RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE.

Dr. West of Salina Gives His Impressions of the "Mormons" After Twenty Years' Residence Among Them, Comparing Them With Their Assailants, and Their Religion With That of Those Who Oppose Them.

THE author of this article was born in Moroni, Sanpete county, Utah, Nov. 21, 1865. With his parents he migrated to Sheffield, Illinois, in 1870, and later settled in Indiana. After graduating in medicine he returned to the land of his birth in June, 1890, where—except the nine months' vacation in 1893—he has since resided. Thus twenty years of his life were spent among the people of the Mississippi valley, and the remaining twenty-two years in Utah. His article, therefore, in so far as it relates to "Mormonism," should be of value. He says:

During the past fifteen years the conduct of the rank and file of the "Mormon" people within my circle of acquaintance has been commendable, and corresponds very favorably with those of other denominations.

Though in constant social and professional contact and fully recognized as a rank infidel, the vast majority freely accord unto me the same freedom of thought they wish to enjoy.

As neighbors none better can be found; as parents they are kind and indulgent, and as citizens they are sober, honest and industrious.

Venereal diseases and the brothel are known less among the admirers of "Mormonism" than may be found in many other cults and faiths.

Virtue is honored and vice deplored, while the noblest of all earthly duties is pure motherhood.

The national holidays are respected and celebrated with as much patriotic devotion as may be found anywhere within the borders of our nation.

Polygamous marriages are no longer solemnized within the Temple walls, while the sentiments and practises are dying a natural death through wisdom and education, but the ghosts of past indulgences continue to fan the flames of pious indignation with ministerial zeal.

Though polygamy is sanctioned in the Christian's holy book, and practised by the ancient patriarchs and prophets of old, and though condemned by all enlightened nations, many of the feminine portion of the religious sects with pious lips kiss and press the sacred volume tenderly to their hearts, yet with fanatical fury hurl rancorous invectives against a people that endeavored to execute the precepts of old in a modern age.

"O, consistency, thou art a jewel."

Ever since the advent of the Messiah, religious strife, bigotry and malice rife throughout the various faiths in Christendom. With the cross of Christ in one hand, in the other is held a drawn sword, ready to cut one another's throats. With the gospel of love, they practise the doctrine of hate, and while they preach "peace on earth, good will to man," their bosoms swel, with "righteous" hatred.

But with the growth of intellectual development, culture, science and art, the wars of extermination, fagot, screw and dungeon have faded into the misty evening of the past.

We are still cursed with the spirit of malicious lies, jealous religious rivalry and orthodox venom; we are yet haunted with the vampires of ignorance and superstition that darken the sunshine of this beautiful world with benighted emblems of a barbarous age.

And as we view the morning twilight of reason, justice and love speeding the dawn of a higher civilization, the holy groans are heard of those who, if endowed with sufficient civil power, would repeat the cruelties of the dark ages, and for the glory of their God administer saying grace with thumb screw and rack.

To those who cherish the glory of mental liberty, the pious pretentions and hypocritical vaporings of those assuming to follow in the footsteps of the meek and lowly Nazarene, appears a ludicrous farce when weighed with evidence and facts gleaned from real life.

Many religious people are honest, truthful and sincere, despite their faith, while others, like St. Augustine of Rome, prefer to misrepresent the truth if it serves to hold the servile dupes in humble subjection.

MR. MEAKIN'S LETTER.

The Semi-Weekly Deseret News, dated Thursday, August the 10th, 1905, contains a letter from the pen of our old friend, Joan P. Meakin, while traveling in the city of New York. The article contains quotations bristling with lies, inconsistencies and gross misrepresentations against the "Mormon" people, as a whole, excerpts from speeches and meetings while there.

The lovers of Jesus harangue the parsphernalia and sacred services of the Endowment House, but solemnly indulge in the eucharist; they ridicule the personal figure, character and raiment of the "Mormon" mothers, but pass with silent indifference the black robed nuns and childless sisters of charity of the Roman church; they make it appear that a woman married within the Endowment walls is forever divorced from true conjugal relationship—which is false—but they lose sight of the horrors of the convent with its celibate priests and mental stagnation; they gloat over the horrid massacre at Mountain Meadows, but overlook the crimes of preachers, the shepherds of the holy throngs, and the millions upon millions of honest souls sacrificed on the altar of bigotry when Christian love ruled supreme.

Catholics burned the Lutherans, the Lutherans burned the Catholics; the Episcopalians tortured the Presbyterians, and the Presbyterians tortured the Episcopalians. Every Christian denomination has killed all it could of every other that did not endorse its narrow doctrine.

