

SHORT TALKS BY A BUSINESS MAN.

Is "Mormonism" Disloyal?

Not if my understanding of "Mormonism" is correct. There may be "disloyal" Mormons as there have been disloyal Methodists, Episcopalians, Catholics, and members of other social and religious organizations. But I hold that no man can be a true Latter-day Saint and at the same time be disloyal to family, country or God. Though the word "loyal" literally means adherence and devotion to some individual, party, organization or government, irrespective of merit; yet it is generally, and very properly, used to mean faithfulness to what is assumed to be a good cause. Individuals have often been faithful to the death to their partners in crime. Yet we should hardly consider them loyal in the true and high meaning of the term. It is in this latter sense we are considering it. Loyalty commences in the family. Fidelity is due first to parents, next to wife and children, then to country, and supremely to God. Reverse this order if you prefer; the result will be the same. I speak of the sense of obligation as developed according to the order of nature in the minds of intelligent beings from infancy to manhood. No man, however, can be true to God and untrue to any of the relationships of life and the duties growing out of them. But, as new relationships develop new duties and one phase of duty modifies and, to a certain extent, supercedes the previous one—as for instance, when the same God who said, "Honor thy father and mother," also said, "For this cause shall a man forsake father and mother and cleave into his wife,"—so, throughout the whole realm of human life with its multitudinous and varied religious, social and political duties as the individual enlarges his sphere of relationships and rises in the scale of intelligence, lower duties and "loyalties" are merged with and subordinated to higher ones, until his affections embrace the whole human family and he recognizes the truth that his supreme loyalty is due to the race. Nor is this disputed by thoughtful men anywhere—except as applied to the "Mormons." This is my understanding of loyalty. A man may so love—if it be not an abuse of the word—his family that he strives to enrich and educate and aggrandize them at the expense of all other families that he has any dealings with; he may be so blindly devoted to his party or even to his country as to seek to increase their power and wealth regardless of the rights and happiness of all other parties and nations, but such a man is not loyal in the highest sense. Loyalty, then, as I shall use the term, means devotion to truth, justice, righteousness, to every measure and policy and power that seeks wisely to promote the welfare, peace, happiness and prosperity of the human family. A duty to wife and children modifies, though it does not obliterate, duty to parents; as duty to one's country often requires men to forsake family and friends and leave them to suffering and distress, so loyalty to humanity—or to God, which are synonymous terms—may require the renunciation of all narrow ties, even that of country, and devotion to and self-sacrifice for the good of the race. But, by what possible sophistry can a man who is true to the interests of the entire human family be convicted of disloyalty to any portion of it? Sometimes duty to the race requires active opposition to and efforts to overthrow tyrannical, oppressive and unjust government. The noblest of the race have never hesitated to sacrifice themselves and to incur the obloquy and hatred attached to the name of "traitor," when necessary to rescue their fellow-beings from bondage; but posterity never fails to reverse the decision of tyrants and their venal courts by embalming such men under the sacred name of Patriot. Thus treason and loyalty are often convertible terms; and what is treason in one age may be loyalty in another. There is a great deal of humbug and pride and sordid ambition that passes under the name of "loyalty." Most men are, or pretend to be, loyal to the strongest party, right or wrong. They follow the "flag" to the field of battle without the slightest conception of the principles that flag is supposed to represent. The intelligent American is loyal to his country and its flag because the one affords the grandest opportunities for individual as well as national progress and prosperity of any country on earth, and the other represents the freest and best government upon earth. But, if the government of the United States should ever drift into a despotic tyranny, if its Constitution should be trampled in the dust or so changed and perverted as to cease to be the bulwark of liberty and the protector of the weak for which it was framed, then—although it might flaunt the same flag—it would cease to command respect or my allegiance. When persons apply for citizenship they are required to swear to support the Constitution, not any particular party that may happen to be in power. Their allegiance—our allegiance—is due to the Constitution, which is really superior to the government, the power behind the throne. Of course every person cannot be permitted to decide what laws he will obey and what he will disobey; at least he must take the consequences of his disobedience if he does. The Supreme Court must, of

