

CORRESPONDENCE.

A BILK AND SCOUNDREL.

RICHMOND, Cache Co., Utah,
May 5, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

In the summer of 1884, two gentlemen (?) calling themselves Harry Bedford and Harry Groves, and representing themselves as deserters from Fort Douglas, came to this place and expressed themselves as desirous of locating here permanently. Bedford became a member of the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City and was "recommended" from there to this place. He had formed the acquaintance of an estimable lady residing in Salt Lake and had no trouble in introducing himself and friend to relatives of his lady friend residing here.

Soon after their arrival Groves began an investigation of the principles of the Gospel and was soon after baptized into the Church under the name of Geo. Giff, (his real name is supposed to be Simms).

The pair behaved themselves as became gentlemen during the summer and began to win the respect of the community.

Mr. Bedford, who had been a member of the Fort Douglas Band, joined the Richmond Brass Band, and thus was enabled to introduce himself and friend into social circles. When work came down in the fall, Bedford removed to Logan for the winter, Groves, or Giff, remaining at this place.

About this time Giff conceived the idea of starting a local paper, and received the hearty support of our best men. He immediately set about taking subscriptions. He placed the price at cents per year, and succeeded in getting several subscribers.

Arrangements were made with the *Journal*, of Logan, to print his paper, and one issue was brought out. During the day before Christmas our partook too freely of King Alcohol, and by night was overloaded and became very noisy and profane, barely escaping a night's lodging at the expense of the city. After dark he assaulted a young lady on the street and made some indecent proposals to her. Christmas day complaint was entered against him and he was arrested and fined \$12. He claimed that he was unable to pay the fine, and rather than see him go to jail, a sympathetic bystander became his surety for the amount, after being taken Giff's pledge that he would be reimbursed. Soon after he was released from custody Giff started Smithfield, saying that he had some objections to make there, and that he would be back the following day.

He might be well to state here that he still \$25 behind on his board bill. Recent developments show that, instead of going to Smithfield, he went to Logan and collected all the money he could there on subscription and advertisements and then took the train for the north. He wrote letters to his several creditors here stating that he had received a telegram from a relative in Ohio, asking him to come at once and he would be furnished with funds to successfully carry on his newspaper scheme.

The next heard from Giff was that he was teaching school in Clifton, Ohio. A charge was preferred against him in the Bishop's court here, and a citation sent him to Clifton. He had guilty to the charge by letter, and pitiously plead for mercy, promising restitution for past offenses and honorable conduct in future. The ruling of the court was that he should make all wrongs right and renew his promises which he solemnly promised to do.

His hellish designs were not fully accomplished yet, however, and it was part of his scheme to profess godliness, while, at heart, he was a fiend incarnate. Being a gentleman in speech and appearance, he became familiar with a young lady of respectability at Clifton; and, under promise of marriage, robbed her of virtue and cast her adrift, leaving her in sorrow and shame. The last heard of him was at Clifton, where he was passing himself as editor of the *Journal*. Perhaps, Editor, if the principal subject of this letter is not in our Territory now, this will not serve as a warning against him, it will serve as a warning to others of his ilk. If it does, the complete object will be accomplished.

H.

NOTES FROM ONEIDA STAKE.

OXFORD, May 4, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

The people of this region are busily engaged in their usual employment of the time of the year, and seem to feel that prospects are favorable for good crops.

On Saturday and Sunday, April 25th and 26th, an unusually good time was enjoyed by the Latter-day Saints at a QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.

and in the Oxford meeting house, at which a host of people gathered to partake of the spiritual food which is dispensed through his servants, had prepared for them. The first day was principally taken up by reports from various wards by Bishops or their representatives, Presidents of Quorums, etc. There was present of the twelve Apostle John W. Taylor, who occupied a portion of the afternoon giving good advice to all. His remarks were very interesting as well as instructive.

On Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, the meeting house being too small to admit of the crowd, many people gathered around the doors and windows to hear the Presidency of the Stake and others of our good brethren who occupied the forenoon, and seemed well pleased with the situation of affairs generally in the Stake.

In the afternoon, after the opening services and administration of the Sacrament, Apostle John W. Taylor delivered an address most suitable to the times, and which we deemed spiritual food indeed.

On the following morning, Apostle John W. Taylor, in company with Counselor Sol. H. Hale, the President of the Relief Society and Counselors and others, started on a tour around the Stake, with the intention of visiting every ward. They reached Franklin on Sunday, May 3d, where they were joined by Counselor George C. Parkinson and wife (she being the President of the Primaries of the Stake,) and her Counselors, and continued their tour. They will no doubt have an excellent time.

ARRESTS

are being made now and then of polygamists and others. I will relate one which occurred last week in Franklin. A girl about 15 years of age by the name of Emma Jolley was arrested for preventing an officer from entering her father's house to arrest him for polygamy. The officer on approaching the door of the house, told the girl he had come to take her father. She replied that she would not let him in if she could prevent him, unless he showed papers authorizing him to search the house. He did not produce them however, and still persisted in trying to get in. The plucky girl held the door for a time and seeing that he was determined to force his way in, she threw some cayenne pepper in his face, thus winning the battle and saving her father from being arrested. She was arrested and brought here for trial, which occurred to-day before Prosecuting Attorney White, who bound her over in the sum of \$500 to await the action of the Grand Jury.

