

Monday, January 27. The "Millennial Star" of this date contains the following: (Mill. Star 52: 54)

THE MANCHESTER COURIER ON THE "MORMONS."

We publish in another column an editorial taken from the *Manchester Courier* of Jan. 13, 1890. It appears from this article that the utterances of certain officials in an Anti-"Mormon" League or Society of some kind in London, afford the *Courier* a pretext for wasting something done to suppress the labors of "Mormon" missionaries in this country. The statements upon which our contemporary apparently relies for a justification of its attack upon the "Mormons," are leading it astray. According to the *Courier* the *Reverend R. Young* affirms that "year by year thousands of young women are decoyed out to Salt Lake City, there to lead immoral lives." Taking this statement as representing Mr. Young correctly, strict regard for the truth constrains us to say that he is a modern Ananias, a falsifier of whom all truthful men should be ashamed. We have at hand abundant proof to substantiate our allegations either before an unprejudiced public, or in a court of law; and the *Rev. R. Young* can appeal to either at his convenience. Some of the facts upon which we rely to prove our charge against him may be found in the following emigration statistics for recent years.

REPORT OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS' EMIGRATION FROM THE BRITISH MISSION DURING THE YEAR 1887-8 and 9.

| Years | Males 16 years of age & upwards. | All ages & sexes in families. | Females traveling alone. |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |    |      | Totals |
|-------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----|------|--------|
|       |                                  |                               | Over 20 and under 25     | Over 25 and under 30 | Over 30 and under 35 | Over 35 and under 40 | Over 40 and under 50 | Over 50 and under 60 |    |      |        |
| 1887  | 102                              | 515                           | 14                       | 15                   | 2                    | 11                   | 1                    | 9                    | 20 | 689  |        |
| 1888  | 96                               | 578                           | 15                       | 15                   | 8                    | 1                    | 2                    | 1                    | 31 | 747  |        |
| 1889  | 80                               | 571                           | 22                       | 13                   | 6                    | 1                    | 0                    | 5                    | 15 | 713  |        |
|       | 278                              | 1664                          | 51                       | 43                   | 16                   | 13                   | 3                    | 15                   | 66 | 2149 |        |

These figures give the total emigration of the Saints from England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales for the time embraced in the report. A number of young women of marriageable age are included in the emigrants grouped together as "families," but so are also many young men of corresponding age. These females being in the company of their natural protectors and guardians, can not be included among those whom it is alleged the "Mormon" missionaries "decoy" to Salt Lake City, for otherwise the parents would become parties to the alleged ruin of their own daughters. In one portion of the report we find special data respecting women emigrating alone. These are parties who emigrated not being at the time of the journey under the protection of their immediate male relatives. Some of them, however, had parents or husbands in Utah who had gone there in advance, having left their larger children or wives as the case might be, to follow them when circumstances were more favorable.

It will be seen from the report that during the year 1887, a total of 72 females traveling alone emigrated from the British Isles to Zion; 73 in 1888; and 62 in 1889, a grand total in three years of 207. Eighty-one of these were 40 years of age or over—a time of life when ladies are not apt to fall into the snare of the licentious "decoyer." There are therefore but 126 of the whole number against whom a suspicion of being "decoyed" could be rationally entertained, and when we consider that in company with these 126 ladies there emigrated 278 single, unprotected men, it looks as if the "Mormon" missionary operations would serve better to sustain a system of polyandry than of polygamy.

But taking our whole emigration the average from the British Isles for the three years just past, is only 716 souls annually. Now, even allowing 85 per cent. of these to be females of all ages and conditions, we have but 465 persons of that sex who go to Utah as an annual average through the alleged missionary operations of our Elders. In view of these facts what becomes of the *REVEREND Mr. Young's* statement that "THOUSANDS of young women are decoyed annually to Salt Lake City for immoral purposes." Counting babies of the gentle sex who are at the breast and the mothers who bear them, he can not show that ONE HALF OF ONE thousand females emigrate, in each year, to Utah or adjoining territories, from this country, for any purpose whatever, through "Mormon" operations. *Mr. Young's* statements are false and were made either in ignorance of what he was talking about, or else were wilful fabrications to further the purpose of a depraved heart.

Our emigration books are subject to the inspection, when required, of a Committee of the House of Commons, or of the magistracy of this country. Our emigration is subject to English law, and we honor the government and obey its statutes. The ship company—Messrs. Gunion and Co.—with which our emigration business is transacted can also furnish, if occasion requires, trustworthy evidence that *Mr. Young's* allegations against the "Mormons" have no foundation in fact. We do not wish him or his colleagues to misapprehend our charge against him which plainly is that he is a falsifier, if the *Courier* correctly reports his utterances, and certainly is not fit for a minister of the Gospel. If that paper or the press generally would keep itself correctly informed on the real status of the "Mormon" question in the United States it could not be imposed upon by such falsehoods as the *Reverend R. Young* is said to palm off upon the English public. The United States law-making power has passed the most stringent enactments against the practice of polygamy within its territorial domains, and the executive power has been

vigorously enforcing these laws for several years. Since 1884 the courts have failed to find half-a-dozen new cases of polygamy among the "Mormon" people. The Utah Commission, which consists of five intelligent men, appointed by the President of the U.S., to supervise election matters in Utah, have declared that they know of no new cases wherein the anti-polygamy laws have been violated. It will not do to say that the "Mormon" people, nevertheless, still continue to contract plural marriages generally but secretly, for there are later revelations that would bring the facts to light. The United States government has a small army of spies and spotters in Utah, and if its members can find no new cases of polygamy it is fair to infer that they are very scarce.