necessity, be the final arbiter of the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of all laws. And it is the bounden duty of all good citizens to submit gracefully to its decisions, even though they may not consider them just, until such time as before referred to—should it ever come—when both Constitution and Supreme Court fail to afford that protection and justice to the mass of the people for which they were instituted, and become, instead, the instruments of oppression and injustice. The assertion has been so often made it seems idle to repeat it—nevertheless, until more generally understood and believed it will bear repetition, that the Latter-day Saints believe the Constitution of the United States was given by inspiration of God. Show me, then, a professed Latter-day Saint who is disloyal to the Constitution—in thought, word or deed—and you show me at the same time one who is disloyal to his religion and his God. An inspired instrument does not necessarily mean an unchangeable and unprogressive instrument. It does mean, however, one as perfectly adapted to the wants of an age or a people as their conditions will permit, with a capability for expansion and adaptation to varying conditions and necessities of mankind without violating or infringing in the least on its fundamental principles. This is pre-eminently characteristic of the Constitution of the United States. Constitutions are designed to protect the weak and the rights of minorities. Majorities need no protection, they need restraint. The underlying principles of the Constitution of the United States is the recognition and protection of the universal right—not the concession—to "life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness," and the "free exercise" of religion. Any amendments not incompatible with these rights are legitimate. Any so-called amendments which contravene them are a departure from its spirit and intent. It is worse than folly to waste words about the necessity for limitations to the exercise of individual freedom. Every sane person knows that neither family, state nor nation can long exist without them. But the only rightful limitation is where actions—abstractly innocent and proper though they might be under different conditions—infringe on the rights of another or militate against the rights and happiness of society. There are honest and very wide differences of opinion as to what acts are in this sense lawful or unlawful, and public opinion is constantly changing in that respect with the increase of light and experience. But the constitution, based as it is on universal natural law, allows of no departure from the principles of equality before the law, protection to minorities and the utmost freedom to the individual so far as compatible with the rights and freedom of others. The individuals or the organizations—no matter who or where, nor whether civil, political or religious—who practice or uphold the violation of these basic principles are the real traitors. The "Mormons" have always asserted that the time would come when they would be the only people who would remain true to the Constitution, and that they would rally to its defense and support when the rest of the nation sought to trample it in the dust. When I first heard this it seemed almost as incredible to me as it now appears egotistically chimerical to those who regard "Mormonism" as a fraud. Yet, in spite of—or perhaps by means of—all our crudities and mistakes, the narrowness and misapprehensions of many of our people, the selfishness and disregard of the rights of others which has characterized some, and through our present trials God is undoubtedly preparing us for this noble work for the benefit of the human family. Laugh and sneer who will, this will all be fulfilled for God has spoken it. Then, if not before, the "loyalty" of the Latter-day Saints will be doubly demonstrated. SIMUS.

WHERE THE VOLCANOES WERE.

Scene of the Eruptions in New Zealand Last Year. Elder Alfred W. Harper, now on a mission in New Zealand, thus describes a visit to the locality of the volcanic upheavals of last year, near the Bay of Plenty: This is the district that was partly destroyed by the last eruption of June 10th, 1886. Elder James A. Slater and myself visited the parts where the eruption took place. Being lead by three native guides, we visited the large craters that were blown out of solid rock, and numerous others that were thrown out of the earth. Most of them were very wide and deep. I should judge some of them are 350 feet wide; also the same in depth, with lakes in the bottom. Some of the latter are boiling springs. On the sides of some of the craters are steaming jets, belching out with great fury. The once noted Lake of Rotomahana with its beautiful island in the center is now a thing of the past, as are also the beautiful pink and white terraces that were the pride of New Zealand. In the place of them is nothing but gray mud or dirt, and boiling mud springs. Mount Tarawara is split from one end to the other. In places the opening is from 150 to 600 feet wide. The depth is not positively

