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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PAGE 225.—History of Joseph Smith—Mississippi Railroad Bridge—Some Iron—Onions.
PAGE 226.—Discourse by P. P. Pratt, Bowery, June 29—Whitewashing Roots—Metallic Alloy—Proverb.
PAGE 227.—Wild Beasts and their Wonderful Ways—A New Sugar Culture—New Flowering Shrub—Size of the "Great West"—Good Maxim—Signs of Prosperity—Proverbs.
PAGE 228.—Great Reformation—Home Missions: Quarterly Conferences in Lake City and City Bountiful—Agricultural: Cheap Watering and Manuring a Garden—Pruning—Distance to plant Trees.
PAGE 229.—Deseret State Fair—Editorial: Trade—Apples, Grapes, &c.—Peach Pits—City Items—Arrived—Toasts at a Printer's Festival.
PAGE 230.—Kansas in Congress, concluded—An English Dinner Party—Items.
PAGE 231.—Sagacity of Spiders—Short Sermon—Long River—Advertisements.
PAGE 232.—Correspondence: North Canyon Ward—Pike's Peak—Fort Supply.—D. A. and M. Society, Names of Awarding Committees—Schools Injuring Children—Terrible Tornado in Franklin County, N. Y.—Illinois Central Railroad—Women Voters—Married—Died—New Advertisements.

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

MAY, 1843.

Monday, 15.—Emma having arrived at Yel-
rome last night, from Quincy, with the car-
riage, we rode home together; on our way we
stopped a short time at bro. Perry's. Brothers
George A. Smith and W. Woodruff rode in my
buggy. I was asked if the horse would stand
without tying. I answered, yes, but never
trust property to the mercy or judgment of a
horse.

The following is from the journal of Geo.
A. Smith:—

"At noon stopt at the house of Mr. McMa-
hon, a notorious anti-Mormon, at Green Plains,
and waited sometime for Mac to come in.
Joseph and myself spent this time in conversa-
tion on the grass plot south of the house. Jo-
seph asked my opinion of W. W. Phelps as an
editor. I told him that I considered Phelps
the sixth part of an editor, and that was the
satirist; when it came to the cool discretion
necessarily intrusted to an editor in the control
of public opinion, the soothing of enmity, he
was deficient, and would always make more
enemies than friends; but for my part, if I
were able, I would be willing to pay Phelps
for editing a paper, provided nobody else should
have the privilege of reading it but myself.
Joseph laughed heartily—said I had the thing
just right. Says he, bro. Phelps makes such a
severe use of language as to make enemies all
the time.

At the close of the conversation, Joseph
wrapped his arms round me, and squeezed me
to his bosom, and said, 'George A., I love you
as I do my own life.' I felt so affected I could
hardly speak, but replied, I hope, brother Jo-
seph, that my whole life and actions will ever
prove my feelings and the depth of my affec-
tion towards you."

A great hail-storm in Gettysburgh, Penn.
The stones were from six to eight inches in
circumference; much damage done.

Tuesday, 16.—At 11 o'clock, I, with George
Miller, William Clayton, Eliza and Lydia Par-
tridge, and J. M. Smith, started for Carthage,
where we tarried about half an hour convers-
ing with different individuals, when we started
for Ramus; arrived about 3 1/2 p.m., and stayed
at William G. Perkins' for the evening, then
went to B. F. Johnson's with William Clayton
to sleep. Before retiring, I gave brother and
sister Johnson some instructions on the priest-
hood, and putting my hand on the knee of Wil-
liam I said, 'Your life is hid with Christ in
God, and so are many others; nothing but the
unpardonable sin can prevent you from inher-
iting eternal glory, for you are sealed up by the
power of the priesthood unto eternal life,
having taken the step necessary for that pur-
pose.

Except a man and his wife enter into an
everlasting covenant, and be married for eter-
nity, while in this probation, by the power and
authority of the holy priesthood, they will
cease to increase when they die, that is, that
they will not have any children after the resur-
rection. But those who are married by the
power and authority of the priesthood in this
life, and continue without committing the sin
against the Holy Ghost, will continue to in-
crease and have children in the celestial glory.
The unpardonable sin is to shed innocent blood,
or be accessory thereto; all other sins will be
visited with judgment in the flesh, and the
spirit being delivered to the buffetings of Satan
until the day of the Lord Jesus.

The way I know in whom to confide, God
tells me in whom I may place confidence. In
the celestial glory there are three heavens or
degrees; and in order to obtain the highest, a
man must enter into this order of the priest-
hood, and if he does not he cannot obtain it.
He may enter into the other, but that is the
end of his kingdom; he cannot have an in-
crease."

The Twelve met in the office to see Mr.
Brown, but he did not appear; and they voted
that John E. Page be requested to repair im-
mediately to Cincinnati, and preach till they
arrive.

