

A MORMON REVIVAL.

It having been clearly demonstrated that the Edmunds anti-Mormon bill will have little effect in ridding us of that blot upon this country, polygamy, the Mormons have again grown bold and aggressive. A Mormon revival is now going on throughout the country, not only in Utah, but in Ohio and the Southern States, and “the Church of Latter-day Saints” expect to secure this year more converts to its immoral practices than in any year in all its history.

Out in Utah, President Taylor boldly defies the Edmunds law by a revelation he has just received regarding polygamy. This revelation specifies three prominent Mormons, hitherto monogamists, who have been directed by God’s special command to go into polygamy; and these Mormons dare not disobey this positive order and will take to themselves a few more wives.

The coming revival and reunion of Mormons at Kirtland, O., promises to be one of the greatest events in the history of the Church. Kirtland, where the Saints are to meet, is in Geauga county, a few miles south of Mentor, President Garfield’s old home. This was the birth-place of the church; here lived Joseph Smith, its founder, and here to this day stands an ancient Mormon temple, large in size but gloomy and dreary in appearance. This is historic ground for the Mormons, and here a large number of delegates are expected, not only from Utah, but from all the Western States.

The reunion will open April 6, with a grand “love feast,” followed by other religious festivities, which its originators out in Salt Lake City have as yet kept a profound secret.

Fully 1200 visiting Saints are expected to attend, and all the hotels, boarding houses, etc., in town have been leased for their benefit. It may not be generally known that there

are many Mormons scattered in colonies through Missouri, Illinois, Ohio and other Western States, and it is thought that a meeting of this kind in the West will greatly strengthen the Church in this District.

In the South, Elder John Morgan, backed by an able corps of ministers, is securing a large number of converts. Elder Morgan was reported in Nashville, a short time since, and told a reporter there that the Mormon crop in the South would be larger than usual this year, and that he would ship several thousand converts to the blessed land of Utah. Morgan travels through the Southern country, advertising his movements, calling on people to meet him, and working his business openly and very successfully, and without any interference or molestation on the part of the inhabitants.

This is a little too good-natured. The Legislature of Georgia properly places the mission of such men as Morgan on a par with the operations of a slave-dealer, soliciting women for “the grand Turk” and has practically forbid their coming into that State. Morgan gets over this difficulty, however, by stationing himself at Chattanooga, on the very border of Georgia, and seducing the Georgians over the line. It would be to the credit of Tennessee if she also would stop this Morman [*sic*] business. It is true that as long as the converts remain in the Southern States they remain monogamists, but these missions South are evidently for the purpose of supplying the polygamous elders with extra wives, as is shown by the fact that the missionaries are more anxious to secure young women converts than any other.