

THE NAUVOO LEVEE-BOR.

OUR MOTTO.—THE SAINTS' SINGULARITY IS UNITY, LIBERTY, CHARITY.

Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 1844.

Whole Number 120

Volume 2—No. 16.

THE NAUVOO NEIGHBOR

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

BY JOHN TAYLOR.

Editor and Proprietor.

At the corner of Main and First Streets,

St. Louis, Hancock County, Ill.

TERMS.—\$5.00 annually in advance.

WATER OF ADVERTISING.

(The regular one insertion.)

Every subsequent insertion, 27 1/2 cents.

A liberal allowance will be made to regular subscribers.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor.

(John Taylor), Post Office, to receive attention.

NOTES.

From the Times and Seasons.

JOSEPH SMITH.

TUNE—Joy in the East.

From the main who command with Jehovah,

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From the Providence Journal.

Descent of the Mississippi—Floods on the

Upper Mississippi.

New-Orleans, June, 1844.

I have just made a trip down the

Mississippi in one of our elegant and

spacious steamers, on board of which

each passenger had a commodious

state-room assigned him, with one or

opening on the gravelly and another

interior airily sponged cabin, which

is elevated above the heat, dirt, and

offensive odors of the deck and hold.

To this comfortable apartment, when

retired from a lounge upon the promenade,

or when the chat of the social

languishes of growth wearying the

passenger may retire, and in all the

privacy and seclusion of his own cham-

ber, sit and contemplate the rapidly

passing scene before him, and when

that grows monotonous or familiar,

with his book or writing materials, he

finds agreeable employment for a dull

hour. Thus, in the space of five days

at a cost of \$10 only, we are wafted,

in a floating palace, furnished with

the comforts and luxuries of a hotel,

a distance of 1600 miles, from the

fresh verdure and opening flowers of

Spring—From the newly ploughed

corn-land New York, through the

ground in Iowa and Wisconsin,

to regions where the matured fruits of

summer are being gathered and al-

ready in the market.

The weather on shore was sultry

and oppressive, but borne along by a

swift light upon the water, we glided

at a speed that outstrip the flight of

the mosquito, thereby leaving these

musical companions behind us, we

created in the sluggish atmosphere a

brisk, bracing current, almost as re-

freshing as the mountain breeze. As

we passed along the levee, we saw

the "Father of Waters," as the

river is called, this mighty artery of

a continent lies been, through ages,

building up to itself, from the bottom

of its vast inland sea, and over which

its current now runs as through an

aqueduct, elevated many feet above the

level of the land, we could look on

over the cleared plantations, as they

passed along the summit of a "gentle

acclivity, commanding a view of the

sloping vales on either side; and our

steamer when viewed from the rear of

one of these plantations, appeared to

the beholder as if borne through a

vast canal, carried along the ridge at

a high land.

All the tributaries flowing from the

West, and having their sources at the

base of the Rocky Mountains, having

this season brought down swollen floods

that have overflowed their own banks

and spread devastation on every side,

have filled the banks of the

Mississippi to the brim; and from the

mouth of the Missouri to the mouth

of Red River, the waters at every

low point, are bursting over the banks,

and rushing with the rapid current of

the main, by the large levees of

the river, to the swamps and lakes in the

River, which are, in places, five, ten,

twenty and thirty miles distant from

the turbid waters—which were

buried to the depth of two or three

feet in the flood. And the extent of

the poor wood-people—who, under the

provisions of Mr. Benton's pre-

emption land bill, have squatted upon

nearly every unimproved quarter

section along the river, more with the

view to cut the wood than to secure

an eligible spot for permanent settle-

ment, and who consequently have laid

their claims upon all the lowland, as

well as other—were standing in many

instances amid a flood of angry, turbu-

lent waters and the poor inmates were

seen still adhering to their desolate

dwellings, or paddling about them on

rafts or rafts, which were being

driven by the current, and striving to

preserve some portion of the product of

their winter's chopping, which was

rapidly taking its departure for the

Delta of the Mississippi; they looked

like a company of beavers whose habi-

tations had been rudely invaded by a

torrent.

In coming to for wood, we often

found ourselves in the middle of a field,

and surrounded by the stumps and

decaying trees of a recent clearing,

to some one of which we moored our

boats; and once, by the unlucky man-

agement of the pilot, or the engineer,

though our vessel was moored at the

mouth of a log cabin, all standing up

on our bow; it was dark, and a fear-

ful thunder gust was approaching,

what other shelter the poor fellows

had in that lone wilderness spot, sur-

rounded by a turgid, angry flood, amid

impenetrable darkness and the crash

of a diabolical and rage of a pitiless

storm—we stopped not to inquire, but

went dashing on our way.

In two or three instances we passed

extensive estates of a thousand acres

or more, on which a hundred or a

hundred and fifty hands were employ-

ed, and the negro cabins were going

down the bank, acres of land had fallen

in, carrying with it the levee, and

opening a breach through which the

waves rushed, and the verdant and

cultivated fields, in all their pride of

richness and beauty, were given up

to desolation and ruin. The ranges of

the negro cabins were being swept

away, one after another, away, and

the noble mansion of the proprietor

was falling; and the labor of years,

and the fruits of a life of industry, in

a few hours were destroyed.

It is to be lamented that a matter of

such vast importance as the leveeing

of the banks of the Mississippi, requir-

ing the thorough knowledge and highest

skill of the engineer, should not have

been made a national work before the

lands—whose increased value would

have paid the cost—were sold, or at

least that the work has not been taken

in charge of the States that bound on

the river—is an affair of too vital

importance to all who possess prop-

erty within reach of the waters of the

river, to have their safety and interests

dependent on the ability, the fore-

sight and care of every one who may

with the landscape that once border-

ed the Nile, &c. that which is its

charm to the banks of the Gunda-

quiver in the days of Moorish glory.

But whenever they shall levee

the upper sections of the river, and

confine within its banks the immense

floods that now annually spread them-

selves over its vast swamps, which

run parallel with the river, and are

often ten or twenty miles wide and

force the whole body of water

broken down by its tributaries to seek

its way to the Gulf, through the bed of

the Mississippi, the volume of water

in the Delta below will be so much in-

creased, that the present levees on the

lower sections of the river must be

greatly increased in height and

strength.

F. Y. C.

From the Salt Lake Visitor.

POPULAR OUTBREAKS.

No one who is conversant with the

feelings of a good citizen, or is duly

concerned for the welfare of the race,

could contemplate the recent extraor-

dinary outbreaks East and West of us,

without feeling that the most unpleas-

ant kind of what is to be done, and

things—is a question which will natu-

rally force itself upon us. The power

Omnicience alone may specifically give

The beginning is before us; and we know

it is terrible because it is so great. As

answers, not so difficult, is that required

by another natural query—what were

the causes?—and yet it too involves dif-

culties by no means trivial. These

causes may be divided into two classes,

which we shall call immediate and re-

moite.

We find springing up in the heart of

one of our great western states, amid a

population necessarily heterogeneous and

unstable, from its emigrant character,

government within a government—im-

perium in imperio, as it has been aptly

styled—with charters privileges that

render it in some degree, independent

of the state. It is wonderful that such

a community should speedily become an

object of jealousy, to be watched by

the waves rushed, and the verdant and

cultivated fields, in all their pride of

richness and beauty, were given up

to desolation and ruin. The ranges of

the negro cabins were being swept

away, one after another, away, and

the noble mansion of the proprietor

was falling; and the labor of years,

and the fruits of a life of industry, in

& Co. on Warsaw St. near Parley street.
Nauvoo, June 18th, 1844.-3m7