General Miscellaneous Matters.

THE FATE OF FRANKLIN AND HIS MEN.

Let us draw around the fire,
Embers ruddy glowing,
What a comfort they inspire,
Whilst the bitter tempest roars,
And it freezes out of doors,
And the wintry howl is snowing,
And the keen north-west is blowing!

Sit and listen to the gale;
Frost without us is a-prowling,
What a sad and solemn wail
Runs through it in its gusty squalls,
As it rises and it falls
Ever with a death-psalm ringing:
What a dirge the winds are singing!

Reddened in the hearth's light's warm,
From the greatling yonder,
Housed and sheltered from the harm,
Tracing pictures in the fire
On the poor unhappy souls
Homeless in the cold who wander,
Is it not a time to ponder?

Whose that wild wood's requiem,
Desolately sighing?
Has it not swept over them,
Whose unsepulchred remains
Now bestrew the icy plains,
Where, for science martyrs dying,
Franklin and his crew are lying.

There they starved among the snows
Mid the ages hoary,
There to death they slowly froze,
On such errand let brave men
Never be despatched again,
Keep them for the strife of glory:
What a fine, sea warrior story.

A Chapter on Polygamy—Mormon Experience by a Mormon.

Extract of a letter to the Chicago Tribune

When I came to Deseret there were not many who were in the enjoyment of more than one wife, and many of most of the new comers were opposed to it. But as they saw how beautifully and harmoniously those families lived where there were two or more wives, their prejudices gradually gave way, and among no class was this change more apparent than the women. At the present time if a vote were taken upon the subject, I venture to say that nine out of every ten women who have lived here two years, would sustain our present social system in this particular. They are more free from the mean, petty spirit on many of the latter items than men—though the truth is, our wives in Deseret make no pretensions to owning fine houses, or have ambition to bring to help them in their business and their poor brothers and sisters in the Lord's Church.

There are very few men here who have more than five wives, and a large part have but one, while some have none. For myself, I have three. Sarah Ann, your cousin, who I married in New York State, has the largest share of my affections, and takes precedence in the family as the first-born. Two years ago I went to Mt. Sterling, county of Ohio, and while there on business I became acquainted with the eldest daughter of a Mr. Ware, whose farm joins that of Mr. Pomeroy, which I bought. Her name is Martha Ann Ware, and she is from near Hamburg, Germany. She is younger than either Sarah Ann or Elizabeth, the name of my second wife. Martha Ann is a very beautiful, lively, intelligent, and affectionate girl, and I may say, without any invidiousness or impropriety, is the favorite with some. Her person is of the medium size, full chest, bright eyes, and a countenance that will shine with wonderful power. The two wives of mine are Sarah Ann and Elizabeth. The latter is the one that jealousy would induce you to believe had pulled the other's hair—which, you know, is the way jealousy would show itself in women.

We are all looking forward to the time when we shall be together constantly, and I expect to see where we can with our children in the fear and admonition of the Lord." You may be sure, dear cousin, that I will be will in person, when I assure you that one of my present wives are anxious that I should get another—one who is fitted by education and physically adapted, to take charge of the business of the dairy. With such an arrangement as this of my household, every department of it will be organized establishment, on a practical scale, and I have a head to it, and I give mind in order. I have no inclination to employ on my own account, as I am well satisfied with those I now have, but if I should do so, it will be simply out of regard for them.

My daughter, Louisa, is engaged to be married to a man from Pennsylvania, who has already a wife and three children. He did not entirely meet my approbation, but I did not interpose a single objection so long as she was satisfied, and the marriage would be in a high degree honorable to her, as well as advantageous in a worldly view.

Now, my dear sir, you will say what is to some of all this? Let me tell you what some of it. In Deseret there are no celebrities with their paramours, no houses of prostitution, no cases of seduction, or those which disturb the peace of families in the States, under your laws. Here every woman can have what God intended she should—a husband—and every man that wants to, may have a wife. And the woman that is the wife of a man who has one or more wives is more fortunate than if she were the only one, for in case of plurality the duties of the house are divided.

The children here are pretty numerous. I must admit, but this should not be considered to the happiness of the true followers of the Lord, from whom we have learned that our duty is to multiply and replenish. But, mark this, there are no illegitimate children in Deseret, no children of shame who are ashamed of their mothers, and a disgrace to any but the lowest society.

I shall not enter into an argument to attempt to convince you that your sentiments in regard to the marriage relation are the results of education and are wrong. I wish you could live here one year or two, however, and I have not a doubt your acts would show you had changed your opinion.

The Bonapartes.

Jerome Bonaparte, the Baltimore brother of the Prince Napoleon, has lately come back from France—a French citizen, and prince. His son, sometime lieutenant in our army, has been also naturalized in France, and is pointed to by some French papers as the probable heir of the Napoleonidæ, and looks down upon Baltimore and the democrat of America. It is said that, when her grandson was going away, she gave him $5,000, and promised him much more, if he would remain in France, and cultivate the imperial tree as far as possible. It is reported that she has a large fortune, and it is well known that, like old Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, she is continually trying to increase it. Though nearly seventy years of age, she is frequently seen on 'change, in Baltimore, at the post-office, pottering about the wharves and banking houses, and holding conversations with speculators and men of business. She prefers living in a plain boarding-house, for economy, still preserves traces of her early beauty, and often prides herself on having the fairest skin in that part of the country. She is above acting as the generality of ladies about her, and never goes to church. She talks philosophy and politics, and recounts the glories of the Napoleonic times. She commonly wears on her forehead a glittering jewel—of a high value, intrinsically, and, doubtless, still more highly valued for some remembrance attached to it. She has always been in the habit of receiving magnificent presents from abroad, and takes much pride in showing them. She is a wonderful old dowager, full of eccentricity and character. She seems to hold no intercourse with her relations, and is a kind of Lady Hester Stanhope, in her own way. The best advice we could give her, would be that she should go back to the old man, and live and die with him. There is no doubt that she has corresponded with him since the parting, and we see that there is no breach between him and his American relatives.

The man who forced a wife for his own bed from the palace of the Austrian emperor, was the one who obliged Jerome to give up his American wife; and it is not improbable the latter obeyed his brother with regret. At all events, if there ever was much bitterness, time has done away with it. Time has also buried the Wurtemburg woman. The old grandmother should get to the old grandfather, and they should end their lives together, according to the good old ballad of "John Anderson my J——." *Sun Mail*

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