

THE DESERET NEWS.

Truth and Liberty.

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

DECEMBER, 1841.

Monday, 20.—I communicated to the Times and Seasons, as follows:

"To my friends in Illinois. The Gubernatorial Convention of the State of Illinois have nominated Colonel Adam W. Snyder for Governor, and Colonel John Moore for Lieutenant Governor of the State of Illinois, election to take place in August next.

Colonel Moore, like Judge Douglass and Esquire Warren, was an intimate friend of General Bennett long before that gentleman became a member of our community; and General Bennett informs us that no men were more efficient in assisting him to procure our great chartered privileges, than were Colonel Snyder, and Colonel Moore. They are sterling men, and friends of equal rights, opposed to the oppressor's grasp and the tyrant's rod. With such men at the head of our State Government we have nothing to fear.

In the next canvass, we shall be influenced by no party consideration, and no Carthaginian coalescence or collusion, with our people, will be suffered to affect, or operate against General Bennett, or any other of our tried friends, already semi-officially in the field; so the partisans in this county, who expect to divide the friends of humanity and equal rights, will find themselves mistaken—we care not a fig for Whig or Democrat: they are both alike to us, but we shall go for our friends, our tried friends, and the cause of human liberty, which is the cause of God.

We are aware that "divide and conquer" is the watchword with many, but with us it cannot be done—we love liberty too well—we have suffered too much to be easily duped—we have no cat-paws amongst us. We voted for GENERAL HARRISON because we loved him—he was a gallant officer and a tried statesman; but this is no reason why we should always be governed by his friends. He is now dead, and all of his friends are not ours. We claim the privileges of freemen, and shall act accordingly. DOUGLASS is a master spirit, and his friends are our friends—we are willing to cast our banners in the air, and fight by his side in the cause of humanity and equal rights—the cause of liberty and the law.

Snyder and Moore are his friends—they are ours. These men are free from the prejudices and superstitions of the age, and such men we love, and such men will ever receive our support, be their political predilections what they may. Snyder and Moore are known to be our friends; their friendship is vouched for by those whom we have tried. We will never be justly charged with the sin of ingratitude—they have served us, and we will serve them.

JOSEPH SMITH,

Lieutenant General of the Nauvoo Legion."

Tuesday, 21.—I received from Edward Hunter a letter on business, to which I wrote the following reply:

"Nauvoo, December 21, 1841.

Mr. E. Hunter: Beloved Brother:—Yours of the 27th of October came to hand at a late date, but I am now able to say to you that the power of attorney is executed and sent up to the Clerk's office for the seal of state, and will be forwarded direct from them; it is now on the way most probably.

Your letter did not arrive till after Mr. Potter returned with the goods, which I received in safety; and brother Potter has started on a mission to the inhabitants of Jamaica, one of the West India Isles.

I will accept the goods as you propose, on your debt, so far as it goes, and answer the remainder on the payments which you mention, as they become due.

I have purchased ninety acres of timber land in the vicinity of Nauvoo, a little up the river, and have made proposals to Mc Fall, but as yet, am waiting for him to receive answers from his correspondent in the East. I shall be able to purchase all the wood land you will want, in a little time.

As it respects steam engines and mills, my opinion is, we cannot have too many of them. This place has suffered exceedingly from the want of such mills in our midst, and neither one nor two can do the business of this place another

season. We have no good grain or board mill in this place; and most of our flour and lumber has to be brought twenty miles; which subjects us to great inconvenience.

The city is rapidly advancing, many new buildings have been created since you left us, and many more would have arisen, if brick and lumber could have been obtained. There is scarce any limits which can be imagined to the mills and machinery and manufacturing of all kinds, which might be put into profitable operation in this city, and even if others should raise a mill before you get here, it need be no discouragement either to you or to bro. Buckwalter, for it will be difficult for the mills to keep pace with the growth of the place, and you will do well to bring the engine. If you can persuade any of the brethren who are manufacturers of woollens or cottons to come on and establish their business, do so.

I have not ascertained definitely as yet how far the goods will go towards liquidating Dr. Foster's note, or finishing your house; but this I can say, I will make the most of it, and benefit you every possible way.