known. For miles the face of nature is GREATLY CHANGED, where the fern and maima once grew the ground is nothing but gray mud, dirt, ashes and stones, varying from forty feet down to six inches in depth. The natives that survived left their homes for other places, where they could raise their food, which consists chiefly of potatoes. Elder Bullock and myself visited some of the places in the Te Teke district, a short distance from Tarawara, that were abandoned for a time on account of sand or dirt which fell on the farms from one to two feet deep, and which covered up every green thing in the shape of food, both for man and beast. But the natives are beginning to return to try their luck again on their desert-looking farms. They are very poor and very ill clad, many having only an old blanket to cover their nakedness. They are not only poor in temporal things, but also in spiritual, as infidelity is fast spreading among the most of them in these parts. This is claimed by them to be caused by the different ministers that have been among them, especially the Church of England ministers, who not only taught them false doctrine, but took their land. Whether this is a fact I know not, but sufficient to say we have these stories to hear in every village we visit. The natives are a very INTELLIGENT RACE of people, with many good traits of character. However, we find plenty of opposition among them, as they have, since the war between them and the Europeans, left the white people alone, that is the most of them, and are now following their own prophets, who are continually prophesying that another eruption will take place. But they have been mistaken a great many times. They admit that we preach from the Scriptures as they read, and ask why we did not come before, as they state that they would have joined our church. We tell them it is not too late to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, repent of their sins and be baptized for the remission of the same, and receive salvation in the kingdom of God. Many are investigating and a few are being baptized.

TERRITORIAL ITEMS. GULLED FROM LATEST EXCHANGES. The Owyhee (Idaho) Avalanche says: A disease has broken out among some of the Indians camped at the South Mountain, which has already carried several over the dark river to their happy hunting grounds beyond. It is said that their heads begin to swell, and at their death one is as large as two ordinary heads. It is probably erysipelas. News was received at Port Townsend, W. T., that three seamen and one mate, Andrew Olsen, T. Telleson, Peter Donnell and Robert Henry, attempted to return to their vessel in a boat during a severe gale from the southeast, while under the influence of liquor. A squall capized the boat and all were drowned except Donnell, who was rescued by the stranded bark Tidal Wave. A dispatch dated Walla Walla, W. T., December 9, says: Several years ago a loud explosion somewhere in the Salmon-river mountains shook the whole country there, and reports of a volcano breaking out and lava flowing over the mountain trails astonished the country. The San Francisco Chronicle and Portland Oregonian sent reporters there, but neither could find any trace of a volcano, though whole forests were ablaze. Joseph Baker, of Mount Idaho, an old miner, reports to the Statesman today that he has discovered the scene of the explosion, near some new diggings. The country for half a mile around is full of fissures newly cracked, but there are many others covered with moss, denoting previous explosions. Near Albuquerque, New Mexico on the night of the 6th inst. a bold and successful robbery was committed. N. C. Dennett and wife, living on a homestead location five miles out of the city, were the victims. A short time after supper and while he and wife were sitting around the fire the dogs commenced a furious barking. He left the room to ascertain the cause, and on going out the back door was dealt a heavy blow across the face and head with a revolver in the hands of a masked man. The robber then forced Mr. Dennett back into the house, followed by a fellow robber, who was also masked. With drawn weapons they demanded all the money and valuables the couple had, which they readily gave over. The robbers secured about \$100 in cash, six or seven gold rings and other costly valuables. Mr. Dennett reported the affair to the police, but being frightened and dazed by the blows, could not give a clear description of the robbers. It is presumed that they took to the mountains.

"An" what did de doctor say?" "He said de chile had a 'lack of erysipelas.'" "Ery-sip-las! I allus said dat chile would hab trouble wid his ears some day."