Wednesday, 17.—Partook of breakfast at
brother Perkins', after which we took a plea-
sure ride through Fountain Green.

At 10 a.m. preached from 2nd Peter, 1 ch.,
and showed that knowledge is power; and the
man who has the most knowledge, has the
greatest power. Salvation means a man's
being placed beyond the power of all his ene-
mies. The more sure word of prophecy means
a man's knowing that he is sealed up unto
eternal life by revelation, and the spirit of pro-
phesy through the power of the holy priest-
hood. It is impossible for a man to be saved
in ignorance. Paul has seen the third heavens,
and I more. Peter penned the most sublime
language of any of the apostles.

In the afternoon attended council, and after-
wards rode with B. F. Johnson's family.

In the evening went to hear a Methodist
preacher lecture. After he got through, I
offered some corrections as follows:—

The 7th verse of 2nd chap. of Genesis ought
to read, God breathed into Adam his spirit of
breath of life; but when the word "ruach"
applies to Eve, it should be translated lives.

Speaking of eternal duration of matter, I
said, there is no such thing as immaterial mat-
ter. All spirit is matter, but is more fine or
pure, and can only be discerned by purer eyes.
We cannot see it, but when our bodies are
purified we shall see that it is all matter.

The priest seemed pleased with the correc-
tion, and stated his intention to visit Nauvoo.

A conference was held in the Columbian
Hall; Grand street, New York, where 15
branches, 6 high priests, 36 elders, 19 priests,
16 teachers, 5 deacons, and 387 members were
represented; 49 have been baptized since last
conference, many have moved to Nauvoo, and
28 have been excommunicated. Four elders
and one priest were ordained.

Thursday, 18.—We left Macedonia about 8 1/2
a.m., and arrived at Carthage at 10.

The following brief account is from the
journal of William Clayton, who was pres-
ent:—

"Dined with Judge Stephen A. Douglass,
who is presiding at court. After dinner Judge
Douglass requested President Joseph to give
him a history of the Missouri persecution,
which he did in a very minute manner for
about three hours; he also gave a relation of
his journey to Washington city, and his appli-
cation in behalf of the Saints to Mr. Van
Buren, the President of the United States, for
redress, and Mr. Van Buren's pusillanimous
reply, 'Gentlemen, your cause is just, but I
can do nothing for you;' and the cold unfeeling
manner in which he was treated by most of
the senators and representatives in relation to
the subject: Clay saying, 'You had better go
to Oregon.' Calhoun shaking his head so-
lemnly, saying, 'It's a nice question, a critical
question, but it will not do to agitate it.'"

The judge listened with the greatest atten-
tion, and then spoke warmly in deprecation of
the conduct of Governor Boggs and the au-
thorities of Missouri, who had taken part in
the extermination, and said that any people
that would do as the mobs of Missouri have
done, ought to be brought to judgment, they
ought to be punished.

President Smith, in concluding his remarks,
said, that if the government which received
into its coffers the money of citizens for its
public lands, while its officials are rolling in
luxury at the expense of its public treasury,
cannot protect such citizens in their lives and
property, it is an old granny anyhow, and I
prophecy in the name of the Lord God of Is-
rael, that unless the United States redress the
wrongs committed upon the Saints in the State
of Missouri and punish the crimes committed
by her officers, that in a few years the govern-
ment will be utterly overthrown and wasted,
and there will not be so much as a potsherd
left, for their wickedness in permitting the
murder of men, women and children, and the
wholesale plunder and extermination of thou-
sands of her citizens to go unpunished; thereby
perpetrating a foul and corroding blot upon the
fair fame of this great republic, the very
thought of which would have caused the high
minded and patriotic framers of the Constitu-
tion of the United States to hide their faces
with shame. Judge you will aspire to the
Presidency of the United States, and if ever
you turn your hand against me or the Latter
Day Saints, you will feel the weight of the
hand of the Almighty upon you; and you will
live to see and know that I have testified the
truth to you, for the conversation of this day
will stick to you through life.

He appears very friendly, and acknowledged
the truth and propriety of President Smith's
remarks."

We then rode home, where we arrived about
5 1/2 p.m., and found my family all well.

Mr. Joseph H. Jackson, who professed to be
a Catholic priest, was at my house awaiting
my arrival.

At 6 p.m., I called in my office for Arlington
Bennett's letter.

Friday, 19.—I borrowed of O. Hyde \$50,
which I paid to Mr. Eric Rhodes, which he is
either to repay, or let me have lumber.

I rode out with Mr. Jackson in the after-
noon.

Told brother Phelps a dream, that the his-
tory must go ahead, before anything else.

