

Origin, Migrations and Virtues of the Mormons

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia., April 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: What is the matter with Alfred Henry Lewis?

At first glance at his articles in the Cosmopolitan for March and April one might think he had been "looking too long upon the wine when it was red," but on reading along we see he was only "skewed" of the Mormons. He proceeds to tell us what every schoolboy has known for years, viz.: That the Mormons had built a pretty city, a great temple, an immense tabernacle with wonderful acoustics and a great organ.

However, he made one important discovery, to wit, the most polite and accommodating hotel clerk he had ever met. This should have allayed some of his fears. But what did surprise me was the dense ignorance he allowed to exist in the east, especially in New York, as to western affairs, owing to the noncirculation of western newspapers there. Now, I had been under the impression that New York kept pretty close tabs on affairs all over the world, and when I was out a few years ago I could find Chicago, Omaha or Denver papers at the newsstands and frequently at the hotels in New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

Again, Mr. Lewis should remember, Mormonism is not of western origin. On the contrary, it was hatched in the east, and its founders were the sharpest kind of Yankees. And if Joseph Smith saw fit to have a revelation, he was only following a custom that had prevailed for more than 2,000 years, and in some of which appeared creatures almost as horrible as those illustrating Mr. Lewis's articles.

Now, we old-timers who have lived away past our fourscore years—mingled with all sorts of people and saw the country on the verge of ruin so often—are beginning to doubt if any considerable part of the people, even the Mormons, desire it. In fact, we find them wonderfully like other people, and, although they style themselves Latter Day Saints, I have not met any who were halos.

To most people, the word "Mormon" means polygamy. This need not scare people, as it is not compulsory, in fact, it is on the decline. I can hear of no one now having half as many wives as Brigham Young. And when he was in his glory, his harem comprised with that of his son, would look like 20 cents, and our Sunday school teachers told us Solomon was the wisest man that ever lived.

Again, the Reorganized church, with headquarters at Independence, Mo., and Lamoni, Ia., with Joseph Smith, son of the founder, its president, has long been renowned polygamy, and in fact, it being in violation of a law of nature and degrading to womanhood, it should perish.

Again, Mr. Lewis is alarmed by their rapid increase in number, which he estimates at 750,000. Now what does he think the 10,000,000 Catholics, 50,000,000 Protestants, 5,000,000 Agnostics and 2,000,000 Jews will be doing all this time? Why, one of the newest churches, the Christian Science, so far as increase of membership is concerned, is beating Mormonism to a standstill, and that without its founder, the late Mrs. Eddy, having had a vision or received a revelation.

Now, as everyone is entitled to a hearing we will look back a little at the Mormon history.

The Elder Joseph Smith, having organized his church in New York state, came with quite a following and located at the little village of Kirtland, Geauga county, Ohio, about 1830. This part of the state was settled almost exclusively by people from the New England states, who in religious matters were extremely orthodox. After the Mormons had reared their tents and became quite numerous, the prejudice came so strong and annoying so great that they finally left and went to what was then the far west and located in Jackson county, Missouri. Before leaving Kirtland, Joseph Smith, himself, was subjected to a mob of tar and feathers at the hands of some young men led by one John Johnson. Mr. Johnson told this to me, himself, previous to his death some thirty years ago. His reason was that Smith was laboring with his father to join and turn his property into the church fund in common, after the manner of the early apostles, which proved so unfortunate for Annias and Sapphira, his wife. They took him into a cornfield in the night and while applying the dose, Smith, who was a powerful man, recognized Johnson, who at that time was a young Hercules, and remarked, "John, you can't fool me. I know that grip of yours." In this instance, as is frequently the case, the member sided with the boys, and furnished the feathers by taking a pillow from one of the beds.

In Missouri the prejudice was stronger than in Ohio and culminated in mobs in which men were killed, women mistreated, property stolen or confiscated until they were compelled to retreat; which they did to Illinois, where they built the city of Nauvoo and again reared their tents.

Missourians have denied the story of their persecution while there, but subsequent acts by the border ruffians and bushwhackers that swarmed from that section during the Kansas troubles and civil war, and later furnished the James and Younger gangs, lead us to believe the Mormons.

At Nauvoo their troubles, in which their president and his brother were murdered, have become matters of history.

What part of the blame for this trouble, that almost amounted to a war, should attach to the Mormons, we shall probably never know, but seeing their case hopeless, after a parley, they agreed to leave the state within a given time if permitted to do so peacefully, with which they substantially complied by crossing the river with what they could save from the wreck of their homes. Their most objective point was Council Bluffs, and they made the best possible preparation, using wagons for transporting provisions, the sick and women with young children, while the men went on foot, some driving stock and some pushing loaded hand carts and wheelbarrows.

