

Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH,
January 16, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

To every one interested in the welfare of our common country, and especially of this particular portion, the present state of affairs presents a subject well worthy their attention. From time immemorial, men have been engaged in a continual struggle to maintain inviolate the great principles of civil and religious liberty through the pulpit, at the bar of public justice, in appeals to the people, through the press and the mighty engineering of wide spread publications, and sometimes recourse has been had to the strong arm of might, and with sword and bayonet, the way has been opened up for the light of liberty; or the door of hope has been closed, and men have bound their necks to the cruel yoke of tyrannical masters, their minds and their bodies held subject to the cruel kindness of bigoted Governors, Judges, and administrators of law, in all its ramifications.

It seems strange that men can be found who are willing to act the part of tyrants, and oppress their fellow men, but judging from the past, the men can always be found when the occasion presents itself, and in reading the history of the past, some may be led in a measure to overlook the tyrannical acts of a Nero, a Caesar or a Bonaparte, in the vastness of their projects, and the immensity of their successes: but for the little tyrant, the one that, mushroom like, springs from the accumulated filth and garbage of some dark corner, and for a short period is clothed with "a little brief authority," and uses the opportunity offered to vent his spleen on his fellow men, for such men language fails to convey the feelings in regard to them, and we can only take steps to protect the olfactory from the disagreeable effluvia that surrounds their persons and their acts, and turning our eyes away, refuse to look upon the filth of the wallow into which they throw themselves, or behold the vomit to which they have returned.

Tyrants in all ages of the world are alike. In the name of law and order Elijah was driven from the habitations of men, and forced to dwell in caves and rocks. In the name of law and order the lawyer and the learned men of Judea, crucified the Messiah. In the name of law and order the Spanish inquisition burned men at the stake, and at a later day the same feeling drove the Puritan Fathers from the motherland, and still later Joseph and Hyrum Smith, with a host of others, were sacrificed upon the self same altar, by modern civilization. To-day men have been found who have inherited the same tyrannical spirit, and in the name of law and order, are moving Heaven and earth to break the spirit of independence and liberty, that the people of Utah have guarded so jealously, and but for the feeling in the hearts of the mass of mankind, not many days would elapse, ere petty tyrants would find cause sufficient for the same cry that was heard eighteen hundred years ago, within the walls of the Holy City—"Crucify him, crucify him," and mahap another Wickliff or another Huss might be found in our midst, whose religious tenets needed purifying at the stake, or perhaps the religious ideas of one class of people may not exactly chime in with the belief and practices of another class, consequently another exodus is required in the name of law and order.

For one I grow weary of this endless round, this never varying style of outraging humanity in the sacred name of law and order, often clothed about with the sanctity of religion. Men are told that for belief's sake, they shall be denied the rights of citizenship, the right to sit as jurymen, and, incredible as it may seem, men are to-day suffering the loss of liberty, incarcerated within the strong walls of prisons, on account of the belief in and practice of certain religious tenets. And do the people of the U. S. think where the end of all this will be, do they not know that tyrants seek for excuses, whereby to take away the rights of mankind, and the last tolerance of their acts endangers the very life of independence.

Already the fruits of misrule are to be seen cropping out in our city and Territory. The columns of your paper, Mr. Editor, contain ever and anon the details of some deed of violence. Men are garroted and robbed on our sidewalks. Drinking saloons, gambling hells, and bawdy houses are multiply-

ing in our midst, since the inauguration of a movement, ostensibly in favor of law and order.

A way is gradually opening up, whereby we may rid ourselves of these political cormorants, and again restore to our hitherto quiet and orderly city, its former good name and reputation, tarnished as it has been, by the acts of a "ring" who have adopted a rule or ruin motto.

EXTEMPORE.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 16, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir—I had been an Episcopalian many years, a sincere and devout Baptist not a few, had mingled with Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists, Presbyterians, Catholics, and other prominent religious denominations, but I discovered years ago that the American strpling of "Mormon" notoriety was more than head and shoulders above them all, in everything pertaining to the gospel of Jesus Christ and the government of God; that whilst the former might be adapted to their day and age, they were utterly incapacitated to stand in the day of God's power, when "everything that can be shaken shall be shaken," when the Church and Kingdom of God on the earth, united as the host of heaven, shall be extended from the rivers to the ends of the earth, and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ.