Elder George P. Dykes writes:—

"One year since, I visited a settlement of
Norwegians in La Salle county, Illinois, and
baptized five, and ordained one elder, when I
left them for about one month; then returned

and organized the branch, and called it the La
Salle Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter Day Saints, and ordained brother
Goodman Hougus, elder, a man of strong mind,
and well skilled in the scriptures; he can
preach in Norway, Sweden and Denmark,
having an understanding of their languages.

I returned to Nauvoo, and in a few days I
was appointed by the Special Conference, in
August, to labor in Illinois. I traveled through
eighteen different counties, baptized six in
Perry county, and returned home in Decem-
ber.

In January I left again, and went into St.
Clair county, where I was joined by brother
Henry B. Jacobs, who baptized twelve, and I
baptized a German after he left.

I preached in Chester, Sparta and Bellville;
from thence returned home, and again visited
Ottawa, La Salle county. Spent two weeks,
and baptized seven. I found the church there
in good spirits, and in the enjoyment of the spir-
itual gifts.

The La Salle Branch now numbers fifty
eight, in good standing. Elder Oley Hayer
was chosen to preside over them; he is well
worthy of the office.

Elder Goodman Hougus and brother J. R.
Anderson visited the Norwegian settlement in
Lee county, Iowa, in January last; spent three
weeks, baptized ten, ordained one priest, and
left them and went home to La Salle county.

From thence brothers Hougus and Hayer
visited a large large body from Norway, in
Wisconsin Territory, and have laid the founda-
tion of a great work to all appearance.
There are now fifty seven members of the
church from Norway, and the time is not far
distant when the saying of Micah 4, 2 will be
fulfilled."

Saturday, 20.—Received of Ezra Oakley a
certificate of deposit in the Fulton Bank, N. Y.,
value \$500, and gave a receipt payable in lands
or money, ten days from date.

At court room, and adjourned the case of
Samuel Fuller.

Corrected and sent to the Times and Seasons,
the following:—

"EDITOR OF THE TIMES AND SEASONS:

Sir:—Through the medium of your paper I
wish to correct an error among men that pro-
fess to be learned, liberal and wise; and I do
it the more cheerfully because I hope sober
thinking and sound reasoning people will soon-
er listen to the voice of truth, than be led
astray by the vain pretensions of the self
wise.

The error I speak of, is the definition of the
word 'MORMON.' It has been stated that this
word was derived from the Greek word *mormo*.
This is not the case. There was no Greek or
Latin upon the plates from which I, through the
grace of God, translated the Book of Mormon.
Let the language of that book speak for
itself.

On the 523rd page of the fourth edition it
reads, 'And now behold we have written this
record according to our knowledge in the
characters which are called among us the
Reformed Egyptian, being handed down and
altered by us, according to our manner of
speech; and if our plates had been sufficiently
large, we should have written in Hebrew; but
the Hebrew hath been altered by us, also; and
if we could have written in Hebrew, behold ye
would have had no imperfection in our record,
but the Lord knoweth the things which we
have written, and also that none other people
knoweth our language; therefore he hath pre-
pared means for the interpretation thereof.'

Here then the subject is put to silence, for
'none other people knoweth our language,' there-
fore the Lord, and not man, had to interpret,
after the people were all dead. And, as Paul
said, 'The world by wisdom know not God;' so
the world by speculation are destitute of revela-
tion, and as God in his superior wisdom has
always given his Saints, wherever he had any
on the earth, the same spirit, and that Spirit,
as Jehn says, is the true spirit of prophecy,
which is the testimony of Jesus. I may safely
say that the word Mormon stands independent
of the learning and wisdom of this genera-
tion.

Before I give a definition, however, to the
word, let me say that the Bible, in its widest
sense, means *good*; for the Savior says, ac-
cording to the gospel of John, 'I am the *good*
shepherd;' and it will not be beyond the com-
mon use of terms to say that *good* is among
the most important in use, and though known
by various names in different languages, still
its meaning is the same, and is ever in opposi-
tion to *bad*. We say from the Saxon, *good*;
the Dane, *god*; the Goth, *goda*; the German,
gut; the Dutch, *goed*; the Latin, *bonus*; the
Greek, *kalos*; the Hebrew, *tob*; and the Egypt-
ian, *mon*. Hence with the addition of *more*, or
the contraction *mor*, we have the word Mon-
mon, which means literally more good.

Yours,
JOSEPH SMITH.
Mr. Jackson representing himself as being
out of employment, and destitute of funds, he
desired I would employ him and relieve his
necessities. I took compassion, and employed
him as a clerk to sell lands, so as to give him
a chance in the world.

[From Life Illustrated.]

The Mississippi Railroad Bridge.

