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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

APRIL, 1843.

Saturday, April 1, 1843.—Called at the office about 10 a.m., for "the Law of the Lord," and about noon I heard read Truthiana No. 3, from the Boston Bee. At 2 p.m., I started in company with O. Hyde and W. Clayton for Ramus; the roads were very muddy, we arrived about 6 1/2 p.m., and were very joyfully received by bro. Benjamin F. Johnson, where we slept for the night.

Elders B. Young and John Taylor went to La Harpe.

The Times and Seasons contains a well written editorial upon the signs of the times. See page 153.

A conference was held at Augusta, Lee County, Iowa Territory; Elder John Smith, president of the Saints in Iowa, presiding. James Brown was appointed the presiding elder of the Augusta branch, which numbered eighty four members in good standing, including two high priests, eleven elders, four priests, two teachers, and one deacon: twelve persons united with the branch: seven elders, two priests, and one deacon were ordained: one of the elders was a Lamanite of the Delaware tribe. A resolution was unanimously passed to uphold the First Presidency and follow their councils, and to use their utmost endeavors to build the Nauvoo House, as well as the Temple. A number of discourses were preached during the conference, and several persons requested baptism at the close.

Elder P. P. Pratt writes:—

"Alton, April 1, 1843.

Dear Brother:—Brother Lorenzo Snow arrived in St. Louis last Wednesday from England, with about 250 emigrants. They are now laying on a boat bound for Nauvoo, as soon as the river opens. They sailed from England some time in January, and bring a copy of the Millennial Star, and some private letters, under date January 1st. From these we learn the painful fact, that our dear brother and fellow laborer Elder Lorenzo Barnes is gone to be with Christ. He lingered some weeks with a fever, and at length died in the triumphs of faith.

He died on the morning of the 20th of December last, at Bradford, the first messenger of this last dispensation, who, for Christ's sake and the gospel's, has laid down his life in a foreign land.

In this dispensation of providence an entire people are called to mourn. Bro. Barnes was everywhere known, and universally beloved, as a meek, humble, and zealous minister of the gospel, who has labored extensively for many years with great success. Such was his wisdom and prudence, and such his modesty and kindness, that he won the friendship, not only of the Saints, but of thousands of various sects, and of those who made no profession. In short, his was the favored portion which falls to the lot of but few men, even among the great and good. He was loved and esteemed by many, and hated by few, in all the wide circle of his acquaintance. But, in the midst of a useful career on earth, he is suddenly, and to us unexpectedly, called away to a higher and more glorious field of action; with the spirits of the just, in the high council of the King of Kings. His spirit now justly claims an honored seat; his voice is now heard in the deliberations of the high and mighty ones, who are the principal movers in the great events of the dispensation of the fulness of times, whilst his body lies sleeping far away from his native shore, on a distant island of the sea.

No father, or mother, or kindred were near, To receive his last blessing, or drop a kind tear,
With heart-broken anguish to weep o'er his tomb,
Or adorn it with roses of richest perfume.

Yet he was lamented with many a tear,
By hearts full of sorrow, by souls as sincere;
Who in solemn procession repaired to the grave,
To mourn for the stranger no kindness could save.

'Twas a tribute from souls he had won for his Lord;

Yea, brothers and sisters, made nigh by his word;

Whose love was as strong, and whose friendship as pure;

Whose grief was as heartfelt as heart can endure.

His name and memory will be dear to thousands, and will be handed down to all generations, as one who has devoted his time from early youth in the service of his God and of his fellow creatures, and has laid down his life for Christ's sake, and the gospel's, to find it again, even life eternal.

The Saints in England seem to be still rejoicing in the truth, and increasing in numbers.

The emigration to Nauvoo is gathering as a cloud; yea, they are flocking as doves to their windows, from all parts of England and the States. The ice remaining so late in the river, has congregated them in St. Louis in great numbers, some from Ohio and the East, and from various places. I think that thousands will land in Nauvoo in the course of the spring. Yes, as soon as the ice is out, they will throng to Nauvoo in swarms. The people in Missouri are beginning to be more and more astonished, and are expressing great fears that 'Joe Smith' will yet prevail, so as to restore the supremacy of the laws in that dark corner of the earth, where a gang of robbers and murderers have so long controlled a State.

