

Reports from the Field.

HAISEY, OR., Sept. 10, 1878.

Bro. Stanley:

At our regular meeting at Brownsville last Lord's day, I baptized Sister Stephenson, youngest daughter of Mrs. Florence. I am in hopes she will make a worthy member.

The church at that point is in good working condition.

As ever your brother in Christ,
J. E. ROBERTS.

Lane County Meeting.

EUGENE, OR., Aug. 30, 1878.

The Lane County Meeting for 1878, will be held at Pleasant Hill, commencing Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, and continuing over the second Sunday.

A large attendance of brethren of the county is desired at this meeting, and the brethren of Pleasant Hill extend a cordial invitation to all.

P. R. BURNETT.

Editor of Catholic Sentinel Portland, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

Once more I take pen in hand to finish my reply to your lengthy article in your paper of the 9th May last. I closed my second reply to said article by acknowledging that I did not understand your language: "The same remark will hold good relative to Bro. Peterson's assertion that the apostles left no successors," &c. You quote from Catholic Bible Acts xiv. 22, and Titus i. 5, and then say, "Here, then, is a complete annihilation of the fabulous theory raised against apostolic succession, a fallacy that has not a leg to stand on, viewed from a natural or supernatural standpoint." Here if you had said the assumption made by all those who assume that there are successors to the apostles had not one shadow of proof for this assumption, you would have stated the truth. The quotations you make have no allusion to apostolic succession, neither is there a sentence in the word of God that justifies this assumption, but the opposite of this is plain from the commission as recorded by Luke xxiv. 46-48, and in Acts i. 8: "But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." This shows beyond successful contradiction that the apostles were to be witnesses for Jesus to all the world. It is impossible to have a successor to a witness. The apostles being witnesses, therefore they can have no successors.

Again we quote: "But says Bro. Peterson, the apostles gave us an infallible guide in their lives and in their writing. Here Bro. P. inadvertently admits the necessity for successors to the apostles in order to preserve these infallible writings to give them publicity." Is it true that the writings of these men cannot be handed down from generation to generation without successors to the men who gave it. As system that requires such assumptions, as this shows its own weakness in offering such as proof. Is Bro. Peterson aware of the important fact that he owes the preservation and possession of the teachings and writings of the apostles solely to the Catholic church, without whose guardianship they might never have seen the light of day. Pause, no, I am not aware of there being such a thing in existence, neither is any man on earth able to show that such fact exists. You show that it is doubtful in your mind by the last part of your interrogation. You say, "Hence, Bro. Peterson can only reach the apostles through the Catholic church, and he must come into her sanctuary if he desires to be in their company. He cannot stand outside the pale of that church and claim any prerogative

through the apostles or their writings, because she alone is the custodian of the doctrines proclaimed by them and denied by infallible teachers ever since." Here again we deny your assertion, and find no proof in anything you say for it. Indeed, the whole thing hinges on the infallibility question, for which there is not the shadow of proof in this wide world, neither written or unwritten.

To assume that the Roman Catholic church is the custodian and distributor of the writings of apostles and prophets is the acma of presumption. This, history contradicts. In countries where Romanism possesses full power she is the custodian and distributor of the sacred writings; she holds them in custody, like that Bible Martin Luther, found chained to a post, so their custody is, and as the distribution of the Protestant Bibles were by them made, after the beginning of the Reformation by Luther and others, so would they now distribute to the flames all Protestant Bibles in the world, if they had the temporal power throughout the world as they then possessed in those countries where they burned those Bibles. Thank God Romanists are not the only custodians nor distributors of the Bible.