This structure is owned and managed by a cor-

poration styled the Mississippi Railroad Bridge
Company, Henry Farnum, of New Haven, Conn.,
President, which was organized in 1853, under
the auspices of the Chicago and Rock Island and
the Mississippi and Missouri railroads. The
Chicago and Rock Island Railroad terminates in
the city of Rock Island, Ill., and the Mississippi
and Missouri Railroad terminates in the city of
Davenport, Iowa; and this Bridge Company's
structures, embracing two bridges and about one
mile of grade track, form a connecting link
between those two roads.

The great bridge extends from the Iowa shore
to the island of Rock Island, on which old Fort
Armstrong stands, and was erected by the firm of
Stone, Boomer & Boyington, of Davenport. Its
entire length is 1,581 feet, and there are five stone
piers, seven feet wide at the top by thirty-five
feet long, and thirty-eight feet high, which rest on
solid limestone rock at the bottom of the river, the
water being ordinarily from six to ten feet deep,
and very swift. At each end of the bridge is a T
abutment, one thirty and on thirty-five feet high;
and in the steamboat channel stands the draw-
pier, which is of octagonal form, thirty-two feet
in diameter at the top, and protected by a crib
three hundred and fifty feet long and forty feet
wide.

This crib is a complete wall and network of
hewn timber, filled in with broken stone from the
bottom of the river up to the pier-level, and has
one hundred and twenty feet of clear channel on
each side for the passage of boats—the turn-table
pan b-ing two hundred and eighty-five feet long,
the longest now in the United States. There are
three spans on the Iowa side of the draw-pier, and
two on the Rock Island side, each being two
hundred and fifty feet long. There was used in
its construction one million feet of timber, four
hundred thousand pounds of wrought iron, and
two hundred thousand pounds of cast iron. It
has cost \$350,000.

The 'Slough Bridge,' as it is called, connects
Rock Island with the Illinois shore, and consists
of three spans, one hundred and fifty feet long
each, with no draw. These bridges are built after
Howe's patent truss model, with main and lateral
braces, and four magnificent arch beams to each
span. The piers are all wedge-shaped, with a
gradual slope at their upper side, so as to cut the
current or floating ice the more readily.

The construction work was commenced in Jan.,
1854. The draw was first swung April 9th, 1856,
at 6 p.m. April 21st a new locomotive crossed
from the Island to Davenport after 7 p.m., which
was the first passage; and a long train of freight
cars, new locomotives, etc., immediately followed.
On the following morning the regular 8 a.m. pas-
senger and freight trains from Chicago crossed,
and established the route. But after a few days'
trial, the passing trains were found to interfere so
much with the progress of the finishing work that
they were stopped entirely until all should be com-
plete.

On the 26th of May, about 6 o'clock a.m., the
steamer Effie Afton attempted to pass up the
bridge channel on one wheel, having disabled her
starboard works a few days previous by a collision
with the J. B. Carson. The wind and current
carried her against the stone pier next south of the
draw, (on the Rock Island side) stove her hull
and knocking her chimneys down, so that she im-
mediately sunk to her guards and took fire, con-
suming the boat entirely and burning down one
span of the bridge. No lives lost. Work was
commenced the same day toward replacing the
lost span, and in a few weeks eastern trains will
again steam it in mid-air across the Father of
Waters.

A good distant view of this bridge is hardly
surpassed in grandeur by that of Niagara, except in
the comparative tameness of the adjacent scenery.
Our river landscapes are exceedingly beautiful,
but not sublime. And it is certainly the most stu-
pendous highway structure yet completed on this
continent—the Niagara Bridge possibly excepted.
Davenport is called the 'Bridge City.'

HIRAM A. REID.
DAVENPORT, IOWA, July 7, 1856.

SOME IRON.—The English are now engaged
in embarking the shot and shell they have col-
lected at Sebastopol. As to collecting and re-
moving these missiles which are sown broad-
cast in the very soil, like pebbles on a beach,
for the space of seven miles in length and two
miles in breadth, the task is hopeless of exe-
cution. Piles of shot have been formed in ev-
ery ravine, and stand there as monuments of the
uselessness of such efforts as have yet been
made to gather the iron shower which fell for
eleven long months in front of Sebastopol.—
Every watercourse is full of iron—shells, shot,
and splinters of strange shapes abound in ev-
ery ravine. The Russians will only have to
collect what the Allies leave behind them to
form large magazines of shot, but shell will
not be so plentiful, as they were more sparing-
ly used, and were generally damaged, if they
did not burst. Guns, too, are buried in the
earth, and peer out from the earthwork of over-
thrown batteries. It is calculated that the
Russians fired about 30,000 tons of iron at the
Allies. The English gave them about 11,000
tons in return. And possibly the French fired
20,000 tons; so that between 60,000 and 70,000
tons weight of iron must be lying about on the
plateau.—[Ex.]

ONIONS.—Are good for fowls. They are a
preventive of gapes—inflammation. Chop
them fine and mix with meal and water.