Just why, also, the Reverend Mr. Young and the *Courier* should be exercised so much over a few cases of alleged immorality in far away Utah is not very apparent. Hays their delicate olfactory organs become so accustomed to the effluvia of moral corruption near at home that they can no longer distinguish it! The alleged 220,000 fallen women who live in the single city of London alone need to be looked after a little by the falsifying Reverends of this country, and by the newspaper men who profess to be horrified at plural marriage among foreigners. Then the facts brought out by the *Pall Mall Gazette* some time ago might be considered, and the West End scandals are odoriferous enough we think to arrest the attention of the *Courier* and of Mr. Young to the exclusion, for the present at least, of the marital relations of a few people in Utah. If the *Courier* is really sincere in its attack on sexual immorality and corruption, it need not go outside of the city of Manchester to find enough work to engage all its powers of reformation. Charity begins at home, and there is where genuine reformation should commence also. A confession of other people's alleged sins may be easy; but it is by no means an evidence of a desire to do good. There is more sham than virtue in it.

If the *Courier* and the Reverend R. Young do not know that the virtue of the "Mormon" people is of a high order, the following testimonies from non-"Mormon" sources will enlighten them. Dr. Miller, editor of the *Omaha Herald*, says:—

To the lasting honor of the Mormon people and system be it said, that for twenty-five years such machines of moral infamy as whisky shops, harlotries, faro banks, and all the attending forms of vice and iniquity were wholly unknown in Utah.

And there is not to this day in any of the "Mormon" settlements anywhere a single house of ill-fame kept by a known member of their community.

Governor West, in his report to the Secretary of the Interior, for 1888, says:—

I shall not arraign the Mormon people as wanting in comparison with other people in religious devotion, virtue, honesty, sobriety, industry, and the graces and qualities that adorn, beautify, and bless life.

The House Committee on Territories, in an official report to the Congress of the United States, when speaking also of the general moral and religious characteristics of the "Mormons," stated the following truths:—

It is universally conceded that no locality equally populated with Utah is freer from the vices that afflict communities than this Territory. It is singularly free from saloons, houses of prostitution, and the like, and it is undisputed that the people generally are moral, industrious, and law-abiding. *While this is true as to this population as an entirety, it is especially true as to the Mormon portion of it (Italics ours).*

Having clean quarters ourselves we trust that the assailants of this people will turn their attention to their own immediate vicinity.

It appears that at the same meeting at which Mr. Young made his untruthful statements, as reported, it was claimed that a "vigorous opposition" to the Latter-day Saints had been offered wherever they make their appearance in this country. The *Courier*, to prove the truth of this assertion, might have instanced the mobocratic proceedings against the Saints which took place in Manchester during the year just closed. It might have told how this Christian (?) opposition culminated in acts of brutality and lawlessness, and how the zeal of the Anti-"Mormons" trampled British law under foot in carrying out the "vigorous opposition" which the Saints have met. We acknowledge that such a course has been pursued towards us. We acknowledge that repeatedly in Manchester our people have had to put themselves under police protection because of mob violence. We acknowledge that in Christian England our worshiping assemblies have been disturbed; that in some instances they have had to disperse before the fury of the mob; that individual members of the "Mormon" Church have been assaulted, being stoned or pelted with mud and street garbage, their clothing has been torn, and personal injury has been sustained. Yes, we have met with quite a "vigorous opposition," not, indeed, conducted always within the limits of British law, but doubtless supposed by those waging it to be in harmony with the Gospel principles they have espoused. "Mormons" seem to be necessary in order that some Anti-"Mormons" may have subjects upon which to practice their brutality. Two of the latter Mr. Nicholas and Mr. Rolitho, in Manchester, allowed their zeal to carry them to such lengths that they were arraigned before, and fined by a magistrate of that city for disturbing a meeting of the Saints. We refer to incidents which have taken place in Manchester, not because proof of a "vigorous opposition" to the "Mormons" can not be obtained elsewhere; but because that is the most convenient place for the *Courier* to obtain proof should it want to demonstrate to the people that the Anti-"Mormon" elements in this country are doing something in the "good cause" by the way of mobocracy.

