

Minutes of a meeting of the members of the "Kirtland Safety Society," held on the 2d day of January, 1837.

At a special meeting of the Kirtland Safety Society, two thirds of the members being present, S. RIGDON was called to the Chair, and W. PARRISH chosen Secretary.

The house was called to order, and the object of the meeting explained by the chairman: which was,

1st. To annul the old constitution, which was adopted by the society, on the 2d day of November, 1836; which was, on motion, by the unanimous voice of the meeting, annulled.

2d. To adopt Articles of Agreement, by which the Kirtland Safety Society are to be governed.

After much discussion and investigation, the following Preamble and Articles of Agreement were adopted, by the unanimous voice of the meeting.

We, the undersigned subscribers, for the promotion of our temporal interests, and for the better management of our different occupations, which consist in agriculture, mechanical arts, and merchandising; do hereby form ourselves into a firm or company for the before mentioned objects, by the name of the "Kirtland Safety Society Banking Company," and for the proper management of said firm, we individually and jointly enter into, and adopt, the following Articles of Agreement.

Art. 1st. The capital stock of said society or firm shall not be less than four millions of dollars; to be divided into shares of fifty dollars each; and may be increased to any amount, at the discretion of the Directors.

Art. 2d. The management of said company shall be under the superintendence of thirty-two Directors, to be chosen annually by, and from among the members of the same; each member being entitled to one vote for each share, which he, she, or they may hold in said company; and said votes may be given by proxy, or in PROPRIA PERSONA.

Art. 3d. It shall be the duty of said Directors, when chosen, to elect from their number, a President and Cashier. It shall be the further duty of said Directors to meet in the upper room of the office of said company, on the first Mondays of November and May of each year, at 9 o'clock, A. M. to inspect the books of said company

and transact such other business as may be deemed necessary.

Art. 4th. It shall be the duty of said Directors to choose from among their number, seven men, who shall meet in the upper room of said office, on Tuesday of each week, at 4 o'clock, P. M. to inquire into and assist in all matters pertaining to said company.

Art. 5th. Each Director shall receive from the company one dollar per day for his services when called together at the annual and semi-annual meetings. The President and Cashier, and the seven, the committee of the Directors, shall receive a compensation for their services as shall be agreed by the directors at their semi-annual meetings.

Art. 6th. The first election of Directors, as set forth in the second article, shall take place at the meeting of the members to adopt this agreement, who shall hold their office until the first Monday of November, 1837, unless removed by death or misdemeanor, and until others are duly elected. Every annual election of Directors shall take place on the first Monday of November, of each year. It shall be the duty of the President and Cashier of said company, to receive the votes of the members by ballot, and declare the election.

Art. 7th. The books of the company shall be always open for the inspection of the members.

Art. 8th. It shall be the duty of the Directors of the company, to declare a dividend once in six months; which dividend shall be apportioned among the members, according to the installments by them paid in.

Art. 9th. All persons subscribing stock in said firm, shall pay their first installment at the time of subscribing; and other installments from time to time, as shall be required by the Directors.

Art. 10th. The Directors shall give thirty days notice in some public paper, printed in this county, previous to an installment being paid in. All subscribers residing out of the State, shall be required to pay in half the amount of their subscriptions at the time of subscribing, and the remainder, or such part thereof, as shall be required at any time by the Directors, after thirty days notice.

Art. 11th. The Cashier shall be empowered to call special meetings of the Directors, whenever he shall deem it necessary; separate and aside from the annual and semi-annual meetings.

Art. 12th. Two thirds of the Directors shall form a quorum to act at the semi-annual meetings, and any number of the seven, the committee of the Directors, with the President & Cashier, or either of them, may form a quorum to transact business at the weekly meetings; and in case none of the seven are present at the weekly meetings, the President and Cashier must transact the business.

Art. 13th. The Directors shall have power to enact such by-laws as they may deem necessary, from time to time, providing they do not infringe upon these Articles of Agreement.

Art. 14th. All notes given by said Society, shall be signed by the President and Cashier thereof, and we the individual members of said firm, hereby hold ourselves bound for the redemption of all such notes.

Art 15th. The notes given for the benefit of said society, shall be given to the Cashier, in the following form:

“Ninety days after date, we jointly and severally promise to pay A. B. or order dollars and cents, value received.”

A record of which shall be made in the books at the time, of the amount, and by whom given, and when due—and deposited with the files and papers of said society.

Art. 16th Any article in this agreement may be altered at any time, annulled, added unto or expunged, by the vote of two-thirds of the members of said society; except the fourteenth article, that shall remain unaltered during the existence of said company. For the true and faithful fulfilment of the above covenant and agreement, we individually bind ourselves to each other under the penal sum of one hundred thousand dollars. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals the day and date first written above.