It is not marvelous that the Prince of darkness should inaugurate an immediate and uncompromising warfare against this work, and employ all his power and influence to pull down and destroy that which, eventually would banish him and his infernal legions from the earth. He could fraternize with Christians, orthodox and heterodox, with Greek, Catholic, Protestant and Jew. He was undisturbed by reformations, revivals, and religions of multitudinous variety, patronizing Bible societies, missionary enterprises, peace conventions, evangelical alliances, and every other Christian enterprise with genial satisfaction. But when Joseph Smith received instructions to organize the Church of Jesus Christ with apostles and prophets, and it commenced to spread abroad, the adversary discovered unmistakably, that his kingdom was in danger.

It was not difficult for him to persuade the hireling clergy to close their churches against every representative of the new church, and to raise a long and continuous howl in all their churches to beware of false prophets, and new revelations; the howl was reiterated from pulpit and press until the whole Christian world were put thoroughly on the defensive by closing their churches, their houses, and their hearts against the servants of God, and the everlasting gospel restored from heaven. These precautions, however, were insufficient, for the Spirit of God attended the ministration of the word, and went before the elders, opened the hearts of the honest, until thousands believed the truth, rallied to the standard of Zion, and united their testimony with apostles and prophets concerning this great Latter-day work. It did not take long for his serene highness and his allies to discover their untenable platform, and the danger to which priestcraft and kingcraft were exposed by the introduction of the Church of Jesus Christ, and to cope with it with any prospect of success, they would have to take the offensive and avail themselves of lies, mobs, and murder-tactics, with which their leader had been familiar in other ages when the kingdom of God was upon the earth. Hence we find at a very early period of the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that the Christian world was flooded with the most preposterous lies concerning Joseph Smith and his followers, verifying the old proverb, "A lie will travel round the world, whilst truth is putting his boots on." But forty-one years has produced wondrous changes, and truth has got his boots on, and is sure of an ultimate victory. Thanks to the Almighty, who revealed in this age the wonderful power of steam and electricity, and their scientific adaptation to the wants of a progressive time, truth can now travel as fast as its antagonist, and has not unfrequently shown superiority by overtaking and squelching the monstrous creations of apostates, unjust judges, lying correspondents, and other disreputable characters, designed by their authors to bring odium, disgrace, and destruction upon the Latter-day Saints.

Not only have lies, base and diabolical, proved futile and unsuccessful against us, but mobs, led by Christian

ministers and priests, have spent their hellish fury upon us in vain, and in their anxiety and zeal to destroy the Church of Jesus Christ have not hesitated to shed the blood of Prophets and Saints in this age and upon this land, boasting of its freedom to every man and every creed, and still we live and prosper, and rejoice in the victory given us by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sacred history gives no account of men bearing credentials from the Almighty, officiating as apostles, prophets and elders, who were not abused, persecuted, and whose lives were not sought by their enemies. Modern history cannot show any system that will begin to compare in its results with the magnificent achievements of this Latter-day work, under the leadership of Apostles and Prophets, taken from the common walks of society, who, by the wisdom of God, have successfully battled against the established dogmas, traditions and religions of men. Notwithstanding the opposition and hostility of fanatical leaders and partisans of the powerless and Godless religions of Christendom, and mobs and armies, inflamed with the most base and fiendish passions of which mankind is susceptible which have too often culminated in plunder, arson, and deliberate murder these humble, self-denying, and indomitable representatives of the apostolic gospel have travelled through a selfish and cold hearted world, preaching the gospel without purse and scrip in every nation that would receive them, have baptized and emigrated a great people from the down-trodden nations, and by a masterly combination of this, in some respects, heterogeneous material have organized a community in these mountains, that has no equal on the earth for the purity of its principles and doctrines, for its indefatigable industry, its indomitable perseverance, its temperance and morality, and its unparalleled success, socially, religiously, and intellectually. It is quietly biding its time politically—when the predictions of prophets concerning it will be fulfilled gloriously.

Celebrated warriors, who distinguish themselves by the wholesale slaughter of their fellow-citizens and fellow-Christians, are deferentially honored as the heroes of the age, and such men are chosen as the rulers and arbiters of nations; but we honor and bow in deference to those men whom God has chosen to proclaim his law, and establish his government in the midst of an apostate world; who have to grapple with wickedness in high places, and cope with illegal proceedings of legislative, judicial, and executive authorities, who spend their time in stemming the torrents of social, religious, and political corruption, who, at the sacrifice of every worldly consideration, have established the Church of Jesus Christ upon the earth so firmly, that neither the powers of earth nor the powers of hell can prevail against it; these are the heroes who merit the deference, honor and love of this generation.

Yours respectfully,

JAMES H. HART.

