

founder, Brigham Young. He was undoubtedly a man of more than ordinary capacity. Passing over his predilection for the weaker sex we cannot but admire his ability, his power over men, the energy of character which he in every action of his life displayed.

To organize a church of most untenable doctrines out of such heterogeneous materials must have been a work of stupendous difficulty. Of his insincerity there is not the slightest doubt. His idea was to make himself a power by working upon the fanaticism of those who came under his influence; and well did he succeed. The members of the Church he has organized in this city alone number 30,000 out of a total population of 36,000.

Their leading point of belief is that the more you are married the greater are your chances of eternal salvation.

Imbued with this idea they marry early and often and never seem to tire of so doing *'expletus sed non lassatus.'*

Young is looked upon only in the light of an apostle. Their prophet and expounder of the law was Joseph Smith. He is the only saint, as yet but as many are following in his footsteps there is a strong probability of the calendar being increased before the end of another decade.

The laws passed lately by the United States Congress have given the brethren a good deal of trouble.

These make polygamy punishable by fine and imprisonment. No less than 300 have within the past year been committed to the penitentiary for offences of this nature.

Yet persecution does not seem to daunt these zealots who, at any cost, persist in living according to their convictions, and may I add according to their beastly tastes.

Their places of religious worship deserve more than a passing remark. The principal of these is the Tabernacle—elliptical in shape and capable of accommodating 25,000 persons. The acoustic properties are unequalled. A whisper from the pulpit can be heard in the most remote part of the building. Near by is

the Endowment House where the marriage ceremony is performed. No dog of a Gentile is allowed to profane its sacred interior, hence I have not had an opportunity to penetrate the secret depths of its mysteries.

So far as we can learn, persons desiring to enter this happy state are put through a good many performances. They have, it is said, to be washed and anointed and blessed again and again, something after the nature of a Turkish bath I suppose, but it is extremely doubtful if the same beneficial effects follow.

A magnificent Temple is now in course of construction. Its estimated cost is \$8,000,000. On the day on which it will be thrown open for public worship the Lord is booked for an appearance.

If he does appear there is not the slightest doubt but that it will be in his wrath, something after the manner described in that passage from Elias of which poor Father Bennet was so fond of talking. The saintly old man has gone to the rest for which he so ardently longed!

We have somewhat over 200 students attending the commercial classes. The number dabbling in the Classics and Mathematics scarcely amounts to 50.

Greek is at a discount here. The fair Electra would receive rough treatment at the hands of the sunburnt sons of toil who come here to mould their intellects.

Well I am of the opinion that the "sage bird" considers he has had enough for this time. I will at some future time give you an idea of the social condition of the Mormons throughout this territory.

"What's the matter with Ottawa College Football Club?" I hear some one answering—"They're all right!" May your honors be multiplied and long may you hold the position you now occupy.

To one and all Christmas Greeting and many happy returns of the holy season we are just entering.

JOSEPH ROACH.

Salt Lake City, Nov. 18th, 1888