Your message is delivered to Mrs. Smith, and she will be glad to have returns on her letter of attorney, as speedily as circumstances will permit, according to the understanding thereof.

I am happy to hear of your welfare, and the health of your family; and also to inform you that the health of Nauvoo has much improved since last summer, and considering the very mild state of the weather most of the time, it is excellent.

Myself and family are in health, and our enemies are at peace with us, as much as can be expected in this generation. Should anything new occur, which may be for our advantage, you will please write, and I will do the same.

I remain, yours in the gospel of Christ,

JOSEPH SMITH."

P.S. You will endeavor to have the money on your letter of attorney from Mrs. Smith, ready to furnish a fresh supply of goods early in the spring. J. S."

Wednesday, 22.—"Nauvoo, December 22, 1841. The word of the Lord came unto Joseph the Seer, verily thus saith the Lord, let my servant John Snider take a mission to the eastern continent, unto all the conferences now sitting in that region; and let him carry a package of epistles, that shall be written by my servants the twelve, making known unto them their duties concerning the building of my houses which I have appointed unto you, saith the Lord, that they may bring their gold and their silver, and their precious stones, and the box tree, and the fir-tree, and all fine wood to beautify the place of my sanctuary, saith the Lord; and let him return speedily with all means which shall be put into his hands, even so. Amen."

Elder Amos B. Fuller, of Zarahemla, stated to me, that he had settled all his debts, made all necessary provision for his family, and desired to know the will of God concerning him. "Verily, thus saith the Lord unto my servants the Twelve, let them appoint unto my servant A. B. Fuller a mission to preach my gospel unto the children of men, as it shall be manifested unto them by my Holy Spirit. Amen."

This day commenced receiving the first supply of groceries at the New Store. Thirteen wagons arrived from Warsaw, loaded with sugar, molasses, glass, salt, tea, coffee, &c., purchased in St. Louis. The original stock purchased in New Orleans having been detained at St. Louis by one Holbrook, innkeeper, under false pretences; and on this evening Joseph the Seer commenced giving instructions to the scribe concerning writing the proclamation to the kings of the earth, mentioned in the revelation given January 19, 1841.

Friday, 24.—This evening I had a consultation with President Young and Bishop Whitney, about establishing an agency in England for the cheap and expeditious conveyance of the Saints to Nauvoo, and for our convenience in merchandize; and I said, "in the name of the Lord we will prosper, if we will go forward in this thing."

Elder Truman Gillet, jr., returned from a short mission to Van Buren county, Iowa, where he baptized fourteen, bringing \$20 as a donation to the building of the Temple, from James Moore.

Saturday, 25.—Being Christmas, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, John Taylor, and their wives, and Willard Richards, spent the evening at Hiram Kimball's; and after supper, Mr. Kimball gave each of the Twelve Apostles, a fractional lot of land lying on the west side of his second addition to Nauvoo.

At a conference held in Batavia, Genessee county, New York, 11 branches, comprising 15 elders, 7 priests, 7 teachers, 4 deacons, and 207 members, were represented.

A conference met in the Universalist Church, in Hope, Waldo county, Maine, when Fox Islands, 5 elders, 1 priest, 2 teachers, 1 deacon, and 100 members, also the Main Land, with 6 elders, 2 priests, 3 teachers, 1 deacon, and 68 members, were represented; Otis Shaw, president, and Calvin C. Perleton, clerk.

Sunday, 26.—The public meeting of the Saints was at my house this evening, and after Patriarch Hyrum Smith, and Elder Brigham Young had spoken on the principles of faith, and the gifts of the Spirit, I read the 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians, also a part of the 14th chapter, and remarked

that the gift of tongues was necessary in the Church; but that if Satan could not speak in tongues, he could not tempt a Dutchman, or any other nation, but the English, for he can tempt the Englishman, for he has tempted me, and I am an Englishman; but the gift of tongues, by the power of the Holy Ghost in the Church, is for the benefit of the servants of God to preach to unbelievers, as on the days of Pentecost; when devout men from every nation shall assemble to hear the things of God, let the elders preach to them in their own mother tongue, whether it is German, French, Spanish, or Irish, or any other, and let those interpret who understand the language spoken, in their mother tongue, and this is what the apostle meant in 1st Corinthians 14: 27.