Men and women have been burned for thinking there was but one God; that there was none; that the Holy Ghost is younger than God; that God was somewhat older than His Son; for insisting that good works will save a man, without faith; that faith will do without good works; for declaring that a sweet babe will not be burned eternally, because its parents failed to have its head wet by a priest; for speaking of God as though He had a nose and denying that Christ was his own father; for contending that three persons, mainly added together, make more than one; for believing in purgatory; for denying the reality of hell; for pretending that priests can forgive sins; for preaching that God is an essence; for denying that witches rode through the air on sticks; for doubting the total depravity of the human heart; for laughing at irresistable grace, predestination and particular redemption, for denying that good bread could be made of the body of a dead man; for pretending that the pope was not managing this world for God, and in place of God; for disputing the efficacy of a vicarious atonement; for thinking that the Virgin Mary was born like other people; for thinking that a man's rib was hardly sufficient to make a good sized woman; for denying that God used His finger for a pen; for asserting that prayers are not answered, that diseases are not set to punish unbelief; for denying the authority of the Bible; for having a Bible in their possession; for attending mass, and for refusing to attend; for wearing a surplice; for carrying a cross, and for refusing; for being a Catholic, and for being a protestant; for being an Episcopalian, a Presbyterian, a Baptist, and for being a Quaker. Men have been tarred and feathered and murdered because they were "Mormons." In short, every virtue has been a crime, and every crime a virtue. The church has burned and slain honesty and rewarded hypocrisy.

WHO FREECE IS.

But to return to the article above referred to. In it is stated that an address was delivered in that city against the "Mormons" by Mr. H. P. Freece, a former native of Scipio and Salina, Utah.

The opening prayer, the speech and the humane(?) benediction vividly reveals the true motive of such a gathering. Intrigue, graft and glory were the three graces guiding their deliberations.

If the history of H. P. Freece is correctly given, he was never a very strong adherent of the "Mormon" faith, for certainly his youthful mind could not fathom its meaning. Though a polygamous child there is no evidence to prove that his moral fabric has been in the least impaired through his birth and association with the "Latter-day devils." All the sorrow he has endured in consequence of "Mormonism" failed to blight his form. And had not his parents embraced the new faith his life may have been spent under a Danish crown, where the struggles for fame and distinction are much more difficult than here.

If we are what our surroundings make us plus the sum total of our ancestors, we may readily perceive the conditions resulting in the selfish, disrespectful and clerical verbiage contained in the "Welcome."

It places the five doctrinal points of Presbyterianism above the "Mormon" "Articles of Faith." It poses Dr. D. J. McMillan as a John the Baptist, preparing the way for the Old Man Eloquent" of the west—Dr. S. E. Wishard—the plumed theological knight with a solemn mien and air sedate. On his back is borne the quiver of total depravity, infant damnation, irresistible grace, scheme of redemption and predestination, while in his hand is carried the steel box of "Mormon" hate, as he steps boldly out to battle with the hosts of Brigham. But up to date the victims may be easily counted.

"MORMON" PURITY.

Since the "Manifesto" the purity of the "Mormon" home can not be excelled anywhere. And during the Spanish American war the loyalty of our youths fused into the veins of our nation's honor fresh abiding hopes of Utah's patriotism.

Tell me that our honored fathers, who faced the merciless savages, who toiled early and late to convert a sufficient amount of virgin soil into productivity to stay the wolf of famine, and who battled with deprivation and want in order to secure a crust and a hovel under which could be sheltered their devoted wives, with the sweet tributes of their love, were not patriotic?

If the noble sentiments of love throbbing within their brawny forms was other than platonic devotion to home and country, then it certainly cannot be found within the cranial vault of that dogmatic monster who implored his pugnacious God for "sufficient strength to overthrow and destroy the Mormons."

As many kinds of fish are often caught in the same net, the destructive process may extend to my family, relatives and friends, if this prayerful Joshua can muster a sufficient army.

The Seventh Day Adventist is about the only Christian body that has ever registered an objection against the priestly plan of the Ministerial Alliance in their attempt to place God in the preamble of the Constitution, and the many sectarian organizations have repeatedly petitioned Congress to establish a national Sunday observance law, and they have very nearly succeeded. They seem unmindful of the fact that these movements violate the sacred compact for which our fathers freely offered their hearts' blood.

These colossal plans to found a theocracy in which the scepter of the priest is the power behind the throne, is forgotten during their tirade against the Saints.