I long to be with you on the 6th of April, but fear that the ice will prevent.

I am, in haste, yours in the new covenant.

P. P. PRATT.

A short sketch of the rise of the "Young Gentlemen and Ladies Relief Society," is published in the Times and Seasons of this day.

In the latter part of January, 1843, a number of young people assembled at the house of Elder H. C. Kimball, who warned them against the various temptations to which youth is exposed, and gave an appointment expressly for the young, at the house of Elder Billings; and another meeting was held in the ensuing week at bro. Farr's schoolroom, which was filled to overflowing. Elder Kimball delivered addresses, exhorting the young people to study the scriptures, and enable themselves to "give a reason for the hope within them," and to be ready to go on to the stage of action, when their present instructors and leaders had gone behind the scenes, also to keep good company, and to keep pure and unspotted from the world.

The next meeting was appointed to be held at my house, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, it was completely filled at an early hour. Elder Kimball as usual delivered an address, warning his hearers against giving heed to their youthful passions, and exhorting them to be obedient and to pay strict attention to the advice and command of their parents, who were better calculated to guide the pathway of youth than they themselves.

My house being too small, the next meeting was appointed to be held in the hall over my store. I addressed the young people for some time, expressing my gratitude to Elder Kimball for having commenced this glorious work, which would be the means of doing a great deal of good, and said the gratitude of all good men, and of the youth, would follow him through life, and he would always look back upon the winter of 1843 with pleasure. I experienced more embarrassment in standing before them, than I should before kings and nobles of the earth, for I knew the crimes of which they were guilty, and knew precisely how to address them; but that my young friends were guilty of none of them, and therefore I hardly knew what to say. I advised them to organize themselves into a society for the relief of the poor, and recommended to them a poor lame English brother (Maudesley), who wanted a house built that he might have a home amongst the Saints—that he had gathered a few materials for the purpose, but was unable to use them, and he has petitioned for aid. I advised them to choose a committee to collect funds for this purpose, and perform this charitable act as soon as the weather permitted. I gave them such advice as I deemed was calculated to guide their conduct through life, and prepare them for a glorious eternity.

A meeting was appointed to carry out these suggestions, at which William Cutler was chosen president, and Marcellus L. Bates, clerk; Andrew Cahoon, C. V. Spencer, and Stephen Perry were appointed to draft a constitution for the society, and the meeting adjourned to the 28th of March, when the said committee submitted the draft of a constitution consisting of twelve sections. The report was unanimously adopted, and the meeting proceeded to choose their officers. William Walker was chosen president, William Cutler, vice-president, Lorin Walker, treasurer, and James M. Monroe, secretary; Stephen Perry, Marcellus L. Bates, R. A. Allred, William H. Kimball, and Garret Ivans, were appointed a committee of vigilance. The meeting then adjourned until the next Tuesday evening.

The next meeting was addressed by Elders Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Jedediah M. Grant, whose instructions were listened to with breathless attention.

The Boston Weekly Bee has the following:—

"MORMONISM.