After making some remarks which reflect upon the missionary operations of the "Mormon" Elders, the *Courier* says:—"If young Englishwomen are being tempted abroad by "missionaries" for improper purposes by false pretences, there ought to be no difficulty in putting a stop to this particular kind of missionary enterprise." That is just what we think. It can be done unless the laws of this country are deplorably lax. We have invited those

who are continually crying out about these cases of alleged "decoying," etc., to take some of them into court; but they are all very backward about going forward. As we have no influence in this direction we beg to suggest to the *Courier* to take the matter up more vigorously and insist that the law be applied. With "stratagems" of young women being entrapped annually, there should be no difficulty in getting proof in a few instances at least. That "deluded woman," of which the *Courier* speaks, might be produced in court herself. Let the allegations which our enemies are constantly making against us be proven, or let them wear, with what grace they can, our charge of bearing false witness against our Elders; of defaming men who are engaged in preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If their missionary operations, or those of any other character, are carried on in violation of the law of this country, let them be punished accordingly. Unless this course is adopted, we cannot but think those who make charges of immorality, fraud, etc., against our Elders are just as conscious as we are that there is no foundation for them.

In conclusion we wish to call the attention of the magistracy of this country to some of the utterances of the *Courier*. It says that on a certain occasion when the "Mormons endeavored to make converts on *Mile-and-Waste*, they were set upon by a mob and severely maltreated. *If such receptions become general, Mormon missionaries will become scarce*" (Italics ours). This alleged occurrence never took place. If that language, however, is not an incentive to mob violence we fail to apprehend its meaning. There is in it a covert invitation to the base elements of this country to set British law at defiance in the crusade against an unpopular people. The position occupied by the *Courier* seems to be to get rid of the "Mormon" Elders lawfully, if it can be so done; but unlawfully when other means fail.

The English people will do well to oppose vigorously all mobocracy in their midst, especially against a religious people. It can not be allowed to manifest itself against one class of the community who happen to be unpopular today, and not take such deep root that it will fail to break out against others. If the people here wish to escape scenes of riot hereafter, they will take care that unlawful violence is not practiced against the Saints. They are God's people however humble, however much scorned they may be, and just as sure as God lives, the treatment bestowed upon them will be returned by the Almighty, pressed down and running over. It were better that a millstone were hung about a man's neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should maltreat in any way the LEAST of the Saints. Let the *Courier* proceed. If it wishes to see riot and mobocracy rampant in this country, let it stir it up against the Saints. If it wants to see Englishmen driven in terror from their homes, let it bring about the violent expulsion of the "Mormons" from theirs. We thus give the people a key by which they may read the future that is in store for them. They will reap what they sow. The harvest may not be desirable, but the Lord God Omnipotent will take care that it is gathered.

B.

The article referred to in the foregoing reads as follows:

THE MANCHESTER COURIER ON OUR MISSIONARY OPERATIONS IN ENGLAND.

THESE are missionaries and missionaries. Numbers of good men and women in this country devote their lives to relieving the sufferings and reducing the temptations of the more miserable members of the lower orders of society. They make great personal sacrifices, and become the voluntary witnesses of scenes of immorality and degradation in order that they may more effectually provide the means of amendment and escape. These are true missionaries, and so are they who venture into uncivilized and benighted countries for the purpose of spreading a knowledge of the Scriptures, and setting an example of a better life. But there are, it seems, missionaries sent to this country for far different purposes. They come from Utah, and they aim at inducing virtuous and well-behaved young women to leave their homes and enter upon a polygamous and immoral career. So sad are the experiences of many of those who become victims of these so-called missionaries, that a society has been established in London to counteract their efforts. It held its ninth annual meeting the other day, when it was stated that it had offered a vigorous opposition to the Latter-day Saints whenever they made their appearance in this country. According to the accounts furnished to the meeting, these "saints" are wrongly designated. The Chairman, the Rev. R. Young, said the evil wrought by the Mormon missionaries was so serious that Government interference was necessary, inasmuch as year by year thousands of young women were decoyed out to Salt Lake City there to lead immoral lives. When he was Prime Minister, Mr. Gladstone was approached on the subject, and Mr. Young says he replied regretting his inability to interfere, as he presumed the young persons went

voluntarily. Surely Mr. Gladstone cannot have been convinced that the young women were decoyed to Salt Lake City for immoral purposes, or he would have taken some means of so expressing his abhorrence as to make the enterprise of the missionaries in this country a risky, if not profitless, business. He succeeded in raising a great outcry about the improper treatment of the Bulgarians, and has shown quite a fatherly interest in the welfare of other foreign nationalities, and it is hard to believe that he is ready to lend his powerful aid for the suppression of wrongs committed a long way off, and heathens to take any step to warn and protect his own countrywomen from lives of immorality. It was suggested that as the committee of the anti-Mormon League had failed to induce Mr. Gladstone to act, when in office, application should be made to Lord Salisbury. The Rev. W. Gallagher, who made the suggestion, said he felt sure the United States Government would heartily co-operate in any attempt the Premier may make to restrain the emigration of young women to Utah for polygamous purposes, and the meeting instructed the secretary to communicate with his lordship on the subject. If young Englishwomen are being tempted abroad by "missionaries" for improper purposes by false pretences, there ought to be no difficulty in putting a stop to this particular kind of missionary enterprise. A deluded woman, who managed to make her way back to this country, gave such an account of her experiences to her neighbors, that when next the Mormons endeavored to make converts on *Mile-and-Waste*, they were set upon by a mob and severely maltreated. If such receptions become general, Mormon missionaries will become scarce.