Think if we can of a more pathetic picture: A whole community in which were the aged, the sick, and women with tender babes, starting this exodus, on a more than 300-mile journey, most of which was uninhabited and without roads except Indian or trappers' trails, and unbridged streams, etc., but such was the case sixty-five years ago, and a number of those that underwent that hardship are living here today.

The route taken by the main body followed up the Des Moines river to "Taconic Forks," now the city of Des Moines. Crossing this river they followed up the Racoon to the "Turkey Divide," thence southwesterly to Council Bluffs. Arriving here they went into camp and hoisted the stars and stripes on the beautiful slope where later Camp Kirkwood and Dodge were located during the civil war, and where the Fourth and Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry and Second artillery were organized just at the southern limit of the city.

While here, the Mexican war being on, they were called to furnish a battalion of 500 men, with which they promptly complied. This was attached to the command of Colonel Stipite for the invasion of northern Mexico by way of Santa Fe and on to California, and did good service until the end of the war. Shortly after the troops



H. H. FIELD.
Mr. Field has been a resident of Council Bluffs for more than sixty years. He is now in his eighty-seventh year, but is still active and has recently published a two-volume history of Pottawattamie County.

left the main body crossed the Missouri and camped where Florence, the northern suburb of Omaha, now stands. They passed the following winter there and called it "Winter Quarters."

While at Florence the Indians made complaint to the Great Father at Washington, and as they still owned the land, the Mormons were ordered to recross the river. This was a godsend to them, as they found hundreds of cabins and farms left by the Pottawattamies who had removed to a new reservation in what is now Kansas. There was also a grist mill on the Missouri creek that had been built by the government for the Indians and run by a man by the name of Wick. When the Indians left he remained and was permitted to retain the mill which proved a great help to the Mormons.

Finding themselves on the richest soil in the world, with abundance of timber they went to work like beavers, raised good crops and built the city of Kanabecville, which at one time contained 5,000 people, while the camp extended thirty miles north and south and from five to ten east and west.

At this time everything was controlled by the church. Drunkenness and idleness were not tolerated. Work was the order of

the day until the crops were gathered, tithing paid and the poor provided for. Then the long winter evenings were devoted to pleasure and amusement, into which music and dancing entered largely, balls being frequently opened with prayer and closed with the benediction.

Some few had plural wives, but there was no "redlight" district. There was no jail nor need for one, and women were safer than in New York or Chicago today with their thousands of policemen.

Other churches were tolerated. Rev. G. G. Rice started the First Congregational, of which my sister became a member, and Rev. William Simpson started the First Methodist about the same time, and at one time the Mormons had two representatives in the state legislature.

No, Friend Lewis, after looking back the ground over, past and present, I believe your fears to be groundless. Of the more than 300 couples it has been my pleasure to join in the holy bonds of wedlock, not one of the brides has been abducted by a Mormon. Notwithstanding the rapacity of the Mormons, there are thousands of lovely women yet at liberty, and if you are single and want one, I will simply say in the language of the inspired poet, "There is a

rose in the garden for you, young man." If you have a wife, love, honor and obey her, and I will bet \$5 the biggest Mormon in the bunch can't persuade her to elope with him.

But, seriously! Come to Council Bluffs and I will show you a pretty sight. On one short block stand three churches. Facing them, the one on your right is Catholic, that on your left is Lutheran and that one in the center is Mormon. At the sound of a sweet-toned chime of bells in the tower of the first named the congregations meet in their respective places and on a summer day when the windows are open you can hear the songs of praise rising from all at the same time, and at the close of service it is good to see them swarm out on the sidewalk, mingle and fraternize.

Who shall say which of those songs reaches nearest the Great White Throne, or who would inject discord in such harmony? One thing we do know, as good people as we have belong to each and all of them. The world is getting better and its vipers are mostly imaginary.

H. H. FIELD.

NOTABLE ARTISTS COMING WITH THOMAS ORCHESTRA

Omaha Will Have Opportunity to Hear Splendid Singers and Instrumentalists in May.

The Mendelssohn Choir Music festival, to be given in the Auditorium, Omaha, May 15 and 16, will bring to this city a most notable array of artists. The Theodore Thomas orchestra of Chicago, Frederick Stock, conductor, will bring sixty artists, for one is certainly warranted in denominating as artists the men who compose what is admittedly one of the three finest orchestral organizations in the world. With the orchestra also will appear a splendid vocal quartet composed as follows: Miss Percival Allen, soprano; Miss Janet Spencer, contralto; Reed Miller, tenor; Clarence Whitehill, baritone. Now, some of our music lovers dearly love an instrumental solo, and so that all may be satisfied, Bruno Steindel, cellist; Max Landow, pianist, and Hans Letz, violinist, will appear. The members of the quartet are all Americans, except Miss Allen, who was born in Derbyshire, England, and who is concededly today the premier English soprano. She has been especially successful as an oratorio singer, and will have an opportunity during her Omaha engagement to show her equipment along this line, for she will sing the soprano part in Mendelssohn's "Elijah," which will be rendered by the Mendelssohn choir of Omaha, Thomas J. Kelly, conductor, on the evening of May 15, with the Theodore Thomas orchestra accompanying. Miss Allen has sung the soprano role in the "Elijah" more than fifty times and the Theodore Thomas orchestra in the twenty years of its existence has played the oratorio some twenty-five times.

