

**CHRISTIAN PROGRESS IN UTAH:  
THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE  
CHRISTIAN CONVENTION. HELD  
IN SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 3RD,  
4TH AND 5TH, 1888**

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**VARIOUS**

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# AN ENGLISHWOMAN IN UTAH

THE STORY OF

A LIFE'S EXPERIENCE IN MORMONISM.

*In* Autobiography :

BY

MRS. T. B. H. STENHOUSE,

OF SALT LAKE CITY,

For More than Twenty-Five Years the Wife of a Mormon Missionary and Elder.

"In these pages, a woman, a wife and mother, speaks the sorrows and oppressions of which she has been the witness and the victim.

It is because her sorrows and her oppressions are those of thousands, who, suffering like her, cannot or dare not speak for themselves, that she thus gives this history to the public.

It is no sensational story, but a plain, unvarnished, tale of truth, stranger and sadder than fiction.

Our day has seen a glorious breaking of fetters. The slave-pens of the South have become a nightmare of the past; the auction-block and whipping-post have given place to the church and school-house; and the songs of emancipated millions are heard through our land.

May we not then hope that the hour is come to loose the bonds of a cruel slavery whose chains have cut into the very hearts of thousands of our sisters—a slavery which debases and degrades womanhood, motherhood, and the family?

Let every happy wife and mother who reads these lines give her their sympathy, prayers, and aid to free her sisters from this degrading bondage. Let all the womanhood of the country stand united for them. There is a power in combined enlightened sentiment and sympathy before which every form of injustice and cruelty *must* finally go down.

May He who came to break every yoke hasten this deliverance!"

*Preface by Harriet Beecher Stowe.*

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH:  
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## PREFACE.

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In February, 1888, at a meeting of the Ministers Association of this city, the importance of a convention of all the Christian workers in this region, to discuss the special opportunities and responsibilities devolving upon Christian churches here, in view of the dawning of a new era, was considered and heartily favored by those present. Accordingly an executive committee of one from each of the six Christian denominations located here was appointed, to publish a call for such a convention, prepare a programme and make all needful arrangements. The following call was therefore issued:

### CHRISTIAN CONVENTION.

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CALLBD TO MBET IN SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 3.

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It is the belief of representatives of the various Christian denominations in this inter-mountain region that the Christian church, which ought to take the lead in all moral reforms, needs just now to come unitedly to the front in this new commercial, civil and moral era which has just dawned upon us. Christian men and women, and Christian churches generally, need to have their attention turned to the new responsibility which this new era brings, and to the importance of Christian co-operation among the evangelical denominations for the overthrow of certain great evils in this region, and the establishment on their ruins of those institutions which are calculated to promote the welfare of both the State and the Church.

The undersigned, therefore, representatives of the various Christian denominations, unite in calling a convention of all Christian workers in Utah, and the country adjacent, to be held in Salt Lake City, beginning Tuesday evening, April 3rd, and

continuing through Wednesday and Thursday, to consider in substance the following questions:

1. What are the special obstacles confronting, and the special duties devolving upon the Christian church in this region?

2. What are the best means for removing these obstacles and arousing the churches generally to energetic action?

R. G. McNiece, Pastor First Presbyterian Church; T. C. Iiff, Superintendent Methodist Missions; J. Brainerd Thrall, Pastor First Congregational Church; C. L. Libby, Pastor Methodist Church; M. T. Lamb, Baptist Missionary; J. A. Krantz, Pastor Lutheran Church; P. A. H. Franklin, Pastor First Scandinavian M. E. Church; G. D. B. Miller, Assistant Minister St. Mark's Cathedral; F. L. Arnold, Pastor Presbyterian Church, Evanston; N. F. Putnam, Pastor St. Mark's Cathedral; C. M. Armstrong, Pastor St. Paul's Chapel; R. A. Metcalf, Acting Principal Salt Lake Academy; A. R. Archibald, Acting Principal Salt Lake Seminary; J. F. Millspaugh, Principal Collegiate Institute; I. Huse, Jr., Field Agent New West Educational Commission; L. M. Gillilan, Principal Ogden Seminary; Arthur C. Newell, Principal School of Good Shepherd; H. W. Ring, Principal Ogden Academy; Samuel Unsworth, Rector Church of Good Shepherd; Frank Barnett, Pastor Baptist Church, Ogden; Josiah McClain, Pastor Presbyterian Church, Ogden; A. J. Bailey, Pastor Congregational Church, Ogden; T. F. Day, Pastor Presbyterian Church, American Fork; J. A. L. Smith, Principal Springville Academy; E. N. Murphy, Pastor Presbyterian Church, Mount Pleasant; G. W. Martin, Pastor Presbyterian Church, Manti.