"O, religion, what crimes have been committed in thy name!"

The blood stains perpetrated within the brief sojourn of this Church, fades into oblivion when compared with that of other sects during the ages past.

The bigoted intolerance or liberty loving principles of a denomination correspond with the sentiments and disposition of its founder. This axiom is well substantiated through research and reflection.

JOHN CALVIN'S WORK.

Unfortunately for the world, about the beginning of the sixteenth century, a man by the name of Gerard Chauvin was married to Jeanne Lefranc, and still more unhappily for the world, the fruit of this marriage was a son, called John Chauvin, who afterwards became famous as John Calvin, the founder of the Presbyterian church.

He was of a pallid, bloodless complexion, thin, sickly, irritable, gloomy, impatient, egotistic, tyrannical, heartless and infamous. He was a strange compound of revengeful morality, malicious forgiveness, ferocious charity, egotistic humility, and a kind of hellish justice. In other words he was as near the image of his God as his health would permit.

This man forged five fetters for the brain, called predestination, particular redemption, total depravity, irresistible grace and the perseverance of the saints.

While in the flush of youth, he was elected to office of preacher in Geneva, and immediately with Farel drew up a condensed statement of the Presbyterian doctrine, and all the citizens of Geneva, on pain of banishment were compelled to take an oath that they believed this statement. Calvin remarked innocently that this proceeding afforded him great satisfaction. This in view of the fact that Caroli who had the audacity to dispute with Calvin was banished.

To show you what great questions occupied his attention, it is only necessary to state, that he furiously discussed the question as to whether the Sacramental bread should be leavened or unleavened. He drew up laws regulating the cut of the citizens' clothes, and prescribed their diet, and all whose garments were not in the Calvin fashion were refused the Sacrament.

At last the people becoming tired of this petty theological tyranny banished Calvin. In a few years, however, he was recalled and received with great enthusiasm.

After this, he was supreme, and the will of Calvin became the law of Geneva.

GRUET BEHEADED.

Under the benign administration of this great divine, James Gruet was beheaded because he had written some profane verses. The slightest word against Calvin or his absurd doctrine was punished as a crime.

In 1553, a man was tried at Vienne by the Catholic church for heresy. He was convicted and sentenced to be burned to death but succeeded in making his escape.

Pursued by the sleuth hounds of intolerance he fled to Geneva for protection. This fugitive from the cruelty of Rome, asked shelter from John Calvin, who had written a book in favor of religious toleration. Servetus had forgotten that this book was written by Calvin when in the minority; that it was written in weakness to be ignored in power. He was unaware that Calvin had caused his arrest at Vienne, in France, and had sent a copy of his pronounced blasphemous book to the archbishop.

This protestant Calvin served as a detective for the Catholic pontiff and Servetus, ignorant of this unspeakable infamy, placed his life at the mercy and power of this pope of Geneva.

The maker of the Presbyterian creed caused his victim to be arrested. Calvin was his prosecutor and judge.

He was tried, convicted and sentenced to death by fire. On the morning of the fatal day Calvin saw his victim and the latter implored his pardon if he had said or done anything to wound his feelings.

BURNED AT THE STAKE.

Servetus was bound to the stake, the fagots were lighted, and as the wind carried the flames somewhat away from his body, so that he slowly roasted for hours his faint voice was heard vainly pleading for a speedy death. At last the flames climbed around his form; through smoke and fire his murderers saw a white, heroic face, only a little longer to become a charred and shriveled human mass.

Liberty was banished from Geneva and nothing left but the five Presbyterian points, executed through Calvin's theocratic lash.

The minister Castello was the only man brave enough to denounce the despotism of Calvin and he was condemned as a child of the devil, as a dog of Satan, as a beast from hell, and as one who, by this horrid blasphemy of the innocence of honest error, crucified Christ afresh, and by him he was pursued until rescued by the hand of death.

Calvin heaped upon the name of Castello every epithet his malice and imagination could command. The best thing, however, about the Presbyterians of Geneva was that they denied the power of the pope, and the best feature about the pope was that he was not a Presbyterian.

Though John Calvin was so good he was wicked, his doctrines spread rapidly on the continent of Europe.

But Scotland, in a few years, became the real fortress of Calvin's faith. The Scotch rivaled the former adherents of Calvin and succeeded in establishing the same kind of theocracy that flourished in Geneva.

With the clergy in control of everybody and everything, it is impossible to exaggerate the slavery, the mental degradation, the abject superstition of the people during the reign of Presbyterianism.

