

**Proclamation by the Governor ... Whereas, within this Territory an organization of religionists, denominated “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,” known alao as the “Mormon Church” ... Now, therefore, I Caleb W. West, Governor of Utah Territory, while disclaiming all right to interfere with the religious belief of any, yet recognizing the duty of all to obey the law of the land ... warn all violators of the law of the marriage relation ... Done at Salt Lake City, this sixteenth day of July, A. D. 1885. Caleb W. West, Governor.**

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Proclamation by the Governor.

*Territory of Utah, Executive Office, ss.:*

WHEREAS, Within this Territory an organization of religionists, denominated “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,” known also as the “Mormon Church,” has its head, and from here said body has heretofore sent and now has missionaries in many of the States of the United States and in foreign countries, proselyting to its faith and inducing its converts to immigrate to and settle in this Territory, and such immigration has heretofore and continues to come into the Territory; and,

WHEREAS, The said church in its places of worship, through its public teachers and press, openly proclaims the right and duty of its members to violate the law of the land upon the subject of marriage; and,

WHEREAS, The chief officers of said body, the First Presidency, are now in hiding avoiding the process of the courts under charge of violation of said law, and others of its prominent members, apostles, bishops, and teachers are confined in the Penitentiary under conviction and sentence of violation of said law; and,

WHEREAS, Great expense is necessarily incurred, and our courts continually burdened with the trial of offenders against said law,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Caleb W. West, Governor of Utah Territory, while disclaiming all right to interfere with the religious belief of any, yet recognizing the duty of all to obey the law of the land, do hereby make proclamation of the foregoing facts, and warn all violators of the law as to the marriage relation that they do incur and subject themselves to heavy fines and imprisonment, and all well-disposed persons from associating themselves with any persons or organization for the purpose of



immigrating to this Territory, to enter into or maintain any marriage relation other than that allowed and sanctioned by law, or to aid and abet others in so doing.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Territory to be affixed. Done at Salt Lake City, this sixteenth day of July, A. D. 1886.

**CALEB W. WEST**, *Governor*.

By the Governor: **ARTHUR L. THOMAS**, *Secretary of Utah Territory*.

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West, Caleb. W. Utah.

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