

shall be fined, for each such slave or slaves so harbored in sum not more than five hundred dollars, nor less than two hundred dollars, to be recovered before any court having competent jurisdiction; and be imprisoned not exceeding six months. A free person of color to be fined only \$50; and a slave convicted of the same offence before a justice of the peace, is whipped not exceeding thirty-nine lashes."

The striking difference in the legislation of the two adjoining states of Alabama and Mississippi, may afford a matter for serious inquiry to the philosophic statesman. It shows, at least, that there is not that homogeneity of temper on the subject in the South West, which some have supposed; and that the infuriate madness of some is balanced by the increasing mildness and humanity of others. The fermentation yet to be produced by these opposite elements in southern society, must ere long bring about the emancipation of the slaves, either by the free choice of the masters, or from the impossibility of maintaining despotic rule by those who are so divided in their counsels, and so opposite in their tempers.

#### Correspondence from Missouri.

P. O., LIBERTY, Mo., March 10, '39.

To the Editor of Human Rights:

Sir,—I take the liberty of returning the "Human Rights" Extra sent to this office, and directed to Rev. Henry Hull; informing you at the same time, that I will deliver no such a publication whilst I continue to act as the functionary of this branch of the P. O. Department. I should regard myself as being recreant to the people whom I serve in my present capacity, were I to deliver such a work, and under no circumstances will I deliver such an infamous work, and make myself the agent of giving circulation to that, which, if not effectually put down, will efface the fairest portion of the world, and drench our country in blood. Sooner would I lose my office than do so; yea, even suffer the worst sort of persecution. If you are not callous to every feeling of humanity and honesty, let me beseech you to pause in your mad, wicked and abominable course. Let me ask you to read the speech of a man, who, though I differ from him in politics, has lately made a speech in the Senate, which ought to cause you to blush for shame—I allude to Henry Clay—how can you resist such arguments as he has used? I how turn a deaf ear to his counsels? I pray you, sir, to send no more "Human Rights" here. Our people know their duty and their interests, and will render no thanks for such advice as you wish to give them. Turn your attention to your northern slaves, who are fifty times worse off than ours—tell them of "Human Rights,"—convince them how preferable the condition of our slaves to theirs. Send them to the West where they will become *Freemen*. Do this and let us alone.

HENRY COLMAN, P. M.

The above is a *bona fide* letter, regularly franked by the postmaster at LIBERTY, (of all places in the world) the farthest post-town, we believe, this side of the Rocky Mountains. The paper returned was a very careful compilation of facts and documents respecting the emancipation in the West Indies in 1838, with some explanatory and argumentative remarks by the editor. It was addressed, we believe, to the very office which returned it, and was sent to it in good faith, under the conviction that the facts therein authentically set forth, were highly important to be known by the intelligent citizens of Missouri, and in the belief that one who was entrusted by the National Government with his important functions, could not but possess intelligence enough to be entrusted with such a document, and to make no other than a discreet and patriotic use of it. We are sorry to find that he has so much distrust of himself in the latter particular, as to be in haste to send back the dangerous missile.

We might reply at large to his positions; but prefer to exhibit to our "northern slaves" a graphic picture of the ideas about "Human Rights" that prevail in Missouri, and the encouragement they have to "become FREEMEN" by a removal to the West.

From the Boston Atlas.

#### MISSOURI AND THE MORMONS.

Letter from a Gentleman at the West to his friend in Boston.

Dear Sir:—You ask me for information concerning the *Mormon* trouble in Missouri. In giving it, I shall be compelled to state particulars, that will stagger your belief; and I shall be betrayed into a warmth of expression, which may be construed into the signs of partizan bitterness, but which will be in truth only the language of honest indignation. The series of wrongs and outrages perpetrated on the *Mormons*, and the closing acts of injustice, by which those wrongs and outrages were suffered to escape, not only unpunished but triumphant, form the elements of a PERSECUTION, which in vain seeks a parallel in the history of our country. For examples of similar outrages on the rights of justice and humanity, I am compelled to resort to barbarous nations and dark ages, which alone furnish precedents to excuse the conduct of the people of Missouri.

The *Mormons*, I need not say, are a weak and credulous people, whose chief fault is the misfortune of having become the dupes of a villainous impostor. They have an excess of that, as to which the world at large is exceedingly deficient, i. e. *Faith*. They have been misled; and they are to be pitied. But I have yet to learn that their faith taught them *immorality*. I have yet to learn that it encouraged disobedience to the laws or encroachments on the rights of any fellow-citizen.