Next we notice the following: "Bro. Peterson thinks he has an infallible guide in the lives and writings of the apostles, and we herewith challenge him to prove that assertion from Protestant evidence. This feat has never been accomplished yet, although many wise men have attempted it, but then it may rest with Bro. P. to accomplish greater things than ordinary men, imbued as he is with the insane idea that he is a 'king and priest,' duly authorized by the apostles to perform spiritual wonders. We expect to see Bro. P. tackle this theological question at once, as the whole superstructure of Protestantism rests thereon, and if he cannot prove the infallibility of 'the lives and writings' of the apostles, he will be compelled to admit that his whole religious opinions are based upon a book without voice or authority." Catholics, or properly speaking, Romanists, as well as Protestants admit my positions in relation to the writings of the apostles, therefore I have no need for proof. The point of difference then between us here, is this, Romanists hold that in order to preserve this infallible guide there must be at least one man infallible continually on the earth who shall decide for the people what is to be believed and practiced by the saints. This I deny. Neither is it necessary for any one to believe a fact to prove it to be a fact. Fact is fact, truth is truth, and evidence is evidence, whether a human being believes it or not; our belief or unbelief changes it not. So in regard to the facts and truths stated by the apostles, and the evidence given by them relative to these facts and truths, they depend not on the *ipse dixit* of Pope, Archbishop, Bishop, Cardinal, Priest, nor any human being to decide their truthfulness. They stand or fall on their own merits, independent of what men may say or think of them. These things being true, without doubt, what you say about my religion amounts to nothing, and your imagination that had it not been for the Roman church, we would not have had the writings of the apostles is the merest whims without a "leg to stand on." Or that other whim of yours that, that Book would be "without voice or authority, is as lifeless as Pope Leo XIII. is temporarily in Italy to-day. The voice and authority of the apostles of the Lamb is not from man nor dependent on man, but they, like holy men of old, spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

"Bro. Peterson proceeds to tell us that we need neither Pope, Priest, Saint, Mother, or anything in heaven or on earth to intercede for us, because we are all kings and priests, duly licensed by the apostles to offer up

sacrifice to God. Fortunately, however, for the cause of divine faith, Christianity does not depend upon the *ipse dixit* of Bro. P., or it might well cry out, 'Save me from my friends.' We deny emphatically that Bro. P. is either a king or a priest, or that he can prove from the Scriptures or any where else that he possesses any authority from the apostles to offer up spiritual sacrifices to God." The first sentence in this quotation I accept as true, while confined to created things, Jesus is my intercessor in heaven. Heb. vii. 25. The saints on earth are to make intercessions and giving of thanks, &c. 1 Tim. ii. 1. Next you seem to be considerably exercised because I claim that the saints or the disciples of Christ are kings and priests authorized by the apostles to offer up spiritual sacrifice to God, I am sorry for you in your denial. I take it for granted that you do not intend to be personal in this matter, but intend to deny that any disciple apart from, and not belonging to the Roman Catholic church have any right to offer up spiritual sacrifice to God. Yea, that you go a little further and say no saints except those that have on the sacerdotal robes by the authority of the Pope, have any right to offer spiritual sacrifice to God. I am sorry that any man will be thus led.

But to relieve your mind I will now introduce some evidence upon which you and I can depend and not be deceived. Turn and read 1 Peter ii. 5-9. Rev. i. 6. In this verse the Catholic Bible says a kingdom of priests. This does not in any way invalidate my position, but confirm it. We are kingdom of priests authorized one as much as another to offer up spiritual sacrifice to God.

What you say in the remainder of your lengthy article, I feel disposed to let pass for what it is worth. And now say in conclusion, if we are allowed to judge of the Roman Catholic church by the rule our Savior gives in this unmistakable language, "By their fruits ye shall know them," &c. (Matt. vii. 15-20), we would say again that it is not the true apostolic church, for it does not produce the proper fruits. A man or woman before becoming a member of said church may be profane, drunken, dishonest, adulterous, &c. Then join, say mass, and go to confession, and support the church, and quit none of these evil practices and remain in communion in your church. As Dr. Davis, a member of your church, once said to me, "The Roman church is the only church that will hold unto their members, let them do what they will, and try to save the soul." The apostolic church requires those who become members thereof "to break off from their sins by righteousness, and their iniquities by turning to the Lord." From these facts and many more I might name, I positively deny your affirmation, and believe that instead of the true Apostolic church being the only true Apostolic church, it is the Man of Sin, spoken of by Paul in 2 Thess. 2, 3, 4.