In response to this call, more than one hundred representative workers from the various denominations assembled in this city. The local attendance so increased this number that the audience was large during the entire convention. The evening sessions were held in the Methodist church and the day sessions in the Presbyterian church, and the interest and enthusiasm increased with every session. Two or three things are worthy of special mention:

1. The earnest Christian tone and beautiful spirit of Christian unity pervading the entire Convention. The latter



feature was so marked that a stranger could not have told that different denominations were represented.

2. The thoroughly practical, pointed and masterly way in which the different papers and addresses grappled with the peculiar obstacles and difficulties connected with the situation here.

3. The fair and kindly spirit manifested by the different speakers in dealing with the errors of the Mormon system, while faithful to Christian truth in pointing out these errors. If the Mormon who reads these discussions does not agree with them, he will find no cause for personal offense.

4. The inestimable value of these discussions to the Christian public in the east in shedding light on the greatness of the issues at stake in this important region, and the greatness of the difficulties confronting their representatives here.

Among the most interesting features of the Convention were the spirited voluntary discussions which followed the papers and addresses, frequently stimulating the interest of the audience to a white heat. The Convention was not only a great success in what it accomplished, but one of the most remarkable gatherings ever held in Utah, and no small part of its success was due to its most efficient chairman, the Rev. W. S. Hawkes, recently from South Hadley, Mass., but now one of the leaders in the great conflict here.

It afforded another beautiful illustration of the fact that the different Christian denominations are simply different corps of the one Christian army, which is moving steadily forward to the moral conquest of the world under the Great Captain of man's salvation. It was the serving of a kindly but emphatic notice upon those who are seeking to continue a priestly despotism in Utah, that a new era characterized by American liberty and Christian brotherhood is being ushered in here, and that the defenders of priestly tyranny must either surrender and fall into line, or else be trodden beneath the advancing feet of those whose victorious battle cry is "God and Home and Native Land."

R. G. McNEECE,

In behalf of Publishing Committee

*Salt Lake City, April 20th, 1888.*



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### TUESDAY EVENING, 7.30, APRIL 3.

Devotional Exercises; Organization; Opening Address of Chairman, Rev. W. S. Hawkes.

1. Paper: "The Mormon Priesthood one of the Chief Obstacles to American and Christian Progress in Utah." Rev. S. L. Gillespie, Brigham City. Discussion.

2. Address: "The Anti-American Influences in Utah," Rev. A. J. Bailey, Ogden. Discussion.

### WEDNESDAY, 9.30 A. M.

3. Paper: "Desecration of the Sabbath," Rev. A. L. Seward, Coalville. Address, Rev. Sam'l Unsworth, Ogden. Discussion.

4. Paper: "Mormon Perversion of the Bible and True Religion," Rev. J. D. Gilliland, Beaver. Address, Rev. T. F. Day, American Fork. Discussion.

### WEDNESDAY, 2.30 P. M.

5. Paper: "The Curse of the Saloon and its Remedy," Miss C. S. Burnett. Address, Mrs. A. J. Bailey, Ogden. Discussion.

6. "The Mormon Theory of Life, Society and Morals," Rev. Chas. J. Godsman, Malad City. Discussion.

### WEDNESDAY, 7.30 P. M.

7. Paper: "The Christian Home; its Perils and Opportunities in Utah," Rev. C. M. Armstrong, Salt Lake City.

8. Address: "Ought the State to Recognize God?" Rev. C. L. Libby, Salt Lake City.

9. Address: "The Bible, the Source of the Progress Needed in Utah," Rev. Josiah McClain, Ogden. Discussion of these three Topics.