PACIFIC COAST NOTES. GULLED FROM LATEST WESTERN EXCHANGES. At San Francisco on the 6th inst., detectives arrested J. B. McDonnell, alias McDonald, clerk in a real estate office, for having in his possession a plate for engraving fac-similes of Bank of England notes. McDonnell said to be a brother of George McDonnell, who with Austin and Byron Bidwell, swindled the Bank of England out of \$1,000,000 by means of forged bank checks and notes in 1873. The citizens of Gold Hill, Nevada, on the 12th inst. were rudely awakened from the ordinary monotone of the town by the advent of some Italians whose antics would have made Rome bowl. They came into that burg with a four horse team, entering on the upper part of main street which has a steep grade and the team ran at a furious speed down the hill, tearing the fronts from two business places and stripping awning posts from under balconies for nearly a quarter of a mile. Their headlong speed was checked by one of the animals losing his footing, falling down and breaking three of his legs. Two men were seriously injured but their names could not be learned. A dispatch dated Portland, Dec. 11, says: Prosecuting Attorney Caton, of Lincoln County, W. T., is red-hot after the scalp of Manford Payne, murderer of deputy sheriff Jack Hubbard. The sheriff of Douglas County, Or., with a posse, attempted to arrest Payne, who was intranced in a deep cotton near Columbia, but failed, as Payne had eight or ten desperadoes with him. Payne has since written to Caton, advising him to make his will and stating that there are not men enough in the Territory to dislodge him and his band. Caton has presented a largely signed petition to Governor Semple asking that a price be put upon the head of Payne and that the military be called out for his arrest. It is expected that the governor will offer a reward of \$200 for Payne, dead or alive. It is said that a stern chase is usually a long one, out this rule, like many others, has its exceptions. On the evening of the 9th inst. at San Jose, California, a young man about 18 years of age had been paying around on the sidewalk near Herman Levy's store, 10 and 12 South Market Street. When Levy was called to the rear end of the store, he rushed up, broke the glass of the show window and hastily reached in and filled his pockets with watches and jewelry. Levy heard the crash and ran out. The man saw him coming and took to his heels. Officer Coschima also heard the crash and as he neared the place saw the robber run. A lively chase ensued. The robber ran around the block, closely followed by the officer, and he finally ran into a saloon opposite Levy's, where he was captured by Coschima and taken to the city prison. Seven gold and four silver watches and a pocket knife and a razor were found on his person, amounting in value to \$350. Two other men, who it is believed were in the plot, having been seen on the opposite side of the street in company with the robber earlier in the evening, were also arrested. The one who had the booty refused to give his name and was so badly frightened that he could not speak. The others gave their names as John Smith and John Clement. Decline of a Royal Family. The vanity of human greatness is strikingly instanced in the imperial family of Germany. The Hohenzollern family, whose strong men have built up the first military power of united Germany out of a provincial duchy, is in a bad way. The emperor is on the verge of the grave, and his affectations of activity in reviewing and hunting do not hide that his end is near. His eldest son, the crown prince, the best of all that remarkable race, is stricken with a fatal malady. His eldest son, the next in succession to the imperial crown, who in the heredity from such parents should be of high physical form, has a withered arm from birth, and a chronic succession of abscesses in his ears, threatening the brain, such as brought insanity and death to the last king of Prussia. His son, the next heir, is but four years old. The vast empire built up by a race of strong men, banners between tottering age and infancy, with two fatally diseased lives between. It is a pitiable sight.—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette. At Stockton, California, on the 6th, John Woodbridge, contracting carpenter, fell forty feet from a new building. His lower limbs were paralyzed. Now they are forming a beef pool in the West. With this hint to guide them the dairymen certainly ought to get up a milk pool soon. They would probably put too much water in it, however. One of the sights on Fifth avenue is the daily promenade of a set of trip-lets, all girls, who are escorted by two nurses. The children are 9 years old, and as like as peas, and always beautifully dressed. In a Swiss museum there is a watch only three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, inserted in the top of a pencil case. Its little dial not only indicates hours, minutes and seconds, but also the days of the month.