Heretics were hunted and devoured as though they had been wild beasts, and a gloomy insanity held a blighting influence over a great majority of the inhabitants of Scotland. The revengeful spirit of Calvin took possession of the Puritans and caused them to redden the soil of the new world with the brave blood of honest men. It gave us the blue laws of Connecticut, it originated the cause of the Salem witchcraft, it banished Roger Williams, it poured hot lead into the ears of Quakers, it bound helpless women to the tail end of carts and on their naked backs applied the thongs of "irresistable grace."

We should feel to rejoice that the civilizing influence of science and education is softening the savage heritage John Calvin left to his memory.

TRUE AMERICANISM.

While the "Mormons" may be guilty of wrong-doing, it is not in good taste for the Presbyterians to point at them the finger of guilt. It is true Americanism to respect the views of others with as broad a sense of liberty as our interests can permit.

Those who know H. P. Freece, the object of attraction in that New York meeting, do not consider him in the least a vicious character, and if unmolested to follow his natural inclinations would not harm the peace of anyone; but cultured in the absurd creed of Calvinism, and surrounded with pious bigots, his religious zeal overpowered his sense of justice and prompts him to overlook the law of right.

For all the religions that have been produced by the egotism, the malice, the ignorance and ambition of man, Presbyterianism is the most hideous, in that it not only despises the infidel and "Mormon" in this life, but promises eternal misery in the next, without a ghost of a chance for a post mortem redemption.

O speed the day when the glorious sunrise of universal brotherhood of religious toleration will surround the earth, the dove of intelligent peace control every act, and the gospel of love and hope be heard from every tongue.

C. E. WEST, M. D.

Salina, Utah, Aug. 24, 1905.

MRS. RUSSELL SAGE.

Mrs. Russel Sage, with Mrs. C. S. Dodge, wife of Gen. Dodge, has taken unusual interest in the care of the animals and birds of the different parks throughout New York City. Mrs. Sage has started a fund to protect the fowls in the winter when it is impossible for them to get food. Mrs. Sage for years has made daily visits to the parks, where the songsters and the squirrels flock for their rations. The people who are working for the comfort of the birds and animals call themselves the "Audobon society." Mrs. Sage holds a life membership.

Neglected Colds.

Every part of the mucous membrane, the nose, throat, ears, head and lungs, etc., are subjected to disease and blight from neglected colds. Ballard's Horehound Syrup is a pleasant and effective remedy. 25c, 50c, $1.00. W. Alexander, Valley Mills, Texas, writes: "I have used Ballard's Horehound Syrup for coughs and throat troubles. It is a pleasant and most effective remedy." Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept. H

ONE KIND OF JUSTICE.

Mark Twain, in commenting on a certain will case, said:

"I suppose the two opposing parties got justice, but it strikes me that the justice that they got is a good deal like the kind they mete out in Constantinople.

"Here is a specimen of Constantinople justice.

"A Kurd found a cheap wooden tobacco box, and an Armenian claimed that it was his. The Kurd refused to give up the box, and so the Armenian called on a policeman for help.

"The policeman said to the Kurd:

"'Is this box yours?'

"'Yes, it is mine, your honor,' the Kurd answered. 'I have carried it for two years.'

"'If it is yours,' said the policeman, 'you know, of course, what its contents are. What are its contents?'

"The Kurd hesitated a little; then he said, sullenly:

"'There are tobacco and cigarette papers in the box.'

"The police turned to the Armenian.

"'You claim you own the box, do you?' he asked.

"'I certainly do,' said the Armenian. 'I dropped it only ten minutes ago. I heard it fall, and turned to pick it up when this rascal grabbed it and ran. He——'

"'Enough,' said the policeman. 'If all this is true, tell me what is in the box?'

"'There is fifty cents in it,' the Armenian answered.

"The policeman opened the box, and found, sure enough, coin to the amount of fifty cents exactly.

"'The Aremnian,' he said, 'is in the right. The box is his, and he shall have it.'

"Here he gave the Armenian the box.

"'The Kurd,' he went on, 'is a liar. Let us smite him over the head.'

"And he smote the Kurd over the head with a club.

"'Allah be praised,' he concluded. 'For my trouble in deciding this complicated affair I shall keep the fifty cents.'"

Sprains

S. A. Read, Cisco, Texas, writes March 11th, 1905: "My wrist was sprained so badly by a fall that it was useless, and after using several remedies that failed to give relief, used Ballard's Snow Liniment and was cured. I earnestly recommend it to any one suffering from sprains." 25c, 50c, $1.00. Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept. H

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