

THEIR "TEMPERANCE" RECORD.

Returning to that temperance resolution which was adopted at the last conference of the Mormon church, The Tribune is reminded that for many years the Deseret News and the leaders of the church have loudly proclaimed as a fact the false assertion that there was no liquor traffic in this community until it was introduced here by Gentiles.

Now, with respect to this matter, The Tribune has heretofore presented evidence to show that the leaders of the Mormon church were the first to make a business of liquor dealing here; that they caused the enactment of laws which in no wise regulated the traffic, except to place its control directly under their charge; and that they conducted a monopoly in the business for many years. We propose now to furnish another record in this matter, which ought to go far in proving the utter falsity of the hierarchical contention that the Gentiles were responsible for the introduction of the liquor trade into Utah. As a preliminary to that record, we will say, what every old-timer knows to be true, that there were very few Gentiles in Utah previous to the completion of the Union Pacific railway in 1869. Also, we call attention to the fact that the internal revenue laws were not in force here previous to 1862, so that beyond that date there is no official Government record of the extent of liquor manufacture in Utah. But it is known that in most of the settlements, a distillery was among the first public or manufacturing establishments to be put in, often preceding the meeting-houses. Following is a correct copy of a transcript of the official "Record of Distilled Spirits," which was turned over to the collector of internal revenue for the district of Montana, by Mr. O. J. Hollister, deputy collector for Utah:

Salt Lake City Corporation; began in September, 1862, and closed in March, 1868.

William Howard, Big Cottonwood; began in September, 1862, and closed in February, 1868. (Sold to Joseph Horne.)

Glasgow & Covington, Ogden; began in October, 1862, and closed in December, 1863.

Nelson & Co., Logan; began in October, 1862, and closed in August, 1863.

Ed. Friel, Springville; began in October, 1862, and closed in July, 1866.

Spafford, Grange & Co., Springville; began in October, 1866, and closed in December, 1866.

James M. Kite, Four-Mile Creek, Weber county; began in November, 1862, and closed in June, 1863.

Esalas Edwards, Millville; began in November, 1862, and closed in January, 1863.

Curtis & Grange, Springville; began in November, 1863, and closed in February, 1864.

William M. Spafford, Springville; began in January, 1866, and closed in January, 1867.

Frank Stephens, Fairfield; began in December, 1862, and closed in April, 1863.

E. B. Kelsey, Tooele; began in January, 1863, and closed in November, 1863.

James Smith and Joseph Thompson, Springville; began in January, 1863, and closed in February, 1866.

Friel, Thompson & Co., Springville; began in December, 1866, and closed in January, 1867.

D. R. Miller, Santaquin; began in April, 1863, and closed in January, 1864.

George Coleman, Fairfield; began in May, 1863, and closed in July, 1866.

Andrew B. Wilde & Co., Springville; began in October, 1863, and closed in October, 1863.

Barrel Covington, Ogden; began in November, 1863, and closed in November, 1863.

St. George City Corporation; began in November, 1863, and closed in January, 1866.

G. E. Gardner, Virgin City; began in May, 1865, and closed in May, 1865.

Mathias Nelson, Tooele; began in January, 1864, and closed in February, 1867.

Grange & Harrison, Springville; began in October, 1864, and closed in April, 1866.

William Theobald, Duncan's Retreat; began in May, 1865, and closed in May, 1865.

John Leetham, Provo; began in November, 1864, and closed in July, 1866.

George Day, Piute; began in April, 1865, and closed in March, 1866.

Huntington & Whitbeck, Springville; began in November, 1865, and closed in July, 1866.

Seth M. Blair, Plain City; began in January, 1866, and closed in January, 1866.

Alex. Gardner, Nephi; began in January, 1866, and closed in January, 1866.

William Casto, Big Cottonwood; began in February, 1866, and closed in February, 1866.

L. John Nuttall, Provo; began in April, 1866, and closed in July, 1866.

McEwan & Smith, Provo; began in May, 1866, and closed in July, 1866.

James Neill, Stockton; began in May, 1866, and closed in July, 1866.

Samuel Rudd, Big Cottonwood; began in July, 1866, and closed in July, 1866.

Wood & Steward, Cedar City; began in August, 1866, and closed in October, 1866.

James W. Stewart, Farmington; began in October, 1866, and closed in November, 1866.

Corporation of Provo; began in December, 1866, and closed in December, 1866.

Joseph Horne, Big Cottonwood; began in May, 1868, and closed in February, 1869.

Joseph Horne, who bought out William Howard's distillery, it appears, was acting as a mere figurehead for high church leaders. At least, Brigham Young and Daniel H. Wells, of the first presidency of the church at that period, gave to Howard promissory notes covering the purchase price of the distillery, about the time that the Salt Lake City plant was closed up and dismantled, employing Horne to operate the purchase under his own name. It is well known, though, that the liquor distilled at this plant was sold to Salt Lake City corporation, which retailed it through the "City Liquor Store." The price obtained from the city was four dollars per gallon, and it is estimated that from this one distillery alone there was received from ten to twelve thousand gallons of the crude firewater. Later on, our information goes, Young and Wells induced Howard to relinquish their promissory notes for the return of the distillery; and subsequently the firm of Woodward & Woodman bought it out. However, they eventually failed, after having sunk about sixteen thousand dollars, because without the influence of the hierarchical leaders they were unable to find a market with the city corporation.

A number of causes operated to shorten the lives of some of the stills mentioned in the list here given. The chief one was the fact that the church leaders insisted upon monopolizing the

business, and in those days that determination was almost invariably fatal to any private enterprise. Another reason was that the collector became alert in imposing the legal gallon tax, and rather than to pay this some of the operators closed their concerns. The year 1870 practically brought the end of the distilling business in Utah, although the revenue officer closed up several, probably a dozen, private "teapot" stills in 1873-4, and two of these were destroyed as late as 1880—all in the southern part of the Territory.

All of this occurred before there were many Gentiles in Utah, and while the Territory, all the counties, and the cities and towns, were under the complete control of the leaders of the Mormon church. There was not one Gentile official in the governing municipal body of Salt Lake City when it operated its stills and sold the liquor from its own grog shop. The only Gentile officer who had to do with these matters at that time was the revenue collector, who was largely instrumental in having a lot of the illicit stills closed up. Those that remained in operation under the law he taxed to as complete a limit as the available output reports would justify him in doing. The church, which had complete control of affairs here, permitted and encouraged the business to flourish in extensive patronage from the saints. And it was not until after the Union Pacific railroad was completed, in 1869, and Gentiles began to flock in here in larger numbers, that the little and big distilleries went out of business.

After the "City Liquor Store" was closed, the Z. C. M. I. drug store took up the business of wholesale and retail liquor selling, and continues in that traffic to the present day. This concern is under the direction of the Mormon hierarchs. Apostle Reed Smoot and several Mormon associates are engaged in liquor selling, as are numerous other members of the Melchisedek priesthood throughout the State. So it is rather an easy matter to conclude that this sudden "temperance" outburst that characterized the scheming of the hierarchs at the last conference was a silly sham, which will deceive no Gentile, but which served to distract the attention of the Mormon people from the confessed crimes of their leaders.