

OUR REVELATORS.

Things Which are Funny and Fast Finding Out.

ps. TRISTE: A copy of the *West News*, of November 21, containing a bull from the fourteen prophets, seers and revelators of the Mormon Church, has just been shown and as it is intended as a standard law unto Israel, a few comments at this late hour, may not be considered untimely.

The first paragraph seems solely intended to prove that their views are in accord with those of the late President. This is a burlesque upon the present feelings of the Saints. When the late President was alive the people, like the citizens of any despotic government, believing in the divinity of his power, were obedient to his authority, feared his displeasure and

SUPERSTITIOUS AWE

ever ready to kiss the hand that raised to grasp the fruits of honest toil and keep their children in poverty and ignorance; but when the tomb was closed over his sins, and they learned that all he had given him, under repeated promises that all he had was for the good man, so his immediate position, a change came over their minds, till now there are none so anxious to reverse his memory; and sooner that block of granite resting the solitary watchman at his tomb, and the shades of oblivion over his misdeeds, the better it be for the Twelve and the Church. But as the name of Judas ever remain with that of his betrayer, whom he professed to adore, so to betray, so will that of "our revered" continue as long as the earth for which he professed to live, and to gain the spoils shall last the earth.

Paragraph second asserts that dancing is an innocent amusement, that it has been proven that the Latter-day Saints can so enjoy themselves without the least thing occurring to offend the purest spirit. In this I cordially agree, but the next paragraph is a stumper. After harshly showing that there is nothing wrong in dancing, they use the following language:

The Council of the Apostles, at a late meeting, decided to permit of a limited number of parties being held in our ward houses, until we can erect other halls wholly devoted to the amusements of the Saints. These parties, the Council places under the guidance and supervision of the respective wards, especially upon them to procure the necessary order and decorum at all these gatherings, and to permit no disreputable or immoral persons to there mingle in the society of the Saints."

They here assume that American citizens can enjoy an innocent amusement by their royal permission, and also designate the times and places, the latter ward houses, while really speaking there are not over a dozen in the Territory, and the most of these have been fraudulently obtained by the bishops.

UNDER CHURCH RULE.

There are two distinct organizations throughout the Territory which are usually coextensive, but formed separately and entirely different purposes. The one is ecclesiastical and comprises the Mormon population under the supervision of bishops and are called bishops' wards; the other are civil divisions, created by law and are our school districts, comprising all the inhabitants of the Territory under the supervision of trustees duly elected and qualified. The latter organizations build schools by law for school purposes. There are the two hundred school districts boasted of by the late Brigham Young and his missionaries as a proof of our love for education. Yet the same houses the Twelve arrogantly take from their legal custodians and pass them over to trustees of their own, and to carry out their instructions, the trustees themselves do not dance to them only by permission of the bishops. They have equal right to throw open Walker's store or THE TRIBUNE office for use as the district school houses. The one is Church property as much as the other. It is virtually asserting the supremacy of the Church over all affairs of state, and saying to the people we have given all your sworn rights and duties over to our bishops, whom you must be governed. It is a stretch of power and generosity excelled since all the kingdoms of the earth were proffered for a little creation. By such orders our schools are almost weekly interrupted, benches torn up, broken and destroyed, and a tax of one-fourth of one per cent yearly assessed against property holders for repairs, while those in harmony with the Mormon bishop, be he a wise man or a honest or a knave, have any share in the house they assist in building and keeping in repair.

How long, O Lord! how long is man's manhood to be dressed in riddling clothes?

Paragraph fifth authorizes certain amusements to be held in the same district school houses, for the benefit of Sunday schools, missionary and other church purposes, the great object or assumed object of their creation—the education of the young, is entirely lost sight of and our children kept in ignorance to be missionaries abroad.

Paragraph six forbids all persons attending parties not sanctioned by their excellencies the bishops, under the penalty of being forever barred from the privilege of attending those given in their school houses, "where none but the good and pure shall associate."

ROUND DANCING.

Paragraph seven is very peculiar. It says, "There has always been a long all correct feeling people against round dances, and they tend to demoralize our youth," and then recommends that only one or two such dances be permitted in an evening, evidently supposing that our youth can be demoralized once or twice in an evening and still be good Saints. The serious is apt to arise, If all correct feeling people have a strong prejudice against round dances, and none of the "good and pure" are allowed to attend, why need they be permitted to attend any such privilege? Their prejudices would certainly protect them.

The drinking of whiskey is also believed to be rather demoralizing, but a parity of reasoning one little glass might be allowed each couple. I would like to refer the inspired authors of that verbiage epistle to the people which were produced upon the ground and pure 6,000 years ago by eating one little apple, and also to remind them that we are commanded about the very appearance of evil.

ALL EQUAL.

I was really in hopes of better things from the present authorities, some of whom possessed fair abilities in former days, and cannot have forgotten the great object of the latter-day work as preached by our fathers, which was understood to be the attainment of a higher civilization by placing all upon terms of comparative equality, so that there should be no poor and none rich, enjoying all the comforts and conveniences with the luxuries of life. A millennium was to be inaugurated by the love, kindness, goodness, meekness and unselfishness of the people; all our labors were to tend to that end, and all the nations of the world were to be blessed by their example. In harmony with

this great object at Winter Quarters in 1846 or 1847, the Twelve issued an epistle to the whole world, inviting all sects and denominations to come and participate in our blessings. For the third of a century Brigham Young tried to reverse this original design by gathering by every means imaginable, wealth unto himself at the expense of the people who had confidence in his integrity, so that he beheaded millions of public funds, for which he never gave any public account, and the people only now know that he

DIED WITH MILLIONS

and left the Church poor. The Twelve themselves were used as machines, obliged to preach what they were told, and upon one occasion, at an image he set up for them in the congregation. The submission to such arrogant despotism, naturally dwarfed their minds so that they are now men of but one idea, to which every other object in life must yield. Scientific facts must be made to correspond to religious dogmas, school houses adjuncts to bigotry, and our school books, in accordance with previous efforts, must be completely Mormonized, so that our reading books will be the Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, and the sermons of the Twelve and Bishop Halcigh, all printed in the Decretal alphabet. This will be all the education the common herd will be allowed, while those who get permission from the bishops to study anything higher, will have to learn Pratt's and Brigham's philosophy, who have taught that there is no such thing as gravitation and immutable law, but that things fall to the earth through the influence of the Holy Ghost, and that angels shove valuable mines through the mountains to

KEEP THEM FROM THE GENTILES.

This, besides teaching valuable scientific truths will give our youth proper conceptions of the business of the Holy Ghost and angels—the one being employed in throwing everything earthward, while the others are engaged hiding minerals.

They will probably also be permitted (that is the word) to study Taylor's Geology, which demonstrates that the scriptural account of creation is literally correct, and the reason of the immense antiquity of some formations is owing to the earth being composed of many small planets, or in other words, framed in sections, which, at the proper time, were thrown and fastened together like the sections of a railroad bridge.

These inspired philosophical and geological ideas being at variance with all other theories, prove the others all false. In justice to Superintendent Taylor, I will say that I have only learned his geology, by report, and if he is misrepresented, I trust, as you are his organ, you will afford him space in THE TRIBUNE to correct the mistake. But I hope never to see another epistle from a board of prophets, seers and revelators, based entirely upon the notions, opinions and prejudices of other men, though they may believe them tight-minded or revered.

Give us facts, truth, inspiration, revelation, divine intelligence, or get down from your prophetic stools, and acknowledge that the fires of Heaven never burn upon your altars.

MORONI.

ODEN, Dec. 11, 1877.