Monday, 27.—I was in council with brothers Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Willard Richards, and John Taylor, at my office, instructing them in the principles of the kingdom, and what the Twelve should do in relation to the mission of John Snyder, and the European conferences, so as to forward the gathering, means for building the Temple and Nauvoo House, and merchandize; that Brigham might go with John on his mission if he choose, but the object of the mission could be accomplished without.

Tuesday, 28.—I baptized Sidney Rigdon in the font, for and in behalf of his parents; I also baptized Reynolds Cahoon and others.

Thursday and Friday, 30 and 31.—Calvin A. Warren, Esq., Mark Aldrich, and Daniel S. Witter visited me at my office, and after much explanation and conversation concerning Warren and War-aw, in which Esquire Warren manifested the kindest and most confidential feelings, and Aldrich and Witter expressed their entire approbation of past proceedings of the Presidency; they all agreed that if I did not succeed in the next attempt, to establish and build up Warren, that they would fully excuse me from all censure, and should feel satisfied that I had done all that could reasonably be required of any man in a like case, be the consequence what it might to themselves; and Esquire Warren frankly acknowledged that his temporal salvation depended on the success of the enterprise, and made liberal proposals for the benefit of the brethren, to help forward the undertaking. The party retired manifesting the best of feeling, and expressing the most perfect satisfaction with their visit, with me and all concerned.

Thursday evening at the office, while conversing with Calvin A. Warren, Esq., about the proceedings at Warsaw, I prophesied in the name of the Lord, that the first thing toward building up Warsaw, was to break it down, to break down them that are there, and that it never would be built up till it was broken down, and after that, keep them entirely in the dark concerning our movements; and it is best to let Sharp publish what he pleases, and go to the devil, and the more lies he prints the sooner he will get through; not buy him out, or hinder him; and after they have been in the dark long enough, let a certain set of men go there, who will do as I tell them, a certain kind of men, some of those capitalists from the Eastern States, say from Pennsylvania; wise men who will take the lead of business, and go-ahead of those that are there, before they know what we are about, and the place will prosper, and not till then.

The following list shows some of the books, pamphlets, letters, &c., published for and against the Latter Day Saints in 1841.

A proclamation to the Saints scattered abroad, Jan. 15, by Joseph Smith, Sidney Rigdon, Hyrum Smith.

Twenty-three numbers of the "Times and Seasons" were published in Nauvoo.

Twelve numbers of the "Millennial Star" were published in England by Parley P. Pratt.

First edition of the "Book of Mormon," published in England 21st January by Elders B. Young and W. Richards.

A third edition of the "Voice of Warning" was published in Manchester, England, by Parley P. Pratt.

A Letter to Queen Victoria of England, touching the signs of the times, and the political destiny of the world: in pamphlet form. By Parley P. Pratt, Manchester, England.

Five hundred copies of an address to the Hebrews, in the Dutch language, by O. Hyde. Published in Rotterdam, Holland: being the first pamphlet pertaining to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, written in a foreign language. July.

A pamphlet containing 116 pages, 8vo, by O. Hyde, containing a synopsis of the faith of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints: addressed to the German nation in their own language.

A small selection of Hymns, by Christopher Morley.

Evidences in proof of the Book of Mormon; a work of 256 pages, 32mo. Published at Batavia, New York, by Charles Thompson.

A lengthy address to the citizens of Salem, Mass., and vicinity, by E. Snow and B. Winchester. October.

Gospel Reflector, a monthly periodical by Benjamin Winchester. Published in Philadelphia.

Proclamation and warning to the inhabitants of America, by Charles Thompson.

The Editor of the Times and Seasons noticed

the following:—"From the 'Upper Mississippian,' a series of letters, entitled 'Nauvoo, Mormon Religion, &c.' The writer, no doubt, intended to give a fair statement; and in the main did; but, respecting our faith (on some points), the Book of Mormon, &c., he is widely from the mark."

