

but if the devil had sent them, we were confident they would not come to the light. We knew that God had not sent them, yet we could not tell whether Mr. Strang or the devil had sent them, or whether they had come themselves; but it was our opinion that His Satanic Majesty, Strang, Brooks, and Harris concocted the mission in company.

The following note was sent to their lodging place, by Elder Brown, a gentlemanly and responsible man, but they were not in. Elder Brown read the note to the family, named Styles, where they made their home, and Mrs. Styles said that if they did not come in by six o'clock she would send it to them. But lest they might say that they were unwell, or that they did not get the note in time, or that they were going a journey, we sent Elder Brockbank, some time before the hour of meeting, a man of character and standing in society, to ascertain if they had got the note. He found that they had received it in due time, but declined improving the admirable opportunity which we offered them on this occasion. They said that the eighth number of the STAR contained falsehoods which they were sorry to see. Elder Brown observed to the people of the house that if they would attend our meeting, according to the following invitation, they should have the privilege of showing what was false, and if any thing was found to be untrue in that paper it should be corrected in the next. He also re-assured them upon the honour of a gentleman and a christian, that they should not be harmed or molested in any improper manner if they would attend. But they did not come, and our garments are clean.

We have washed our hands and our feet—we have shaken the dust of our garments against them, and borne testimony of the same to our Father in heaven. And let this dust cleave to them as a witness of condemnation, and let it cleave to that house that knowingly receives them or harbours them, or that bids them God speed, either directly or indirectly, or that shall knowingly receive, harbour, or entertain any others that may come after them on the same, or on a similar errand. The following is a copy of the invitation:—

Liverpool, 5th November, 1846.

TO MESSRS. HARRIS, BROOKS, AND COMPANION.

Gentlemen,—To-morrow evening, Friday the 6th, will be our council meeting in the Vaccine Institution, Back Colquitt Street, at which most of the priesthood belonging to this conference will be assembled, and as you wish for an opportunity to break out of your private and limited circle of operation, and get before the public, you may then and there have the opportunity to speak if you will attend.

You say that the Lord hath sent you, and if so, you ought to have the chance of speaking; but if he has not sent you, and you are working privately to turn away the people from the truth, it is our duty to try those who say they are Apostles, lest, perhaps, they might not be, and thus be found liars as of old.

You may advocate the claims of Mr. Strang or yourselves, which you like. You shall have a reasonable time to speak without molestation in any way, and if you have superior wisdom and intelligence, with the spirit and power of God, the weight of your Apostleship will be fully appreciated. So now, our garments are clear of your blood. Elder Taylor will probably be present.

As ever, a friend to the virtuous and good,

FOR ORSON HYDE,

At Mr. Styles's.

T. D. BROWN.

ALTHOUGH DEAD, YET HE SPEAKETH.

JOSEPH SMITH'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING MEN BEING ORDAINED BY ANGELS, DELIVERED IN THE SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS, IN KIRTLAND, OHIO, IN THE WINTER OF 1832-3.

The occasion which called forth his testimony upon this matter was as follows:—One Francis G. Bishop, an Elder in our church, was very anxious to be ordained a High Priest, but he was not considered a proper candidate to fill the office at that time; and his urgent solicitations to be promoted to the High Priesthood, confirmed the Saints in the opinion that he wanted a high station without meriting it, or without being called by the

Spirit of God to that work. He was sent forth into the world to preach in the capacity and calling of an Elder; but he was not long out before he declared himself to be a High Priest—and that he was ordained by an angel from heaven. This made much stir in the branches of the church and also in the world. But when the news of his proceedings reached the prophet Joseph, he called Bishop home forthwith. He was introduced into the school of the prophets, and there closely questioned upon his course. He said he was ordained by an angel to the High Priesthood; yet, on a more close examination, he crossed his own testimony and statements—became confused, and blushed with shame and guilt—he fell down upon his knees and confessed that he had lied in the name of the Lord—begged to be forgiven and cried aloud for mercy. We all forgave him, but we could not give him our confidence, for he had destroyed it. Elder Sidney Rigdon was present at that meeting, and though he has since fallen, still he knows that my statements are correct. Zebedee Coultrin was also present, and many others that I might name.

Brother Joseph observed to Bishop that he knew he had lied before he confessed it; that his declarations were not only false in themselves, but they involved a false principle. *An angel, said Joseph, may administer the word of the Lord unto men, and bring intelligence to them from heaven upon various subjects; but no true angel from God will ever come to ordain any man, because they have once been sent to establish the priesthood by ordaining me thereunto; and the priesthood being once established on earth, with power to ordain others, no heavenly messenger will ever come to interfere with that power by ordaining any more. He referred to the angel that came to Cornelius and told Cornelius to send for Peter; but if there had been no Peter with keys and power to administer, the angel might have done it himself; but as there was, the angel would not interfere. *Saul was directed to go to Ananias for instruction and to be administered to by him; but if there had been no Ananias with power and authority on the earth to administer in the name of Christ, the Lord might have done it himself. *You may therefore know, from this time forward, that if any man comes to you professing to be ordained by an angel, he is either a liar or has been imposed upon in consequence of transgression by an angel of the devil, for this priesthood shall never be taken away from this church.

This testimony was delivered in an upper room, in the south-west corner of the White Store and dwelling-house, formerly occupied by Whitney and Gilbert, situate on Kirtland Flats. X

If men would regard the testimony of the servants of God who have laid down their lives for the cause, they would have little to fear of being misled; but when the spirit of apostacy takes possession of a man's heart, he becomes completely blind to every true principle, and is filled with strife, debate, deceit, false accusation, and treachery. He cherishes no desire to convert and save the world, but is content to confine his operations to the church, which he slanders, defames, and, like a ravening wolf, tries to tear in pieces and destroy; and having no merit of his own to bring him into notice, he seeks to obtain notoriety by contention and debate, which the Lord declares are not of him but of the devil. Their hearts being a fountain of evil, they can speak nothing but evil; they, being disciples of the "*accuser of our brethren*," can do nothing but accuse the brethren like their master whom they serve; they, having a beam in their own eye, can see nothing but the mote in their brother's eye; and well did the Saviour ask such characters, "How can ye, being evil, speak good things?" They are like the filthy and indelicate bird that has no relish for sweet and wholesome meat, but likes to feast on tainted flesh and putrid carcasses. Mr. Strang, like Bishop, claims that an angel ordained him.

INTELLIGENCE AND MISCELLANY: OR, TITBITS FOR OUR AMERICAN READERS.

Sela Lane was expelled from the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in Nauvoo, for base and wicked conduct, and returned to the city of New York soon after. When we were in that city in the early part of September last, this said Lane came before the church there and confessed his sins, but said that he had been led into transgression by that abominable wicked character, William Smith. The church there told him that Wm. Smith had more sins of his own to answer for than he would be able to cancel, and that they could not allow him to make Smith his "scape-goat." If he was received back into the church (which he weepingly desired), they told him that he must be his own scape-goat, and confess that he went into sin and transgression because he chose to do so, and not attempt to lay the blame upon another. To this he agreed, and the church then consented that he might be baptized and confirmed in the church and remain as a member. But on learning that this said Lane threatened violence against certain ones that informed