BEAVER CITY, Jan. 15th, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir—In your Semi-Weekly issue of the 13th inst., I see reference made to a charge by the enemies of this people, that non-Mormons cannot get justice in the Territorial Courts, while "Mormons" are not properly dealt with. What you have said of the Probate Court of Salt Lake County is true, as the dockets will show of both Justices' and Probate Courts throughout the Territory. I might instance scores of cases in which our Courts have given judgment in favor of outsiders against resident "Mormons," one lately, where an outsider gained three successive judgments against a prominent "Mormon" in a Justice's Court, the "Mormon" defendant feeling aggrieved, and two of the judgments being too small to admit of an appeal, the whole was brought before the Probate Court by a writ of *certiorari*, where the judgment of the lower court was sustained, and it will be recollected that the Judge of said court is the highest ecclesiastical functionary in the county, and that the Justice of the Peace referred to is one of his counselors.

My space will not allow further references, but all who question this being but one among the many similar cases are respectfully invited to examine the court records throughout the Territory, confirmed by the records of Bishops' and High Council's Courts (ecclesiastical), to which outsiders have appealed to save legal expenses. After these are satisfactorily read, allow me to invite the doubtful to the records of

Territorial and District Courts and the Penitentiary, to plain matters of fact which will show where the seat of injustice lies, and who have been the partial judges. Times almost without number, when the Territorial courts have found true bills and sentenced both "Mormons" and "Gentiles" to the penitentiary, the District Judiciary have turned them loose upon the community, emboldened to daring contempt of Territorial authority. I know of one case of a desperado convicted before a Probate court for shooting with intent to kill, being turned loose by a district judge, and he has prosecuted the Probate Court for (\$50,000) fifty thousand dollars damages, and the general conviction is, if tried before such a jury as is likely to be chosen in said judge's court, he is quite as likely to gain as lose!

Our Territorial laws, which have the sanction of Congress by the provisions of the Organic Act, are ignored, except in cases where, by straining them contrary to the intent of the legislature, they can be made to bear upon innocent citizens, while outsiders who are guilty of the crimes enumerated are set at liberty at city and Territorial expense; and yet with these and many similar facts, our Legislature as well as Congress is asked to make appropriations to continue such unfair dealing. O justice, where art thou? O shame, where hast thou fled? Have your hoary heads gone to that bourne from which no traveler returns? Methinks I hear a still small voice, saying, "Justice still lives and will yet be meted to all according to their merits." Sir, the more I write, the broader the field opens, but I fear I have already trespassed too much upon your time and patience.

Respectfully,

BUD.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 21st, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Please correct an error in my letter about the snow shovel, inserted in the NEWS last Saturday, which ran thus—Some 200 cubic feet in ten minutes. It should be, some 2000 (two thousand) cubic feet in ten minutes, which makes correct the stated total, 120,000, after ten hours continued work.

The figures are by no means too high compared with the figures of the man and his shovel, both represented in ten hours' continued work without rest. The loading of our big shovel is almost momentary, and so are the backing (we are not supposed to back to a far distance) and the unloading, with four men to clear the front between the cutters. These four men should be at the selected place for unloading till the cut is clear and then they jump on and proceed to the next place of action.

With two men on the stand to work the dump, it will be an easy five to eight minutes' work to each load, which contains at least two thousand cubic feet from the cut, when we, as here is supposed, work in more than ten feet deep of snow, and our shovel, as represented, is ten feet wide and twenty or more feet long.

Objections of hard packed snow or even ice inside the rails, in the track of the wheel flanges, have no bearing. An inventor must think of everything concerning his invention, especially when he has such intelligent critics as our American railroad men.

Yours truly,

C. L. ERICSON.

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONVENTION will assemble at Philadelphia on Wednesday, the 6th of June next. The blandishments of the Brotherly Lovites, with the Academy of Music at their back, bore off the prize from the other luckless cities. The Boston offer of baked bean hospitality would not go down; neither Cincinnati's lager beer nor centre all round the circumference theory would wash; Washington's wig-wag had no charms, and the vision of Ku Klux rose beside Louisville's offer of the Kentucky Cross Roads as a place of meeting; St. Louis, with its Browns and Schurzes, stood no show, and the Quakers had a walk over. A magniloquent party-glorifying call was issued, and the meeting separated. The basis of representation in the delegations is to be double the number of Senators and Representatives of each State and two delegates each from the organized Territories.—N. Y. Herald.

A pious but uncultivated judge closes a sentence with the following touching reproach: "Prisoner at the bar, nature has endowed you with a good education and respectable family connections, instead of which you go round the country stealing ducks."