An article was published in the "North Staffordshire Mercury," shewing the difference between the Baptists and Latter Day Saints. Hanley, Feb. 16: Signed, "A Baptist." Replied to by Parley P. Pratt, who showed the difference between the Baptists and Former Day Saints.

A severe article against the Latter Day Saints, which filled several columns of fine print, was published in the "Edinburgh Intelligencer" of April 7th, taken from the Athenæum, on the subject of the Book of Mormon and the Latter Day Saints. Replied to by Parley P. Pratt. May.

Mr. J. B. Rollo, of Edinburgh, Scotland, published a pamphlet entitled "Mormonism Exposed." Replied to by Parley P. Pratt. July 10.

The Preston Chronicle, of April 24th, published a long article against the Latter Day Saints, which was replied to by Parley P. Pratt in the Millennial Star, July 10.

A bitter article was published in the "Cheltenham Free Press" of Aug. 23rd, headed "Latter Day Saints Swindle," replied to by Parley P. Pratt in the "Star" of October.

A few plain facts, shewing the folly, wickedness and imposition of the Rev. Timothy R. Matthews. By George J. Adams, Bedford, England.

The St. Louis Mo. Atlas published a favorable article entitled "the Latter Day Saints."

The "Juliet Courier" published a favorable account of the late trial of Joseph Smith. Monmouth, June.

The "Philadelphia Saturday Courier" and the "Public Ledger" on July 10, published several articles anathematizing the Latter Day Saints.

A slanderous pamphlet entitled "Mormonism Unmasked," by A. Gardner, of Rochdale, England.

"The Mormons—Arrest of Joe Smith" was the heading of an article published in the "New York Herald of Commerce," and copied in many of the eastern papers.

The "Christian Messenger and Reformer" published an account of the Latter Day Saints, collected from the Book of E. D. Howe, of Painesville, Ohio.

Tom Sharp, editor of the Warsaw Signal, devoted his entire time to slander, lie against, and misrepresent the Latter Day Saints.

ANECDOTES OF DANIEL WEBSTER.—In speaking of Mr. Webster's strength, I ought to mention his wrestling accomplishments, which have hardly had justice done to them. He excelled as a boy in this respect, and even within a few months of his death could send a man much heavier than himself spinning to the ground. His juvenile experiments with his comrades on his father's bay now may have conduced to such a facility in this serviceable art. However that may be, it proved a source of confidence and protection to him, even among the fire-eaters at Washington. Though repeatedly threatened with personal violence, he never felt the necessity of going armed, averring, that before a man could raise his hand to strike, he could trip him and knock him senseless.

During the time of South Carolina nullification so great was the excitement in Congress that almost every northern Congressman, with the exception of Mr. Webster, wore arms. He himself was vastly amused when, one day at a dinner party in his house, a dozen members of Congress, including in the number, Mr. Edward Everett, whom he had invited as guests came to him in great trepidation, each one supplied with a brace of pistols, asking him for a drawer for their safe keeping during the entertainment.

In 1816, Mr. Webster's courage was tested by a challenge, of which I believe, Mr. Benton was the bearer, from John Randolph of Roanoke, who had taken umbrage at some remarks made by the former on the sugar tax.

His reply was short, but courageous and to the point, declining the challenge—denying the right of Randolph to demand an explanation, but declaring his ability and purpose to punish any one who should in any way "presume upon the fact of his refusal" to fight a duel. Mr. Benton subsequently wrote to Mr. Webster, requesting the publication of the correspondence, but the permission was withheld. Further letters passed between them on this matter so late as the year 1850, which are still preserved among the Webster papers.—[N. Y. Eve. Post.

BOYS AND BIRDS.—"In traveling in New Hampshire from Franconia to the Connecticut river," said a gentleman, "I noticed the bird-nests upon the trees that stood by the road-side, and felt delighted with the evidence which they gave of the good qualities of the mothers and children who live there. I noticed the nest of a bird within three feet of the front door of a dwelling. How confident was that dear little bird—well did it know that the good mother of that household had trained up her children in the way they should go."

Moderation is the silken string running through the pearl chain of all the virtues—and that which most richly adorns them.