Theo Schroeder,
63 E 39th St.

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C. C. GOODWIN. - - - - - Editor.
J. T. GOODWIN. - - - - Manager.

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THE CASE OF MRS. RALEIGH.

The case of Mrs. Emily P. Raleigh, polygamous wife and widow of the late Alonzo H. Raleigh, is one that should arrest the attention of every Mormon woman in Utah. As pictured by her daughter in last Sundays Tribune it is simply this: When an unsophisticated girl of fifteen she became a polygamous wife to Raleigh. She toiled in house and field for nearly forty years. She was mistreated from the beginning but she was steadfast in her faith and devotion. On his death-bed her husband lied to her, telling her that he had left her the poor home in which she had toiled and borne his children, and when the funeral was over she learned that by will the brute had bequeathed the home to the Church. As she was not a wife under the law the courts affirmed the title to the church.

The man himself is not worth discussing, no more than is any other beast.

But at the last Conference the heads of the Mormon Church in as direct a manner as possible, gave the people notice that polygamy was to be resumed, by asking the mighty congregation in the Tabernacle to confirm the nominations of men who had taken to themselves plural wives since the 1890 Manifesto, and the vast throng with but two exceptions responded in the affirmative. The truth is the chiefs of the Church know that the Manifesto of President Woodruff was a mere expediency device: All the revelation there was in it was the fact that a bill was before Congress which threatened the disfranchisement of the entire Mormon people, hence something had to be done, and it was determined to trick the Government and people of the United States, hence the Manifesto. It was so received by the gentiles of Utah until Wilford Woodruff, George Q. Cannon and Joseph F. Smith, under oath, declared that it was made in good faith and should be carried out in good faith. The first two named are dead; how the last named holds the covenant we can all see by the treatment he has accorded such apostles as have trodden the covenant in the dust.

He invites the people to endorse their perfidy and shame and the people respond approvingly. These facts give to the case of Mrs. Raleigh particular importance. It is a notice served upon every young woman in the Church, that if she is persuaded to link her life with some man who has a first wife, she takes direct chance of repeating in her own shattered life the experience of Mrs. Raleigh.

The whole tendency of polygamy is to degrade women and to further brutalize embruted men. The young people of Utah are almost daily reminded of the persecutions that have followed their people from the first. The charge is no more true than it would be for a convicted criminal in the penitentiary to prefer the same claim for himself; but we want to say to the young women of the Mormon Church that except for their so-called persecutions, the women of Utah who are Mormons, would today be so much degraded that they would not have the strength to protest against such wrongs as those of Emily Raleigh.

When the gentiles came in force to Utah there were a thousand Mormon polygamous wives in the Territory who were daily treated like mere beasts of burden. Had the isolation been maintained until this time polygamous wives would have been mere beasts of burden even as was Emily Raleigh for eight and thirty years. Why, when the Gentiles came in force these Mormon chiefs had the laws of the territory so arranged that no polygamous wife had any redress in the courts, no matter what robbery her master pleased to inflict upon her. We suspect that Alonzo Raleigh helped frame those laws. If he did not he approved of them, just as did every chief of the church from Brigham Young to Joseph F. Smith.

To say that such business is God's will is shameless blasphemy; to make such an assertion is to accuse the infinitely merciful God of being a monster.

And we warn the young women of the church that when they contemplate plural marriage they are bespeaking for themselves just such a fate as befell this poor English girl, who gave her life services, brutal in every form, to a beast, only to wake up in her old age to find that the brute reached back from beyond the grave to smite her.

It is idle to inveigh against Alonzo Raleigh. Men can become besotted with strong drink, naturally generous natures becoming embruted. So a false religion can sometimes lead a brute into a kind of ecstacy which makes him want to punish those who minister to him. It is idle to inveigh against individuals; it is the system which the civilization of this country cries out against, and which the power of this country should stamp out even as the British government stamped out thuggery in India.

The Arab race was once a wonderful race. They knew all that was then known of astronomy; some of their literature is almost matchless; they gave to the world the numerals; they were gifted merchants; they were horse-tamers and fighters—they had within them every element of a great race. They embraced the Moslem creed, including polygamy and unquestioning obedience to the priests of Islam. Has any Arab become famous since? Is Arabia rated among the nations as civilized? What is the status of the women of Arabia?

We are told that in the Raleigh case the attorney for the church was put upon the stand and when asked if the church held the woman to be a wife and her children legitimate he promptly answered, "No." Young women in the Mormon church who are anxious to prove their faith, should read this case and try to estimate what kind of a being a God must be who smiles approval on the torture of innocent women and the disgrace of helpless children.

If they will think carefully enough, we suspect they will at last reach the only conclusion that can be reached, which is that a great political and commercial machine that rests on the falsehoods of the men and the abuse of the women is a good thing to let alone.

JOHN PAUL JONES.

A friend asks us, "Why should such a fuss be made over the body of Paul Jones?" The answer is, because in some regards he was the foremost man of his age; because his career was without a parallel, because he was the father of the American navy, and because he won great honor for himself and for his adopted country. Note a few of the steps up which he mounted to everlasting fame. Born of menial parentage, no education save how to read and write at an humble parish school; sent to sea at twelve years of age in the roughest company; what would be looked for in the career of a child like that? But see: "He was a mate at seventeen; captain at twenty; slave-trader, East Indiaman and Virginian planter before he reached the age of twenty-six; naval lieutenant at twenty-eight; captain at twenty-nine; commodore at thirty-two; at thirty-three the ocean hero of the Old World and the New; the most famous sea victor of his time; patronized by kings; petted by duchesses of royal blood; made a knight of France; thanked by Congress, and more than all these, the trusted friend and valued associate of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Lafayette, Hamilton and Morris; at thirty-three selected as special envoy to the most aristocratic of courts, charged with the most delicate, difficult and intricate of missions—the adjustment and collection of international claims—without any guide of precedent or any commonly recognized code of procedure; at forty voted a gold medal by Congress; at forty-one a vice-admiral in the navy of an empire; at forty-three a prominent figure in the overture of that tremendous drama, the French Revolution, and dead at forty-five!

These are the stairs up which history leads his life. His fight in the Bonhomme Richard with the new 44-gun Serapis is altogether without a parallel in naval fighting.

The Serapis pushed her prow over his deck and he lashed the ships together. His battery of 12-pounders was silent and abandoned; his 18-pounders did no service. Two or three of them burst at the first fire and killed almost all the men stationed to manage them; he had only three 9-pounders with which to continue the fight; his flag was shot away; his ship was on fire and sinking; most of his crew were panic-stricken, but when the commander of the Serapis asked if he had surrendered, his reply was, "I have not yet begun to fight." In the midst of the fight a ship supposed to be friendly came by and poured broadside after broadside into the Bonhomme Richard, but late at night the Serapis struck her colors. Though every effort was made to save