

# THE DESERET WEEKLY,

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

Saturday, - - - October 1, 1892.

## CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-third Semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning, October 6th, 1892.

The officers and members of the Church generally are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the Conference.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,  
GEORGE Q. CANNON,  
JOSEPH F. SMITH,  
First Presidency.

## A HYPOCRITE, FALSIFIER AND TRAITOR.

It is unnecessary to make any introductory explanation to the following correspondence:

HAND, Horry County, S. C.,  
September 14, 1892.

Editor Deseret News:

Copies of a letter have been circulated in this county by a Methodist minister from one of his brethren in Ogden, which is perfectly ridiculous and the cause of much persecution. If you feel as if it will do good to expose his wickedness, do so. It has been the cause of some of our Elders being mobbed, and I received a letter giving me ten days to leave the country and it enclosed two charges of ammunition. If there is any way to expose the conspirators and put a stop to such treachery it should be done, for the lives of honest and innocent men are in jeopardy.

I will enclose a copy of the letter, or that portion of it which refers to us, and you can use it as you see fit, it being a public matter. Copies of it have been put in circulation and it has also been read from different pulpits. Yours Respectfully, HENRY S. TANNER.

HILL'S LETTER.

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
OGDEN, Utah, July 2, 1892.

J. Wesley Hill, Pastor.

Dear Brother Ferguson:

I mail you a copy of my lecture on the question about which you write. Will furnish you all you want at 20 cents a copy.

Mormonism means ignorance, bestiality and blasphemy. It is a foul system, reeking with all that is vile and debauched. Those missionaries should be whipped out of your community as enemies of morality and polluters of purity, but I need say no more for my lecture will give you a perfect photograph of the beast. My prayers are with you. Spare no strength in striking at the monstrosity. If they say polygamy is dead, tell

them they had better return to Utah and bury the putrid abomination. The truth is, it is being practiced all over the Territory and Joseph Smith is the only Savior they know.

There is this consolation, however; none but the low, sensual and senseless, ignorant, idiotic and mentally deformed will fall into the Mormon net.

Sincerely yours,

J. WESLEY HILL.

P.S. You are at liberty to use this letter and lecture in any way you deem necessary. Living in Utah I have hurried these hot truths into the old Blue Beards camp for four years. J. W. HILL.

We cheerfully undertake to comply with the request contained in Elder Tanner's letter. This pleasure is enhanced because it involves the performance of a duty—the exposure of an unconscionable hypocrite. The task is one of easy performance, the subject being unusually vulnerable.

Hill is designated in Ogden, where he is held in marked contempt, as "the Kid." He has quite a reputation there as a stealer of other people's sermons and palming them off on the public as his own. He also enjoys the unenviable distinction of being the most murderous-minded and all round vindictive individual in this intermountain region. This latter trait has been specially but by no means exclusively exhibited toward the "Mormons." He has frequently expressed a wish that they should all be hanged, and fiendishly uttered a desire to take part in the total extinguishment of the Saints by means of assassination. It is needless to say that as a hollow-hearted hypocrite he is a pronounced success.

This unregenerated wretch winds up his slanderous attack upon an unoffending and upright community by saying, with characteristic bravado, "I have hurried these hot truths into the old Blue Beards' camp for four years." Everybody here, "Mormon" and non-"Mormon," knows that what he calls "hot truths" are cold-blooded, malicious falsehoods. When uttered here they excite derision and contempt. They are manufactured and used for outside effect, and they are sown abroad in the instance under consideration for this purpose. He wants the Elders "whipped" and no doubt murdered, for the spirit, if not the blood, of Cain is in him. Should assassination by mob violence be the result of his retailed falsehoods at "20 cents" a batch, he would be accessory to murder before the fact.

J. Wesley Hill knows he utters an unmitigated slander when he accuses the "Mormons" and their religion with being saturated with corruption. The non-"Mormon" population of Utah and surrounding States know what we say to be correct. Even in the heat of prosecutions under the Edmunds law, those who were engaged in enforcing the statute and who went to extraordinary extremes in doing so, publicly stated in open court that outside of the practice of polygamy, the Latter-day Saints were a chaste people. We cite Mr. W. H. Dickson as having expressed himself to that effect when he was United States District Attorney for Utah. Mr. C. S. Varian, who succeeded Mr. Dickson, made a similar statement in the course of an argument in conduct-

ing a case. Chief Justice Zane, whose opportunities for observation on the subject have been in some respects unequalled, entertained the same view. Since the abolition of the practice of polygamy, which was obnoxious to the nation, the Saints have not changed in relation to chastity.

As to the unscrupulous assertion about the "Mormons" being "senseless, ignorant, idiotic and mentally deformed," the very use of such an expression from a professed follower of Christ and teacher of His doctrine shows that the mind of him who uttered it is abnormally warped, knarled and impregnated with intellectual and moral putrefaction.

It is appropriate that we draw from other sources for a portraiture of this small-souled phenomenally inhuman wretch, who has even recently exhibited toward one of his superiors the characteristics of Judas Iscariot. This we will explain in further along.

The local public will have some recollection of the disgraceful squabble which broke out among the Methodist clergymen and other officials of that Church over the proposed universality of the sect at Ogden early in 1891. The leading combatants in the scandalous quarrel were the Rev. Samuel Small, president of the university, and J. Wesley Hill. The latter made serious charges of embezzlement against Mr. Small while he was in the east obtaining funds for the founding of the educational institution in question. When he heard of the allegations that had been made against him he sent the following telegram, which was published at the time in the Ogden Standard and also in the NEWS:

"Philadelphia, Pa., April 8.—The charges made by Hill and Franklin are the same malicious slanders that Hill retracted by telegraph March 26. I am moving for Hill's expulsion from the ministry and this last act by Hill and Franklin is an endeavor to bulldoze me. It does not succeed. I will not quit. I am ready for the fullest investigation of my accounts. I have done no wrong and have nothing to conceal or fear. I have perfect showing for every cent.

Signed, SAML. W. SMALL."

We now present another and more elaborate portrait of the Rev. J. Wesley Hill, drawn by the same artistic hand. A dispatch dated at Atlanta, Ga., May 5th, 1891, also over the signature of Mr. Small, contained the following:

"Many newspapers continue, from some motive I cannot imagine, to publish the slanderous telegrams concerning me, sent out from Utah by the hand or connivance of that infamous, liar, hypocrite, and lewd sham preacher, Rev. J. Wesley Hill, of the first Methodist church at Ogden.

"This is the same thief and swindler who came to Philadelphia, wormed himself into the Methodist pulpits, lifted collections for his church, which he pocketed and squandered upon himself, and his family; who sponged upon the hospitality of new made acquaintances and turned their houses and hospitality to ridicule and jeerings; who forced a lot of real estate upon benevolent Methodists at fabulous prices and with a series of lies that would appal a bunco man; who did this in the name of the church when it was the private snap speculation of himself and a gang of Ogden sharpers; who lives a double life, preaching 'holiness' in the pulpit and indulging his lecherous lusts in private;