Sir:—On Thursday evening, March 23rd, agreeable to appointment, Elder Adams addressed a large concourse of people, on the character and mission of Joseph Smith, the prophet: In speaking of him, he bears a positive and direct testimony to the divinity of his mission. He does this without hesitation; just as if he meant what he said, and said what he meant. He does not say he hopes Joseph Smith is a true prophet, but says he is positive that such is the fact.—On Sabbath, March 26th, during the day, he introduced Elder E. P. Maginn, and gave him a high recommendation as an able minister of the fulness of the gospel, who is to take his place in Boston for the present. He also spoke of Elder Orson Hyde, one of the Twelve Apostles, that would probably visit them this spring—and, according to Adams' account of him, he must be a perfect Apollo in learning and eloquence. The Boylston Hall was a perfect jam during the day and evening. On Tuesday evening he gave his farewell lecture. That was a rich treat indeed, embodying the outline of the faith and doctrine of Latter Day Saints. But on Wednesday evening, at the great tea party, was the time it was clearly manifested that kindest feelings existed in this city towards the Mormons. There was present on that occasion over five hundred people: three hundred and fifty sat down at the first table. After supper, Elder Adams delivered a very appropriate and eloquent address. It was listened to with profound attention, during which time we saw the tear start in many an eye. During his remarks he spoke very beautifully of 'the marriage supper of the Lamb,' that was to wind up this last dispensation—cause creation to cease to groan—and usher in the long looked for period, when universal religion, liberty and toleration shall be proclaimed from 'mountain top to mountain top, and every man, in every place, shall meet a brother and a friend.'

Yours truly, (not a Mormon, but) one of the many friends to that much abused people.

Boston, April 1, 1843.

D. W. R."

AGRICULTURAL.

Minutes of Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society.

BOWERY, G. S. L. City, }
June 25, 1856, 3 p.m. }

Present of the Board—Edward Hunter, president; Seth M. Blair, and C. H. Oliphant, directors; J. C. Little, treasurer, and R. L. Campbell, secretary.

Many members of the awarding committees.

Of the ladies' committee—Mrs. Viliate Kimball, Mrs. Lydia Partridge, Mrs. Bathsheba W. Smith, Mrs. Margaret T. Smoot, and Mrs. Margaret Hoagland.

Meeting opened with prayer by Bishop A. Hoagland. Synopsis of remarks by Pres. Hunter:—I am happy to see our sisters with us on this occasion, and also many brethren who have not attended before. In the wisdom of our Legislature, they have chartered the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society. I am an agriculturist by profession, and have always been a devoted advocate for home manufactures. I remember that in the State of Pennsylvania, where I was raised, when she owed Great Britain millions of dollars, by the advice of Mr. Buchanan, our senator, and of a few other honorable men of our State, we turned our attention to home manufactures and soon became one of the most flourishing States in the Union. We ought to manufacture all we wear, and appear in our homespun; the very nature of our location requires this, and the interests of the kingdom of God demand it at our hands. I have often told my colleagues, the Bishops, that unless we turn our energies in that channel, and cease to send all our means to a foreign market to buy gewgaws, instead of a rich inheritance, we shall have a rebuke.

A lady of my acquaintance is manufacturing a shawl, another a piece of jeans, a third flannel, &c., &c., each operating in what they have had most experience.

The object in calling the committees together at this time is to know whether they are willing to assist us in this good work, and if they have the spirit of this great work it will be a pleasure to them. It is necessary that we all be active co-workers in so important a movement, that every useful department may receive the necessary stimulus.

Messrs. Blair, Woodruff, and Little and Bishop L. D. Young, followed the President, with spirited, instructive and encouraging remarks, at the conclusion of which President Hunter exhibited a hat which he bought of Mr. Heywood four years ago, saying that it had not come to its best yet; and said that the Bishops who dress in home-made clothes appear better to him than those who wear imported goods. He urged all to do the same, and asked the sisters if they would lend their aid, when Mrs. Kimball replied, "we will."

Mr. Woodruff said that he would like to see every post in the Bowery, during the next October Conference, draped with specimens of home manufacture. He remarked that the ladies' committee was the most prompt in attendance, and that he was glad they were so spirited in the subject.

The Secretary presented the design for first class diplomas, and it was voted that it be accepted.

Voted that the chairman of each committee be instructed to advertise that he is ready at all times to receive notices of articles or animals to be presented for premiums, from all who intend to compete within his class.

Adjourned till next Wednesday, at 7 p.m.

Benediction by Elder Woodruff.