Here we have presented to our view the history of this church and its acts foretold long before they came to pass. This closes our correspondence with you on this subject unless you offer something new. And, in conclusion, I will say so far as I am concerned, I have no hard feelings toward you or toward any member of your church. But there is a wide difference between persons and things, between men and the doctrine they hold. While I may like the one I may hate the other, as the Savior hated the doctrines of the Nicolaitus, so I hate the doctrines of the Roman Hierarchy; yet I believe many of those who subscribe to its doctrines are sincere and are doing the very best they know. I like them, and would be glad to teach them the doctrine (in the singular) of the true Apostolic church. It has but one doctrine, while your church and all her daughters have doctrines.

I have the honor to subscribe myself your humble servant.
MARTIN PETERSON.
Mound Ranch, Jackson Co., Or.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE
OF
REAL ESTATE.

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF THE County Court of Polk County, Oregon, made at the August term of said Court, I will sell at public auction, at the Court House door, at Dallas, in said county, between the hours of nine o'clock A. M. and four o'clock P. M. ON THE 10th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1878, the following described real estate, to wit: A part of the Donation Land Claim of Joseph Ingalls, in Section 30, of township 7, south of range 3 west, of the Willamette Meridian, in Polk county, Oregon, beginning at the Willamette river 18 21-100 chains south of the 1/4 section post on the east line of said section, thence north 58 21-100 chains, thence west 19 50-100 chains, to the center of road, thence south 4 50-100 chains along said road, thence south 73° west, along said road 18 12-100 chains, thence south 23° 20' in west, along said road 14 39-100 chains, thence south 66° 30' in east 9 75-100 chains, thence south 23 65-100 chains, running over a certain living spring, to the Willamette river, thence south 78° east 56 71-100 chains to the place of beginning, containing 186 64-100 acres. The said premises being the real estate of Reuben P. Figg, deceased, lying between Eola and Salem. To be sold for \$1,500 cash down, and the balance in two equal annual installments secured by mortgage on the premises, with ten per cent interest.
Sale to be for Gold Coin.

C. B. GRAVES,
Administrator.
J. L. COLLINS,
Attorney. 33-5

SHERIFF'S SALE.

BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION issued out of the Circuit Court of Polk County, State of Oregon, upon a decree and judgment rendered in said Court on the 15th day of May, A. D. 1878, in favor of J. R. Esteb, and against J. W. Hobart and Mary A. Hobart, for the sum of Two Hundred and Six and 60/100 Dollars and costs and disbursements to satisfy a balance due on said judgment and decree, amounting to \$128 54/100, and to me directed against the property, goods and chattles of the said defendant, J. W. Hobart.
I have levied upon and shall offer to the highest bidder on Saturday, the 21st day of September, A. D. 1878, at One o'clock P. M. of said day, in front of the Court House door, at Dallas, Polk County, Oregon, the following described property, to wit: Beginning at the North-east corner of Lot No. 5, in Block No. 1, North of Main Street, and No. 2, East of Meridian Street; Thence West along the North line of said Lot 78 feet; thence South 28 feet; thence North 28 feet to the place of beginning. Said premises being situate in the town of Buena Vista, Polk County Oregon.
Terms of Sale—U. S. gold coin. Cash in hand.
Dated at Dallas this 10th day of August, A. D. 1878.
L. M. HALL,
Sheriff of Polk County.

SEALED PROPOSALS

FOR GROUNDS ON WHICH TO locate the Annual Meetings of the Christian Church of Yamhill County, will be received until Oct. 12, 1878. Said proposals to stipulate price, number of acres (not more than ten), terms of sale, &c. The same will be addressed to J. L. LADD, Amity, Or.
By ORDER OF COMMITTEE.
Sept. 2, 1878. 8-36-4t

\$15 SHOT GUN

A double-barrel gun, four or front action, 12 B. Warranted genuine twist barrels, a good shooter, or no sale with fresh powder and a Wad Cutter, for \$15. Can be sent C. O. D. with privilege to examine before paying. Send stamp for Catalogue. Reduced Prices and Large Discounts.
F. POWELL & SON, Gun Dealers, 25 Main St., Cincinnati.

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To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a receipt that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the Rev. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, Bible House, New York City. 7-40-ly

In reply to a young friend leaving a town, because some things in it were not exactly to her taste or content, an old lady of experience said: "My dear when you have found a place where everybody and everything are always pleasant, and nothing whatever is disagreeable, let me know."

MESSENGER

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