There seems little chance for the "Mormons" to get justice in Idaho, and I presume it is so almost everywhere.

Yours, very respectfully,
A. H. H.

Not in Favor of Humiliating Concessions.

An emasculated man is a most pitiable creature. No man will ever allow fears of personal inconvenience or punishment to side-track his manhood or to ditch his sacred principles. "But," I hear, someone say, "I don't want my wives and daughters insulted by men propounding indecent interrogatories." Are your wives and daughters any better than other people's wives and daughters? Have your wives and daughter, exhibited any eagerness to read about the smutty proceedings going on in the United States District Court now in session in this city, and presided over by Chief Justice Zane? Are your wives and daughters superior to the wives and daughters of Nauvoo, Far West and Kirtland, who so patriotically helped to lay the deep foundations of this mighty work?

I would suggest that our wives and daughters lay aside their prudery and fastidiousness and assume some of the responsibilities now being imposed by a corrupt lot of crusaders.

Should a wife or daughter of mine be insulted as the pure and good Mrs. A. M. Cannon was the other day, if the court would not protect her, I would take it out of the scoundrel's hide after the court adjourned, feeling assured that in so doing I would command the respect of all decent people.

When it comes to the holy principles of our faith there should be no faltering; no conceding; no compromises; no shaking of the knees; no bowing of the neck; no debate whatever. None but poltroons and cowards contemplate such a course, which, when adopted, exhibits pusillanimity in its very essence, and which "Mormons" and all good people despise. Therefore let us stand firm, and whether in life or death, God helping us, betray no lack of manhood and no lack of faith in the sure, certain and inevitable triumph of our cause over every opposition.

I am personally responsible for the above suggestions. SPARTAN.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

Whereas, In the divine providence and infinite wisdom of our Creator, He has removed from our midst our worthy and esteemed fellow-laborer and President Henry J. Lees; and

Whereas, The intimate relations held as Sunday school teacher, President of Y. M. M. I. Association and other offices, make it fitting that we record our appreciation of him; therefore be it

Resolved, That the ability and attention which he has exercised in aiding and conducting our institution will be held in grateful remembrance.

Resolved, That by purity of life and conversation, and fidelity in the discharge of his duties, he has won the love and confidence of his brethren and sisters.

Resolved, That, in deep sympathy with the afflicted relatives and friends of the deceased, we express an earnest hope that even so great a bereavement may be overruled for their good.

Resolved, That these resolutions be

sent to the DESERET NEWS, a copy given to his parents, and that they be copied on the minutes of the Sunday school and Y. M. M. I. Association of Wales.

Henry R. Thomas, Miss Eliza J. Edmunds, J. K. Midgley, Sadie W. Rees, Thomas D. Rees, Hannah W. Rees, Committee.

WALES, Utah, May 4, 1885.

MASS MEETING AT REXBURG

OF THE BANNOCK STAKE OF ZION.

On account of the irregularities of the mails to and from our settlements, the documents were not received until 11 a.m. yesterday, and at 8 o'clock last evening the Rexburg Assembly Room was filled to its utmost capacity with representatives from nearly all the wards of the Stake.

Meeting was called to order, and Walter Paul was unanimously elected chairman, Thomas E. Bassett, secretary, John L. Roberts, vice-chairman, and James M. Cook, assistant secretary.

After singing by the choir, prayer by the chaplain—Henry Flann, and music by R. N. Jeppesen, the chairman made a few introductory remarks upon the object of the meeting, and spoke in an impressive manner regarding the hard treatment received by us at the hands of our enemies, and expressed the hope that all would heartily join with the committee in the protest they have so ably compiled. He closed by reading the report of said committee, which, on motion of G. D. Black, was unanimously accepted.

The protest was read by the secretary, and, on motion of Jno. L. Roberts was most heartily approved by the unanimous voice of the meeting.

Music was rendered by the Rexburg string band, and speeches and songs were indulged in until a late hour.

A vote of thanks was extended to the chairman and all who had taken part in the exercises, and three cheers were offered for the committee who drafted the protest.

The proceedings closed with the choir singing, "Let Zion in her beauty rise," and benediction by the chaplain.

T. E. BASSETT.
Rexburg, Bingham County, I. T.,
May 5th, 1885.

STAR VALLEY.