Sidney Rigdon	Leonard Rich
N K Whitney	Artemus Millet
Reynolds Cahoon	Peter Shirts
Joseph Smith jr	Wm D Pratt
Warren Parrish	Jerusha Smith
Sylvester Smith	Martha Knight
Hyrum Smith	Josiah Butterfield

Edwin P Merriam	John Smith
Elijah Cheney	Hiram Corey
Eliphalet Boynton	Jared Carter
Vinson Knight	C P Lott
Solon Foster	Elijah Able
Daniel Bowen	Nathan Haskins
Loren Babbit	Geo W Robinson
Joel McWithy	Noah Packard
Zemira Draper	Daniel Allen jr
Wm Draper sen	Edson Barney
Wm Draper jr	Erastus Babbit
Asa Lyman	Reuben McBride
Laban Morrill	Russell Potter
Bechias Dustin	Harvey Stanley
Jesse Turpin	Uzziel Stevens
Alexander Badlam	John Johnson
Wm Smith	Ezekiel Rider
Luke Johnson	Elisha C Coltrin
A Pettingall	Luman Carter
Isaac H Bishop	Wm Woodstock
Harrison Burgess	Jonathan Hampton
Joseph Smith sen	Sterny Tripp
Lucy Smith	Amasa Bonney
Jonas Putnam	P P Pratt
Edmund Bosley	John Gaylord
Hyrum Stratton	Daniel S Jackson
Samuel Parker	Edwin D Webb
David Whitmer	Edward M Webb
Roger Orton	Wm F Cahoon
Erastus Snow	Horace Burgess
Lyman Sherman	Wm Miller
Isaac Rogers	Orson Pratt
Salmon Gee	Brigham Young
Andrew Brim	J B Smith
Jonathan H Holmes	S B Stoddard
Wm C Rolfe	Ebenezer Barr
Warren Smith	Lyman E Johnson
Simeon Andrews	Heber C Kimball
Nath. M. Iiken	Lorenzo Young
John F Boynton	Zebedee Coltrin
Reuben Hedlock	Gardner Snow
J B Noble	Amasa Lyman
Smith Humphrey	Nathan Tanner
Francis G Bishop	Jeremiah Willey
Ephraim Badger	Nathan Cheney
Ira Bond	L H Franks
George W Gee	Lewis Eager
George A Smith	Silas Smith
Mahew Millman	Jesse Baker
Chauncey G Webb	Gideon H Carter
Thos Butterfield	David Clough
Lebbeus T Coons	Astin Butler
Samuel Newcomb	Benj Andrews
Sabra Granger	Wm Foster 1st
Benj Winchester	L M Davis
Samuel Hale	W Huntington jr
Israel Barlow	Zima Huntington
Nathaniel Carr	Lorenzo Wells
Reuben Field	James M Carrel
Dorcas Brooks	Truman O Angell
Phebe Rigdon	Graham Coltrin

A E Robinson	Thomas Carrico
Elijah B Gaylord	Levi Gifford
Samuel H Smith	Joel H Johnson
Amos R Orton	Heman T Hyde
Willford Woodruff	Haratio N Parks
Ira Ames	Amos B Fuller
Lorenzo Booth	Hugh Coltrin
Henry D Garret	George Strobe
Benj S Wilber	John P Greene
Benjamin Kempton	Samuel Phelps
Hiram Clark	Canfield & Spencer
Hiram B Booth	M C Davis
Isaac Hubbard	J Coodson
Wesley Knight	H A Sharp
Benj H Stall	John Coltrin
Clark L Whitney	Hezekiah Fisk
Russell Pemberton	Lucy Ives
J D Parker	Liester Gaylord
Martin H Peck	Thomas Gates jr
Hiram Dayton	Isaac Cleaveland
Oliver Olney	Wm Gould
William Aldrich	Wm Barker
Joseph Young	Andrew L Allen
John B Carpenter	John W Duty
David Dort	S Hanchett
Temperance Mack	and others.

PERSECUTION.

Persecution has been the lot of the righteous since the days of righteous Abel; no righteous people have escaped, or ever will; for the nearer that a person draws to the living God, the farther off the world thinks he gets.—Hence says the Savior, “They that kill you, think they do God service; and they do this, because they know neither the Father nor me.”

For this very cause the saints may expect nothing but persecution at the hand of any people; because no other people but them know the Father nor the Son, and for want of this knowledge, they are always ready to persecute, and not only persecute; but to persecute unto death; for “they that kill you think they do God service.”

A persecuting spirit always arises from ignorance of the Father and the Son, and this ignorance leads men to seek the lives of the saints; and there is nothing wanting but power to fulfil their designs.

The Savior says, in speaking of his mission into the world, “Think not that I am come to send peace on the earth: I come not to send peace but a sword. For I am come to set man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a

man's foes shall be they of his own household.”—Matthew 10: 32, 35, 36.

When the Savior says “I come to set a man at variance against his father,” &c. the very expression, “set against” supposes that the persons were not at variance before, but on terms of peace and friendship; for he could not set a man at variance with his father, when he was so before.

We are necessarily called upon to view the persons thus set at variance, as being on terms of friendship; having so conducted themselves as to be entitled to each other's friendship and esteem, until they were put at variance by the teaching of the Savior; one or the other of them receiving the Savior in his true character, or any of his disciples whom he had authorized to teach, was sufficient cause to excite the bitterest feelings of the others, not only to object to their religion, but also to justify them in attacking their characters, and destroying them if possible; yea, more than this, their lives also.—No doubt it was in that day as in this; the very instant an individual or individuals received the gospel, though their characters were without blemish, yet their former associates had their recollections greatly brightened; they could call to remembrance a great many things which they had said, and a great many things which they had done, which were very exceptionable; they could look back for years and call to remembrance blemishes in their character, improprieties in their behavior, and they *now* recollect that, at that time it made a bad impression on their minds, though they had entirely forgotten it until their recollections had been enlivened. They could also now call to mind that the persons thus transgressing, had always been enthusiastic, versatile, and unsteady minded, and withal weak minded, with an indescribable multitude of evils that were very gross indeed.

There is perhaps in the whole brood of persecutors not one single one who is honest enough to confess that they persecute a man purely on account of his religion; they will hatch up some cause to justify themselves in their wickedness, though they know that it is alone on account of the man's religion; but being unwilling to confess this, they will invent and circulate the basest lies that human nature is capa-