SEVIER STAKE CONFERENCE. The quarterly conference of Sevier Stake of Zion commenced in Richfield on Saturday Dec. 3rd, at 10 a. m. The stand was occupied by the Stake Presidency and many of the Bishops and leading Elders from the different wards. The statistical reports of the Stake and Sabbath schools were read, as also a statistical and financial report of the Sevier Stake Academy, which opened on Monday Oct. 17th, at 10 a. m., with thirty-eight students. The Academy is in good running order. We hope with the blessings of God, and the support of the Saints, to make the school a success. The Priesthood met Saturday evening at 7 p. m., and the teachings received at that meeting can never be forgotten. The conference throughout was a time of rejoicing and a feast for the Latter-day Saints of this Stake of Zion. The following were called and sustained: James S. Jensen, as Bishop of Salina Ward; Hans Rasmussen, as Bishop of Redmond Ward and James I. Jensen, as Bishop of Elsinore Ward. The general and local authorities were presented and unanimously sustained. THEO. BRANDLEY, Clerk. The Time. The overland flyer westbound will start from Council Bluffs transfer at 12 o'clock noon, Omaha at 12:20 p. m., Cheyenne at 4:45 a. m. and arrive at Ogden at 11:30 p. m., reaching San Francisco about thirty-six hours later. It connects at Julesburg with a Denver train that reaches Denver at 7 o'clock a. m. Also at Green River at 4:45 p. m., with the Oregon Short Line train which arrives at Portland two days out from Green River. The overland flyer, eastbound, leaves Ogden at 10 p. m., connecting with a train that leaves San Francisco about 10 a. m., thirty-six hours earlier. It reaches Cheyenne at 9:50 p. m., Omaha at 2:55 p. m., and Council Bluffs transfer at 3:15 p. m. It connects at Green River at 6:30 a. m. with the train from Portland, and at Julesburg with the train that leaves Denver at 9:15 p. m. The night overland train on the Union Pacific leaves Council Bluffs transfer at 8:40 p. m., Omaha at 9 p. m., reaches Cheyenne at 6 o'clock p. m., and Ogden at 5:40 p. m., reaching San Francisco on the afternoon of the second day out from Ogden. The morning overland train on the Union Pacific leaves Ogden at 10 a. m., arrives at Cheyenne at 10:10 a. m., Omaha at 7:30 a. m. and Council Bluffs at 8:10 a. m.—Omaha World. The Reduced Rates. The following reduced passenger rates will go into effect on the Utah Central Railway on Jan. 1, 1888: Salt Lake to Ogden..... \$1.50 " Kayville..... .85 " Farmington..... .60 " Woods Cross..... .35 " Bracklyn..... .30 " Lovendahl..... .40 " Sandy..... .65 " Draper..... .75 " Lehi..... 1.20 " American Fork..... 1.40 " Pleasant Grove..... 1.50 " Provo..... 2.00 " Springville..... 2.15 " Spanish Fork..... 2.35 " Benjamin..... 2.50 " Payson..... 2.65 " Santaquin..... 2.85 " Nephi..... 3.65 " Jnab..... 4.20 " Leamington..... 5.20 " Oasi..... 6.30 " Milford..... 9.65 " Frisco..... 9.75 Ladies will find relief from headache, constiveness, swimming in the head, colic, sour stomach, restlessness, indigestion, constant or periodical sick headaches, weakness in the back and kidneys, pain in the shoulders and different parts of the body, a feeling of lassitude and despondency by taking Simmons Liver Regulator. It is not unpleasant, is purely vegetable, and is not injurious to the most delicate constitution. For Coughs and Throat Disorders use BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—"Have never changed my mind respecting them, except I think better of that which I began thinking well of."—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. Sold only in boxes. If you suffer from looseness of the bowels, Angostura Bitters will surely cure you. Beware of counterfeits and ask your grocer or druggist for the genuine article, prepared by DR. J. G. B. SIEGERT & SONS. I have been afflicted with catarrh for 20 years. It became chronic and there was a constant dropping of mucous matter. It extended to my throat, causing hoarseness and great difficulty in speaking, indeed for years I was not able to speak more than thirty minutes, and often this with great difficulty. I also, to a great extent, lost the sense of bearing in the left ear, and of taste. By the use of Ely's Cream Balm all droppings of mucous has ceased and my voice and hearing has greatly improved.—Jas. W. Davidson, Attorney at Law, Monmouth, Ill.