The *Mormons* were in truth a moral, orderly and sober population. They were industrious farmers, and ingenious mechanics. They were busy about their own affairs, and never intermeddled in the concerns of their neighbors. They were exceedingly peaceful and averse to strife, quarrels and violence. They had established schools, they encouraged education; and they all had the rudiments of learning, taught under our school system at the East. They had begun to open fine farms, and put their lands in a high state of improvement. Many of them were surrounded by numerous comforts, and some with even the elegancies of life.

In all these respects their condition presented a broad contrast to that of their neighbors. Of these neighbors, many had been there for years—much longer in fact than the *Mormons*—and had made fine advances upon the Indians they had displaced. Mud hovels—a "truck-patch"—hunting and buck-skin breeches were their highest aspirations. Let us despise as much as they did the conveniences or comforts of life. Bold, violent, unscrupulous and grasping—hating all who differed from, much more who excelled them in the art of living, the relations between them and the *Mormons* may readily be inferred by any man who has read a single chapter in the history of human strife.

The *Anti-Mormons* (for I must distinguish this horde of demi-savages) are exceedingly intolerant. They are *refuse* Kentuckians and Tennesseans, intermixed with Virginians of the same caste, in whom the vice of *sectional pride*, which marks these people, and a *prejudice* against all others, especially those belonging to the free States, whom they indiscriminately brand as *Yankees*—is exaggerated to the highest pitch. Such persons, if they could do it, would incorporate in the constitution of Missouri, a provision to prohibit emigrating thither of any body, not belonging to their own "kith and kin." They have also personal pride to an excess, which leads them, however, not to emulate a rival's exertions, but to envy his success and hate his person. They have, however, a grasping disposition, which stimulates them to acquire; but not industry and enterprise enough to lead them to acquire honestly. They prefer plunder to fair means, if they can only conceal the knowledge of their foul play; because rapine gratifies their propensities to force, indolence and acquisition. They are bold, crafty, and when inspired by revenge, energetic and persevering beyond almost any other race of men.

The worst error, committed by the otherwise cunning Smith and his coadjutors, was that of transplanting his followers to such a soil. A pacific, rather timid, and *thrift* people, differing as the *Mormons* did from the out-skirt Missourians in manners, sentiments and modes of life, just served to stimulate the worst passions of the latter, and held out the prospect of an easy prey to their cupidity and violence.

They were sagacious enough to know that their acts should have a "show of virtue," and they accordingly began to misrepresent the *Mormons*. The charges were at first general. The *Mormons* were a "mighty mean people." They were "great fools"—which in common acceptation is about as bad as being great villains. Then they were *thievish* (how ludicrous, when the *Anti-Mormons* had hardly any thing worth stealing!) They "tampered with the negroes," which we know, in all slave States excites the most intense odium against the accused, without, in the nature of things, a possibility of rebutting the accusation, for a slave's evidence is worthless. Finally, a fellow burnt his own corn crib and charged it on the *Mormons*. Bad men hate those whom they have injured. There is, therefore, plenty of reason why the *Anti-Mormons* should have hated their rivals. Crimination provokes recrimination; hate begets hate.—Dissensions and quarrels sprang up between the parties: till finally it was evident that they could not live in contact; and that the *Anti-Mormons* were determined the *Mormons* should yield and abandon the country. Moreover the *land sales* were approaching, and it was expedient that they should be driven out before they could establish their rights to *pre-emption*. In this way their valuable improvements—the fruit of Diligence and enterprise—would pass into the hands of men who would have the pleasure of enjoying without the toil of earning.

The massacre at *Horne's Mills* ought to be rung through Christendom. A body of men commanded by a *Senator* from *Charlton* county, went down to that mill and there fell upon their victims, precisely as the pirates of the Caribbean

fell upon theirs. The poor *Mormons* took refuge in a blacksmith shop, and were there murdered in detail. The attacking party leisurely and deliberately thrust their rifles between the logs of the building, and there as the *Mormons* were pent up like sheep in a fold, butchered them! An old man *M'Bride*—said to have been a revolutionary soldier—begged for his life. It was denied him and he was put to death with the most savage violence. A mere child—only nine years old—was chased, supplicating his pursuers, exclaiming "I am an *American boy*!"—But all would not answer. He was hunted to his place of refuge under the large bellows of the shop and his head blown into fragments, by means of a rifle deliberately aimed at it! It is said too, that some of the more desperate and abandoned of the profligate villains, who joined in this foray, returned the next day, and danced over the well in which their victims had been entombed! Certain it is that they plundered those whom they had killed. And be it remembered that this party of assailants had no authority whatever even for mustering and marching; and, therefore, in the eye of law, are mere brigands, robbers and murderers.

