tained in custody, to be brought forth again to be tried on the coroner's inquest. The attorney-general and the counsel declaring such to be their purpose.

Another case of trial, in the meantime, having been disposed of, the brethren were again placed at the bar. The indictment being again read, they both pleaded not guilty; and, now, though the witnesses for the prosecution were all in court, the Judge would not allow their evidence; but with a kind and solemn warning to the brethren, to let the loss of life have its due effect upon them for the future, they were again acquitted, and set at liberty soon after, to the great joy of their relatives, the Saints and friends who had assembled on the occasion.

We know not who the parties may be who have secretly been at work, to carry on the prosecution, which we should have supposed would have been left to the Crown alone; however, no pains have been spared; additional witnesses had been secured, a survey of the neighbourhood where the accident occurred had been made, and a large and well-executed map of the same was exhibited in the court. These things, together with the expenses of additional counsel, must be paid from some source, as well as the costs of the prosecution also, which the Judge declared he would not allow; stating also that the witnesses for the prosecution should forfeit their recognizances. What will be the consequences to the witnesses we know not, probably some mitigation of the full penalty incurred by each; but thus were all the machinations of those who were secretly labouring against the Church of Christ, more than against the prisoners, completely frustrated, while the kind care of our heavenly Father was made so very manifest to all, that every heart seemed to be full to overflowing with gratitude and thanksgiving to Him in whom we trust.

Editorial.

It is with feelings of no ordinary kind, that we address you on the present occasion, relative to the administration of the ordinance of baptism. Whereas, two fatal accidents have lately occurred, in connexion with this ordinance, one at Crewe, in Cheshire, and the other near to Sheffield, whereby two individuals have been drowned. We, therefore, strenuously urge upon the attention of the elders and priests of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that they use every precaution in attending to the all-important ordinance of baptism for the remission of sins, and be not over anxious, so as to endanger themselves or the candidate, in any way whatever. Remember, that as the servants of the Lord, we are under great responsibility how we administer, and should exercise our judgments in all matters pertaining to our duty and calling, and not do anything that will bring the cause of God into disrepute, or endanger the lives of our fellow-men: the Lord does not require such things at our hands. The apostle Paul, in speaking of the ordinances and gifts, says, "Let all things be done decently, and in order;" therefore, the candidate should be properly clothed, on such occasions, for the sake of decency and convenience in administering the ordinance. We sincerely hope that the Saints will take warning by the late lamentable accidents, and let a word to the wise be sufficient, neglecting nothing with regard to the fitness of time, place, or appearance.

As these are the first occurrences of the kind that ever came to our knowledge, we feel that they call forth this admonition from the presidency, for the

good of the public, to contradict the statements that are in circulation concerning the church, namely, that we are so zealous and anxious to gain members, that we would endanger the lives of individuals in administering the ordinance, and we feel to say, in the name of the church, that no such feelings exist in the minds of any member of the same, who has come to a knowledge of the importance of the ordinance.

And on another subject we wish furthermore to add, that we, as a church, believe that all legal contracts of marriage, made before a person is baptized into this church, should be held sacred and be fulfilled. Inasmuch as this church of Christ has been reproached with the crime of fornication and polygamy, we declare that we believe, that one man should have but one wife, and one woman but one husband, except in case of death, when either is at liberty to marry again. It is not right to persuade a woman to be baptized contrary to the will of her husband, neither is it lawful to influence her to leave her husband. All children are bound by law to obey their parents, and to influence them to embrace any religious faith, or to be baptized, or leave their parents without their consent, is unlawful and unjust.

We believe that all persons who exercise control over their fellow-beings, and prevent them from embracing the truth, will have to answer for that sin. (Book of Doctrine and Covenants, page 251, par. 4.) And as it is rumoured in the public prints, that Mrs. Cartwright (the individual unfortunately drowned at Crewe) was forced to be baptized by her husband (though it is satisfactorily proved to the contrary); yet, if such were the case, we declare, in the name of the church, that any influence whatever, thus exercised, is *contrary* to the faith of the church, and will not be countenanced by the presidency in anywise.

We wish these doctrines to be taught by all that are in the ministry, that the people may know our faith respecting them, and also to correct the public mind in respect to the church; and we hope, that the Saints will hearken to this counsel for their own good, and for the prosperity of the cause of God.

NOTICE.

We have now in the press, and shortly will be published, in pamphlet form, the whole of "OLIVER COWDERY'S LETTERS to W. W. PHELPS," which we confidently recommend to the attention of the Saints; they are compositions of lasting importance upon the great subject of the coming forth and building up of the Church of God in these last days. Price 6d. each, or 5s. per dozen.

CONTENTS.

Extract from Elder Hedlock's Journal 129
History of Joseph Smith..... 133
The Religion of the Ancients 139
Remarkable Phenomenon 141
Trial for Manslaughter 142
Editorial 143
Notice 144

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