TO PREVENT CABBAGES FROM GROWING TO "LONG SHANKS."—To secure true, solid heads of cabbage on those stalks which manifest a disposition to grow to what are commonly known as "long shanks," take a pen-knife and stab it through the stalk about the middle; insert a small piece of wood to keep the incision open, which will check the growth. By doing this, good heads of cabbage may be secured on every stalk.—[Genesee Farmer.

GRAFTING OR BUDDING.—Mr. Stowel says, that in selecting grafts, take the twigs from those branches which have borne fruit the previous season; or if you want buds, take from those which have fruit upon them. By being careful as to this you will get fruit, usually in two years from insertion.—B.—[Michigan Farmer.

ASPARAGUS.—We notice that it is stated that Mr. A. E. Brown, a gentleman who cultivates a fine garden near Albany, N. Y., raises asparagus very profitably in the following manner:

About the first of July, after the asparagus has all been cut off, the bed is thoroughly hoed, all the weeds, grass, and even the tops of the asparagus itself is cut off, and the whole raked away. The surface of the bed is then left clean and mellow, and as the asparagus soon springs up again and covers the ground, the bed is kept free to yield its whole strength to the crop. In addition to the hoeing, a good coating of well-prepared compost, liberally saturated with salt, will have a most beneficial effect upon this crop.

Mr. Brown informs the editor of the Country Gentleman that from his bed, 102 feet long by 60 feet wide, he sold \$93.75 worth of asparagus in addition to what was consumed by two families. This production would be at the rate of \$700 per acre!—[Michigan Farmer.

GUANO FOR INSECTS.—A correspondent of the Horticulturist says:

"Some time last summer, while budding some young peaches, I found that ants had taken possession of some ten feet in one row. They very earnestly resisted my attempts to inoculate the trees, inflicting many unpleasant wounds on my hands and arms. In order to disperse the warlike little nation, I sprinkled near a pint of fine guano along the little ridges. This threw them into immediate consternation. I noticed little collections of winged ants huddled close together, and seeming to be quiet, while those without wings ran about in great agitation. The following day not a single insect could be found where the day previous they appeared to be innumerable."

To which we add the following from an unknown source: "We had a very fine melon patch which was well nigh destroyed by the striped bug. The vines had commenced running, and in two or three days the bugs had stripped nearly every leaf. As a desperate remedy, we applied a handful of guano on the top of the hill as far as the vines had run, taking care that it did not fall on the leaf. In twenty-four hours not a bug was to be seen; the vines had assumed a healthy and vigorous growth, and are now loaded with fruit. The experiment was not on one vine only, but hundreds."—[Western Agriculturist, October 19.

SAVING CHOICE SEEDS.—The fact that we can get superior breeds of animals only from the very best and most perfect specimens, is so well established that no one now doubts it, and thousands pay large amounts for the use or ownership of these superior breeders. Why should not the case be analogous in the raising of vegetables? Experience says it is analogous—that superior vegetables can be raised only from the most mature and perfect seeds. This the market gardeners in the vicinity of cities are well aware of, and govern themselves accordingly. To raise these fine vegetables, for which they can obtain almost any price—and prices always in advance of the market prices for ordinary articles—they use seeds in the production and selection of which the greatest pains have been taken. These superior seeds are raised by themselves, or specially for them; they do not depend on seed-dealers for their supplies. They save their most thrifty specimens of radishes, lettuce, parsnips, turnips, beets, carrots, cabbages, &c. &c., from which to raise their own seed. By doing this, year after year, most surprising improvements have been made in the size, flavor, taste and other qualities of many garden productions.

These facts, well known among market gardeners and others, render it highly probable, or almost certain, that in the case of all plants and all vegetable productions, improvement to any extent, or to an indefinite extent, might be secured if the practice of selecting only the best specimens and the best seeds were persevered in for a number of years.

Some who have been at pains in this matter for a few years, have obtained such a reputation for superior kinds of various vegetables and grains, that they can obtain prices for their seed corn, seed wheat, seed potatoes and garden seeds, which are highly remunerative. Some have obtained so much reputation for superiority, in field and garden products, that they can sell all they can raise at any price, which they may ask.—[Country Gentleman.