

CHAUNCEY L. HIGBEE.

Testimony of Margaret J. Nyman, vs Chauncey L. Higbee, before the High Council of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, in the City of Nauvoo, May 21, 1842.

Some time during the month of March last, Chauncey L. Higbee, came to my mother's house, early one evening, and proposed a walk to a spelling school. My sister Matilda, and myself accompanied him; but, changing our design on the way, we stopped at Mrs. Follers: During the evening's interview, he, (as I have since learned,) with wicked lies proposed that I should yield to his desires, and indulge in sexual intercourse with him, stating that such intercourse might be freely indulged in, and was no sin: That any respectable female might indulge in sexual intercourse, and there was no sin in it, providing the person so indulging, keep the same to herself; for there could be no sin, where there was no accuser;—and most clandestinely, with wicked lies, persuaded me to yield; by using the name of Joseph Smith, and, as I have, since learned, totally false and unauthorised; and in consequence of those arguments, I was influenced to yield to my seducer, Chauncey L. Higbee.

I further state that I have no personal acquaintance with Joseph Smith, and never heard him teach such doctrines, as stated by Chauncey L. Higbee, either directly or indirectly. I heartily repent before God, asking the forgiveness of my brethren.

MARGARET J. NYMAN.

State of Illinois, } ss.  
County of Hancock, }  
City of Nauvoo, }

Nauvoo, May 24th, 1842.

Personally appeared before me, George W. Harris, alderman, of the city aforesaid, Margaret J. Nyman, the signer of the above instrument, and testified, under oath, that the above declaration is true.

GEO. W. HARRIS, Alderman.  
Nauvoo, May 21st, 1842.

During this spring Chauncey L. Higbee, kept company with me from time to time, and, as I have since learned, wickedly, deceitfully, and with lies in his mouth, urged me vehemently to yield to his desires; that there could be no wrong in having sexual intercourse with any female that could keep the same to herself;—most villainously and lyingly stating that he had been so instructed by Joseph Smith, and that there was no sin where there was no accuser;—Also vowing he would marry me. Not succeeding, he, on one occasion, brought one, who affirmed that such intercourse was tolerated by the heads of the Church, I have since found him also to be a lying conspirator against female virtue and chastity, having never received such teachings from the heads of the church; but I was at the time partially influenced to believe in consequence of the source from whom I received it. I yielded and became subject to the will of my seducer, Chauncey L. Higbee; and having since found out to my satisfaction, that a number of wicked men have conspired to use the name of Joseph Smith or the heads of the Church, falsely and wickedly to enable them to gratify their lusts, thereby destroying female innocence and virtue

temptations, having received the strongest assurance from him that Joseph approved it and would uphold me in it. He also told me that many others were following the same course of conduct. As I still had some doubts, near the close of our interview, I again suggested my fears that I had done wrong, and should lose the confidence of the brethren, when he assured me that it was right, and he would bring a witness to confirm what he had taught. When he came again, I still had doubts, I told him I understood he (Higbee,) had recently been baptized, and that Joseph, when he confirmed him, told him to quit all his iniquitous practices,—Chauncey said it was not for such things that he was baptized for, do you think I would be baptized for such a thing and then go into it so soon again? Chauncey Higbee, said it would never be known, I told him it might be told in bringing forth. Chauncey said there was no danger, and that Dr. Bennet understood it, and would come and take it away, if there was any thing.

SARAH MILLER.

State of Illinois, } ss.  
City of Nauvoo, }

May 24th, 1842.

There appeared Sarah Miller, the signer of the above instrument, and made oath that the above declaration is true before me.

GEO. W. HARRIS, alderman.  
Nauvoo, May 25th, 1842.

Extract from the testimony of Catharine Warton, vs. Chauncey L. Higbee, before the High Council of the Church, &c. I have had unlawful connexion with Chauncey L. Higbee. Chauncey Higbee, taught the same doctrine as was taught by J. C. Bonnet, and that Joseph Smith, taught and practiced those things, but he stated that he did not have it from Joseph, but he had his information from Dr. John C. Bonnet. He, Chauncey L. Higbee, has gained his object about five or six times, Chauncey L. Higbee, also made propositions to keep me with fool if I would submit to his desires.

We have abundance of like testimony on hand, which may be forth coming if we are compelled, at present the foregoing may suffice.

Why have you not published this before?—We answer, on account of the humility and entreaties of Higbee, at the time,—and on account of the feelings of his parents, who are highly respectable,—we have forbore until now. The character of C. L. Higbee, is so infamous, and his exertions such as to destroy every principle of righteousness, that forbearance is no longer a virtue.

After all that this Chauncey L. Higbee has done, in wickedly and maliciously using the name of Joseph Smith, to persuade innocent females to submit to gratify his hellish lusts; and then blast the characters of the most chaste, pure virtuous, and philanthropic man on earth, i. e. to screen himself from the law of the land, and the just indignation of an insulted people, and save himself from the Penitentiary, or whatever punishment his unparalleled crimes merit; has entered into a conspiracy with the Laws, and others against the life of those, who are knowing to his abandoned conduct; thus hoping to save himself from the disgrace

on the Mayor and others of the city.

By this time some forty or fifty had assembled around the office door, among whom was Dr Richards, the City Recorder, who was standing peaceably and silently on the step of the door, when R. D. Foster who was raging and foaming about the Mayor and others, came up to him suddenly and shaking his fists in the Recorder's face, in the most threatening and abusive manner said "and you too, by God are another damned black hearted villain," with many more such like opprobrious epithets, which he repeated many times. The said Fosters and Higbee were soon after arrested, brought before the Mayor and fined each, in the sum of one hundred dollars for refusing to obey the Marshall's orders at Mr. Marr's office.

J. P. GREEN, C. M.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of May 1844.

(Witness the seal of Court and Ss WILLARD RICHARDS, Clerk of the Municipal Court, C. N.

State of Illinois) Ss  
City of Nauvoo, }

Personally appeared before me Willard Richards, Clerk of the Municipal Court for said city, Joseph W. Coolidge and Elbridge Tufts, and after being duly sworn depose and say, that they have read the foregoing Affidavit of John P. Green, Marshall of said city, that they were present at the door of the Mayor's office, on the 26th of April 1844; when said Marshall arrived with the prisoner A. Spencer, that they saw and heard what transpired after the arrival of the Marshall as aforesaid, as stated in said affidavit and that the same is verily true.

JOSEPH W. COOLIDGE,  
ELBRIDGE TUFTS.

Sworn to and subscribed, this 25th day of May, 1844, before me WILLARD RICHARDS, Clerk. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of court. The time and place above written.

WILLARD RICHARDS  
Clerk M. C. C. N.

In addition to the above affidavits, we refer the reader to the depositions of A. B. Williams and M. G. Eaton, published in the "Neighbour," of the 15th May inst. and ask what honest man is safe while such, hot headed, law breaking, peace disturbing, angry threatening, heaven daring, God provoking beings, are stalking abroad in our midst! And what virtuous female will ever venture again to be within the reach of such a creature? And when complaints have been made to the Grand Jury of Hancock County, against such abominable wretches as are pulping themselves upon us, to gratify their hellish lusts; what have the Jury done? Of testimony

We have abundance now in store, And every moment brings us more. And all who are not now satisfied, of the true character of Chauncey L. Higbee, and his clique, we think them hard to satisfy. But more anon, if they will not cease their threatenings and abominations.

Muscular Motion.—Numerous experiments on the relative heat and pulsation, of animals under different latitudes, have