

"AS YE SOW, YE SHALL REAP."

This morning we publish the affidavit of Philip Klingon Smith in relation to the Mountain Meadows massacre as also the editorial of the N. Y. "Herald" on the subject.

This terrible and unatoned for crime is yet destined to exert a powerful influence in the revolution of Mormonism, as it was the result of a condition of society brought about through the teachings of a fanatical priesthood acting on the minds of ignorant men, literally creating a reign of terror among the disaffected Mormons as well as Gentiles who in any way opposed the will of the leaders.

It is well known that for many years the Indians were accused of this massacre, and the complicity of Mormons was stoutly denied—the charge of polygamy too at one time it will be remembered was also as energetically disavowed—yet subsequent events have only proved how much duplicity they are capable of in the interests of the Kingdom. For years probably a large portion of the Mormon people believed it was the work of Indians, but to-day there are but few who believe that the atrocious outrage was not the work of men calling themselves Latter-day Saints, acting either on their own responsibility or upon orders "from headquarters." Of course the Mormon diplomats East have denied in the most emphatic terms, time after time, any knowledge of the affair further than that it was the work of Indians, yet Brigham Young, as Governor, never took any steps to punish the Indians for so wholesale a slaughter of men and women.

The question whether orders did or did not emanate from "headquarters" for the fiendish butchery, is not the point. We aver that it and other crimes have been the legitimate results of the blood atonement teachings of the leaders of the Church, uttered in the security of isolation and when it was fanatically but, nevertheless, confidently expected that in a few years the Church would gain the ascendancy over the United States Government, and even it should be swept away in "avenging the blood of the prophets."

It will be acknowledged that for years in this Territory, Brigham Young was the supreme ruler, and he has asserted "that no matter who the Government sent he would be Governor of Utah." It is equally well known that his will was law in everything pertaining to the people throughout the Territory.

Granting this premise we say that, with such unlimited power as the Spiritual and Secular headship of this community gave him, his teachings could have been such as to render crime almost unknown in Utah, but such expressions as "sending men to hell across lots," the "unsheathing of the bowie-knife," "avenging the blood of the prophets" and a score of other anti-Christian sentiments have taken strong hold upon an ignorant people who believed him to be the mouthpiece of God to them. The Mountain Meadows massacre was then the effect of a religious belief, the same as polygamy is alleged to be, and we here ask the question, whether in justice leaders, such as Brigham Young, Geo. A. Smith, Geo. Q. Cannon and others, are entitled to the rights of American Citizenship? Long has been the forbearance and great has been the generosity of this nation towards them.

Notwithstanding the "religion" which keeps a republican side in view to the government, and still maintains strictly theocratic views in their public and private teachings to the people, such consummate hypocrisy is treason, a treason infinitely greater than that of the South during the war, inasmuch as it is not open and avowed but is secretly hopeful and defiant.

When Geo. Q. Cannon goes to Congress let him go with the Mountain Meadows record before him and let the nation understand that he is a believer in the ancient dogma of destroying his enemies and in saving apostates by killing them?

The belief in such doctrines should be met by immediate disfranchisement of every man holding them, and no sentimentality about the rights of religion should prevail a moment against banishing such relics of barbarism. These practical exponents of the Mosaic theory must learn that in this republic as they sow they must reap.