The following description of Star Valley which appeared in the last issue of the *Logan Journal* is from the pen of Apostle Moses Thatcher:

"The valley lies about 40 miles northeast from Montpelier in Bear Lake County, is easily accessible, about 24 miles long, from three to five wide, well watered, having Stump Creek, Crow Creek and Afton as feeders to the main, Salt River. The soil is excellent, much of it producing blue grass, and the cost for conducting water from the streams on to the land would be much less than elsewhere in our mountains. The hills which are extensive on the west afford excellent grazing. Timber is abundant, of easy access and good quality. Fish and game in the season thereof abundant, and wild strawberries are abundant. Salt Springs are numerous, affording with slight labor the best quality of salt. The valley and surroundings present the most lovely scenery in the mountains. Altitude about 5,500 feet. Winters correspondingly cold, but not windy, the valley being well protected by surrounding hills and mountains. Salt River flows into Snake River after passing through another valley of about equal extent as the one named and probably in every way as desirable. Communication by good wagon road at slight cost can be had in that direction winter and summer with the Snake River settlements. Star Valley was visited and dedicated to the settlement of Saints in 1878, by Elders Brigham Young, Moses Thatcher and Wm. B. Preston, and was subsequently visited by Elders Charles C. Rich, Thatcher and Preston in 1881, when a number of families located there. At that time the name was changed to Star Valley by vote of those present. No more desirable location for happy and prosperous homes can be found in these mountains than in that lovely valley. It is open for settlement.

JUDGE BOREMAN'S CHARGE.

Delivered to the Grand Jury of the First Judicial District, empanelled in Ogden May 4th, 1885:

GENTLEMEN: You have been selected to act as a grand jury for both United States and Territorial business. You will act in a double capacity. I presume you know pretty nearly what your duties are, as well as I can tell you. Some of you have been on the jury before. Still it is my duty to call your attention to some matters; then my work will have been done. In this Territory the crimes that generally have to be inquired into are those of murder and everything connected with and leading to it, such as murderous assaults, robberies and general offenses, together with all the crimes specified in the statute, which will be detailed to you by the Prosecuting Attorney. The United States business is limited to such matters as concern the mails, the post offices. You are to see that everything is kept straight, look after cases of counter-

feiting, and the internal revenue of the Government. There are also cases of polygamy and unlawful cohabitation, which are more common than any other offenses in this Territory, and therefore need a corresponding increase of energy on your part in taking action to suppress those crimes. It is your duty to investigate all crimes and any other offenses, and do your duty. We all depend on the action of the Grand Jury. All our safety depends on their enforcing the laws fearlessly. When they do not, all society suffers. When they shrink from their duty, the law cannot be enforced. Your oath tells you in substance that you are not to indict any one through ill will, or fail to indict through fear, favor or friendship. You have sworn that these feelings shall not control your actions. You must be impartial to see that the laws are enforced. Do not indict any one because you do not like him. Do not indict without evidence, nor on supposition. You cannot indict on your belief or supposition, but on legal evidence. It is your duty to protect not only the citizens, but the government. Every citizen has a right to your protection, and no one should be indicted without good cause. Yet, be free and fearless. You have heard, at different times, I presume, from every Judge who has charged you, the strict charge to keep your doings secret. I will read you the Territorial Statute on the subject. Let no man on the outside know what is going on inside of your room. The very minute a grand jurymen begins to leak, you can set him down as a wilful perjurer, and utterly devoid of respect under the law. It is not only the duty of the grand jury to wait for the prosecuting officer's presentments, but if any one of you of his personal knowledge is aware of the existence of any offense, it is his duty to have it investigated. It is your duty first to devote your attention to the cases of persons who are in person awaiting your action. Whether they are guilty or not, their cases ought to be disposed of. Next come parties who are under bonds, and others. Your foreman [Nathan Kimball] is authorized to swear witnesses. You will select some one of your number to act as clerk to take down the testimony and keep minutes. You are not required to hear any evidence for the defense, yet, if there is any evidence within your reach to explain the state of the case, it is your duty to have it. When you find probable cause it is your sworn duty to find an indictment. I will read from what we call the Poland bill the section relating to your duties.

You are to inquire into the condition of every person imprisoned, the condition of prisoners, the conduct of public officers, Federal, Territorial, and every description, and any wilful, corrupt conduct they may be guilty of. You have free access to all public records at reasonable hours. I do not know of anything else to call your attention to except to remind you that the people have their eyes upon you, and expect you to do your duty regardless of consequences. The law says that if the evidence warrants it, you must find an indictment. You must not allow any person to be present when you are casting your votes. Gentlemen, I expect you will do your duty. The Court to-day will adjourn to the 20th inst., when Judge Powers is expected to be here. You will retire to your room, elect a clerk, and adjourn to that date, return into court, and through your foreman, report your proceedings, and you will be discharged until that date.

PAROWAN ITEMS.

PAROWAN, Iron County, Utah,
May 4th, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

A mass meeting was held here at 1 p.m. on Saturday, the 2d inst. The Declaration of grievances and Protest to be forwarded to President Cleveland were read to the meeting, a large number of speakers fervently indorsed them, declared they knew every word they contained to be true and trusted and prayed that the President would kindly listen to our humble importunities and grant our requests. Fair play is all we ask. A full and complete vote of the house was heartily given sustaining the work of the committee appointed at the late General Conference.

The past winter has been mild and pleasant for the most part here, the spring showery and most desirable for the farmers. Prospects for this season's crops, so far, are very fair, if the rabbits can only now be subdued; they have been cutting down the young grain a great deal. The people have turned out en masse and had four general rabbit drives to the lake; many were killed on the margin and many others took to the water. The boys waded in after them and had quite a time killing rabbits in the water. It is not pleasant work, but stern necessity compels their destruction.

Respectfully, RION.

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