You ask, if this can be true? I tell you—yes. It is true—awful, atrocious and abominable as it is, it is true. Yes, it is true—true in the nineteenth century—true in republican, in Christian America; true, while your good people of Boston—a part of the same people that committed these horrors, are sending the gospel of truth and love to far away India and the isles of the ocean.

And how do you think the great *Senator*-civilian, who led this onslaught, justifies it? "Why," says he, "we were in a state of war! It was open war! Which party fired first, I don't know. It did not matter. We came to fight; we had a fight; and they got whipped." Yes, indeed they got whipped. Thirty *Mormons* killed outright or dead of their wounds, and not a hair of a head touched on the other side. A fair fight! Very likely! Men pent up in a blacksmith's shop and butchered like cattle! An old grey haired man laced up and shot through! A child chased and his brains blown out! A fair fight! What ideas of regular war and legitimate battle—or rather what notion of right, justice, or humanity must possess the head of a *Senator* (!) who can justify his acts, as this one does! It is really a pity that the *Mormons* did not make a fight of it. If they had done so, this *Senator* might not now have been living to proclaim his own disgrace, with his own lips, to all the intelligence and humanity of Christendom.

From first to last—but especially in the out set of the troubles—the Governor of the State was guilty of the most unpardonable remissness and partiality. He was formerly of *Jackson* county, and came into office with strong prejudices against the *Mormons*. At the time of the difficulty in *Carroll*, the *Mormons* sent and besought his interposition. He refused it, on the pretext of expense; but in a few weeks afterwards, ordered out against the *Mormons*, an army large enough to have prostrated ten times the force, supposed to be arrayed against it.

The conduct, too, of *Gen. Lucas*, who commanded at the (so called) "surrender" at *Far West*, was to the last degree absurd and tyrannical. Regarding the *Mormons*—not as *American citizens*—but as prisoners of war, belonging to a strange and belligerent people he imposed upon them a "treaty," by which they bound themselves, through a committee, to indemnify (the innocent for the guilty) the sufferers in *Davies*, and to quit the State.—Such stipulations—so flagrantly at war with the law of the land and with common right—did this notable general officer, in the execution of his high and delicate trust, think fit to enact of his *Mormon* prisoners, supposing, as he doubtless did, that the *Mormons* were bound by it!

But worse—still more absurd and barbarous than all this, was one transaction, which happened immediately on the surrender. Will you believe it, that, on that event, *General Lucas* called a council, composed of some sixteen general officers, which, by a large majority, decided to try, on the next day, 40 or 50 of those *Mormons* whom they considered ringleaders, by a *Court Martial*, the end of which would have no doubt been death to all the accused! It was then that *Gen. Doniphan*, of *Clay* county—a man respected for his legal attainments and high character,—addressed *Gen. Lucas* in the most indignant language. "Sir," said he, "to-morrow at day light, I march all my command back to *Clay*. I will not stay here to witness your cold-blooded butchery." *Gen. Lucas* was not, however, then averted from his purpose; but the stand taken by *Gen. Doniphan*, disconcerted both him and the rest of these general officers, all of whom placed great reliance on *Gen. Doniphan's* judgment, and secretly (as well as they might) distrusted their own. At midnight, *Gen. Lucas* went to *Gen. Doniphan*, and begged him to stay. That he wished all things properly conducted; and therefore he intended to name *General D.* as *President of the Court*. *Gen. Doniphan* instantaneously sprung to his feet, and exclaimed:—"This very inducement which you hold out, is the reason why I will march two hours earlier than I intended. I wash my hands of this Court. It is murder in cold blood. I will have nothing to do with it." Suffice it to say, that *Gen. Doniphan's* noble stand prevented the execution of this monstrous purpose. The *Court Martial* was not held.