Encouraging reports are being received by the Smithsonian Institution from the various naturalists who are taking part in the biological survey of the Panama canal zone.

BIOLOGY OF THE CANAL ZONE

Result of the Explorations Carried On by the Smithsonian Institution's Naturalists.

Encouraging reports are being received by the Smithsonian Institution from the various naturalists who are taking part in the biological survey of the Panama canal zone.

zone, which was organized by the institution last winter. All the principal branches of natural history are represented in the party, which comprises seven experienced field naturalists, nearly all of them from the various scientific bureaus of the government.

Naturalists throughout the world are strangely interested in this biological survey, and various scientific organizations have urged the institution to take it up, for the reason that when the canal is opened sweeping changes will probably take place in the distribution of the animals and plants. A part of the fresh water streams of the isthmus now empty into the Atlantic ocean and others into the Pacific. It is known that a certain number of animals and plants in the streams on the Atlantic side differ from those on the Pacific side, but as no biological survey has ever been undertaken, the extent and magnitude of these differences have yet to be learned. It is also of the utmost importance to science to determine exactly the geographical distribution of the various organisms inhabiting these waters, as the isthmus is one of the routes by which the animals and plants of South America have entered North America, and vice versa.

When the canal is completed the natural distinctions now existing will be obliterated, while by the construction of the Gatun dam a vast fresh water lake will be created, which will drive away or drown the majority of animals and plants now inhabiting the locality, and might possibly exterminate some species before they become known to science.

The botanical work is being done by Prof. H. Pittier and W. R. Maxon, the collection of fishes is being made by Prof. S. E. Meek and S. F. Hildebrand, the mammals and birds by E. A. Goldman, and the insects by E. A. Schwarz and August Busck.

Word has been received from Mr. Goldman that he has already gathered over 500 mammals, birds and reptiles. Some of these have already arrived in Washington, as well as large numbers of plants and insects. Work along the other lines is going ahead quite as favorably and all the collectors express themselves enthusiastically as to the great richness of the Panama fauna and flora.

On another page will be found the rules governing the Booklovers' Contest.

Green Gables
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SANATORIUM
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This institution is the only one in the central west with separate buildings situated in their own ample grounds, yet entirely distinct and rendering it possible to classify cases. The one building being fitted for and devoted to the treatment of noncontagious and nonmental diseases, no others being admitted. The other, Rest Cottage, being designed for and devoted to the exclusive treatment of select mental cases, requiring for a time watchful care and special nursing.

The Recipe That Every Woman Wants

When you serve Van Camp's Spaghetti, you will find that every woman guest wants to know the recipe.

Most women who buy it want to know it, too. And many ask us to send it.

But the recipe is secret—you'll see why. It took our chefs two years to work it out.

The result has been the most popular dish that ever went out from our kitchens.

You will see why we cannot let anyone else make spaghetti like Van Camp's.

But we are charging you less to cook it for you than you would spend to make it. And you get it already cooked.

There are 17 ingredients used in this recipe, each the finest of its kind.

The main ones are these:

Durum wheat spaghetti.

Herkimer County full cream cheese.

Best creamery butter.

The same superlative tomato sauce we use in Van Camp's Pork & Beans.

There is a flavor—a blend—to this spaghetti such as never have found in another.

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Please find it out and enjoy it while the dish is new. Surprise your guests before they know who makes it. Tell your grocer to send a small supply.



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10c and 15c per can

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A Blue-jay plaster is applied in a jiffy, and the pain of the corn ends instantly. Then the bit of B & B wax gently loosens the corn, and in two days it comes out.

No pain, no soreness, no inconvenience. The plaster is so comfortable that you simply forget it. That is why five million corns are removed in this way every year. And that is why fifty people use Blue-jay to one who uses anything else. Get a package today.

See the Picture

A is the harmless red B & B wax which goes around the toe.
B is soft felt to protect the corn and keep the wax from spreading.
C is the comfortable narrow band which goes around the toe.
D is rubber adhesive. It fastens the plaster on.

Blue-jay Corn Plasters

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Health and Beauty Queries

BY MRS. MAE MARTYN.

