous beings, who should be trained up in the fear of the Lord; that the man and the woman were made for each other, and they are not and can not be without each other, in the Lord. They pointed out that the marriage covenant, as instituted by God, was made with reference not to time only, but for all eternity—and that it was the design of the Lord that husbands and wives who honor Him should enjoy the companionship of each other and their posterity in the resurrection of the just, when death shall be swallowed up in victory. They gave much valuable instruction to young people who are contemplating entering into the marriage estate, and counseled them to seek the guidance of the Spirit of God to direct them in all their movements in this direction; and before consulting the young lady, or trying to win her affections, the young man should first obtain the consent of her parents and thus proceed honorably and legitimately in all matters pertaining to this holy estate; and when their arrangements are made, go to the House of the Lord and there be united by the authority of the Holy Priesthood for time and eternity. Their offspring will then be born in the covenant and will be heirs to all the blessings of the New and Everlasting Covenant.

Apostle Richards also spoke at length in an inspiring and encouraging manner of those brethren who have been imprisoned for their integrity to the cause of God. He showed that all their sufferings for the Gospel's sake will be sanctified to them and will redound greatly to their honor in the future; that they will in all time to come be sought after by their brethren to fill positions of honor, trust and responsibility for which their faith and true-heartedness have qualified them. The reunion just closed has been one of the most interesting, peaceful, instructive and beneficial ever held in the Weber Stake of Zion. Not a jar, not a discord, not anything seemed to mar the happiness of the conference, and all returned to their homes apparently more determined than hitherto to do their duties in bearing their portion of the responsibility of building up the great work of salvation.

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