By the villainies of their enemies and their own imprudence, (for just retaliation was in their case imprudence) the *Mormons* were prostrated. Some sought safety in flight.—Some turned what property they had left into the means of removal. Others were too poor to go, and were compelled to stay and suffer.

All suffered and all lost. But the *pre-emptors* suffered most. They were stripped of the fruits of their hard toils; for not one of them dared, at the appointed time, present himself, to make good his rights. The earnings of years were thus in one moment wrested from them by violence and fraud. The *American* citizen is not protected by *American* laws; but he is driven out from his lands and his home by men, whom the law cannot or will not reach, and whom the Legislature of the State justify and applaud.

The *General Assembly* of Missouri refused investigation of the origin and history of this unexampled persecution. They knew better than to do it. Impartial investigation would have implicated the State and many of its legislators too deeply. It was a series of enormities that would not bear the light; and they, therefore—so far as they could do it—have quenched it in darkness.

But still there remained the sordid disposition for *pay*. The general officers called out in such extraordinary numbers, had a claim upon the treasury. With many of them it was a sheer speculation. Though in many cases they went unattended to the field, they filed luciferous accounts for extra servants, horses, &c., claiming full brigadier and major generals' pay, as if in the actual service of the United States. The demands, it is true, were regular; but showed a very unpatriotic desire to make money out of the State. The Legislature finally, without inquiry, voted \$200,000, but provided that the pirates should be paid first. Even \$200,000 will not meet the regular demands—(thanks to *Gov. Boggs's* prudence and discretion in calling out this host) and these celebrated general and generalissimos will be knocking at the door of the next *General Assembly* for *pay*; reminding one of *Patrick Henry's* speech in *Hook's* case, where the plaintiff was supposed to be patrolling the patriot camp with cries of "Beel!" "Beel!" I sincerely hope that they will in vain cry "Pay!" "Pay!"—until they are willing to confine their demands within decent bounds.

And now do not suppose—let no man North of the *Potomac* suppose—that the faith and fanaticism of the *Mormons* had any influence worth naming, in exciting this persecution.

No—it was the causes I have already intimated, to which this affair may be rightly traced. And let me assure you that any body of men like the *Mormons*, in all respects, but their religion, would in the same situation have shared their fate. I wish you to understand it as my deliberate opinion that, at this moment any body of people, accustomed only to the manners and sentiments of the inhabitants of the free States, and rather pacific and yielding in their dispositions, however industrious, thrifty and intelligent—would, if they attempted a settlement on choice lands in Missouri, fare as have the *Mormons*.

Why conceal the truth? Let me tell you that a body of farmers and mechanics from *Essex*, *Middlesex* or *Norfolk*—however they might differ in points of faith—if they should now be transplanted to the abandoned localities of the *Mormons*—would in five years from the date be driven out by fire and sword, precisely as the *Mormons* have, and the *General Assembly* of Missouri would justify it. Do you ask me how the *Germans* continue to stay in Missouri? I will tell you. They have taken the worst soils in the State—soils which nobody else will take. This is the true answer. The *Germans* are more disliked than the *Yankees*; and if they should once presume to interfere with the *Kentucky* prerogative to occupy the best lands—voce to the poor *Germans*—unless indeed they will fight harder than the *Mormons*.

Yes, let it be understood that there are portions of the public domain of the United States, which are not common to the people of all the States. The question is now settled. The lettered yeomanry of the free States have met the unlettered yeomanry of the slave States; and by the latter have been vanquished, scattered and despoiled.

The game tried so successfully against the *Indians*, has been played off against the whites. And those whites are *Yankees*, who cannot claim the enjoyment of a fellow-citizen's, because they are too conscientious, or too tender, or too timid. But they must succumb like the *Indians*.

\* The infernal intolerance of the *Anti-Mormons* would not allow the *Mormons* claim to be *American* citizens. And this boy was in fact not a *Mormon*.

THE COLONIZATION CONVENTION for Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Virginia and Ohio, is now in session in this city. It was organized yesterday morning, *Rev. Dr. Horton* in the Chair, and *Dr. Edgington*, Secretary. The morning session was occupied in preliminary business, such as making out a roll of delegates, appointing committees, &c. Twenty-seven individuals appeared as delegates, and had their names enrolled as such. Thirteen of this number date from the goodly city of Pittsburgh.—Witness.