Madge: For your hollow cheeks and wrinkled face I recommend frequent applications of good greaseless complexion cream jelly, also brisk massage. By stirring together one ounce almond oil, two drops of fine, strengthening tonic made by dissolving an ounce of erythrin in a pint of water, allowing to stand over night, you will have an extra good complexion cream-jelly. Use this also for improving it will clear up your skin fine, removing all dirt from the pores, and soon you will find your complexion smooth, clear, fresh looking and unblemished. This is an excellent cream for treating blackheads, freckles and roughness of the skin, and will rid your face of those very large pores. You have never found anything to equal almond cream jelly for improving a complexion.

S. R. Kelly: If your superfluous flesh, proves annoying and distressing, try the following fat reducer which has given excellent results: Dissolve four ounces of paraffin in 1½ pints hot water; when cool strain and take a tablespoonful of the liquid before each meal. This remedy is harmless. By avoiding very rich foods and taking plenty of exercise, you will find this remedy will cut down your weight very rapidly.

Nadine: To strengthen your weak eyes and rid them of that dull, overworked look, put in each eye half two or three drops of a fine, strengthening tonic made by dissolving an ounce of erythrin in a pint of water. This tonic is very soothing and strengthening and by using it regularly, in a short time it will make your eyes strong, clear and sparkling. I find it unequalled as a good eye tonic for treating weak, inflamed, expressionsless eyes.

Lovers: (a) Don't worry. What if your hair is a little thin, looks stringy and is hard to put up and make look nice? There is a remedy for all this. Shampoo your hair once in two weeks with a teaspoonful of cantharox dissolved in a cup of hot water, rinsing afterwards in a clear water. The result is better hair, better hair, please you. This will rid your scalp of dirt and dandruff and make your hair soft and glossy. Your hair will dry quickly and be so fluffy and nice you will forget your hair troubles. But don't wash your hair with soap. The alkali in soap ruins the hair gloss, makes it streaky and dead looking. (b) To make an excellent skin whitener and complexion beautifier, see answer to Miss E. R.

Miss E. R.: A lotion that will help your red hands, dark face and neck permanently made by dissolving four or five ounces of spumax in one-half pint of hot water and adding two teaspoonfuls of glycerine. This lotion will whiten and beautify your skin and take away that coarse, muddy look you have. This is much better than face powder, as it does

not show on the skin and will not rub off easily, like the powder does when you wear a veil. Spumax lotion is inexpensive and will make you look like a girl, a girl, youthful appearance. It is fine for cold sores, tan, freckles and as a protection to the face against wind and changes of weather. I am sure you will like spumax lotion very much.

Jessie H.: Some sage dressings are beneficial to the scalp, but I never recommend them on account of the danger of staining or discoloring the hair. If you want a good, dependable remedy for dandruff, itching scalp and falling hair, try an ounce of quinine dissolved in one-half pint each of alcohol and water. This will put your hair and scalp in a healthy condition. Apply the tonic twice a week, rubbing it gently into the hair roots. It is free from oil and makes a fine dressing for the hair. I know of many who were troubled with "hopeless" cases of dandruff and falling hair that found this an ideal tonic.

Meredith: You say your complexion is lifeless and you are constantly tired and drowsy. This comes from too little exercise and an over-indulgence in heavy foods, causing a sluggish condition of the blood and a lack of proper nourishment for the body. Here is a simple and inexpensive recipe for an excellent blood tonic and body builder. Buy at any drug store an ounce of karyene and put in a half pint alcohol, then add a half cup sugar and hot water to make a full quart. Take a tablespoonful before each meal. This tonic expels impurities and enriches the blood. It will give you renewed energy and your complexion will assume its natural healthiness.

Muriel M.: You can restore the youthful tint, gloss and brilliancy which blonde hair should have, if you put an ounce of marlac at the drugstore and steep in a pint of water. Before using, cleanse your hair with cantharox and dry, then wash with marlac tea, rinse in clear water and dry. This is simple, inexpensive and gives a true blonde color to hair which has lost its freshness. Its use will cause no possible injury to hair or scalp.

Marjorie: Cutting the hairs on your chin and cheeks every day with a safety razor is the best thing to do. Get an ounce of delatone at the drug store and with some water mix enough powder to make a thick paste. Spread on hairy surface and let remain two or three minutes, then rub off and wash the surface and you will find the hairs are gone. While delatone is a little expensive it is reliable and seldom requires a second application. Read Mrs. Martyn's Book, "Beauty" \$5—Adv.

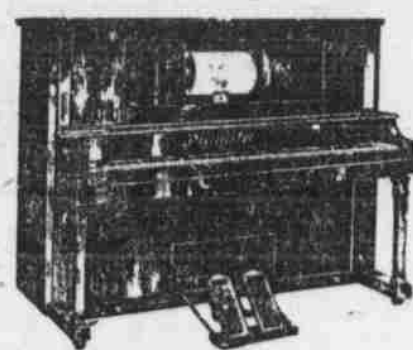
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