

M O R M O N I S M :

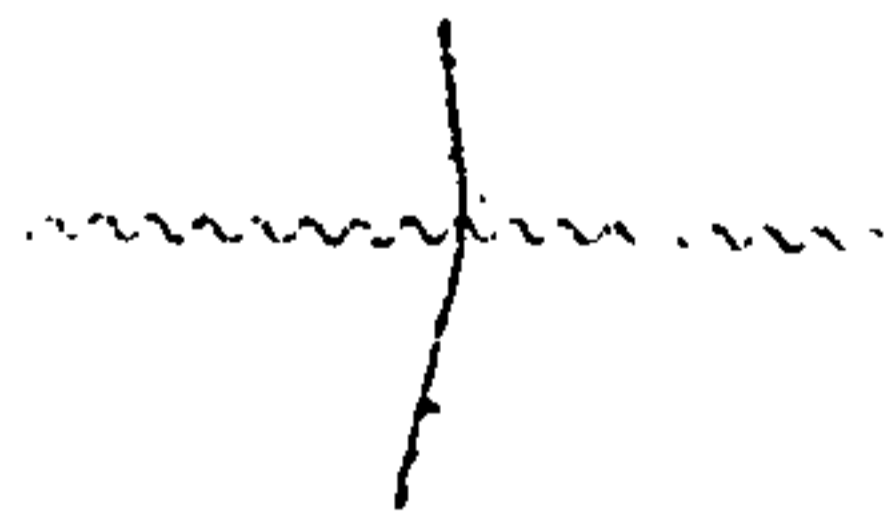
AN EXPOSURE OF THE IMPOSITIONS

ADOPTED BY THE SECT CALLED

“THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS.”

BY THE REV. F. B. ASHLEY,

VICAR OF WOORBURN, BUCKS.

†


LONDON; JOHN HATCHARD, 187, PICCADILLY. WYCOMBE; W. BUTLER.

1851.

emigrants from every side, the Rev. Henry Caswell, M. A., Professor of Divinity, Kemper College, Missouri, visited it, for the purpose of enquiry and of testing the pretensions of Smith. He took with him a very ancient Greek Psalter, and on shewing it to J. Smith, who professed to have "the gift of tongues," he manifested great desire to possess it. Mr. C. asked him,—what it was? He replied, "a Dictionary of Egyptian Hieroglyphics."—Does it not look like Greek? He answered "It ain't Greek at all, except perhaps a few words. What ain't Greek is Egyptian, and what ain't Egyptian is Greek." Though he failed in deciphering such a simple matter, he saw what great value it would be to him in deceiving the ignorant disciples who flocked to him; but Mr. C. refused to part with it, and left persuaded he was a vile imposter, and pitying the poor dupes who followed him.*

While at Nauvoo the following convenient prophecies proceeded from J. Smith,—“It is meet my servant J. S. should have a house built in which to live and translate.” “If ye desire the mysteries of my kingdom provide for J. S. food and raiment and whatsoever thing he needeth.” Again, “It is meet that my servant Sidney Rigdon, should live as seemeth him good”! † He then taught that “the blessings of Jacob were granted him,” and consequently he had Divine authority for indulging in polygamy. And he induced several American and English women whose husbands or fathers he had sent on distant missions to become his spiritual wives, or “ladies of the white veil.” But on attempting to add the daughter of Sidney Rigdon to their number, Rigdon broke with him, dissolved all connection with him, and exposed him in the public newspapers as “one polluted mass of

* Mr. Caswell published an account of his visit, and the result of his investigation. He is now in this country, and I am informed, about to reprint it.

† “Millennial Star,” p. 49.