# Lion and Lamb Apologetics

## Brigham Young and His Women

New York Clipper<sup>1</sup>

The elopement of Brigham Young's seventeenth wife, reported by telegraph a few days ago, was not without encouragement, it seems, from the autocrat of the Mormon church, though he did not design or consent that she should go so soon. A Salt Lake paper gives the following extract from one of Brigham Young's recent sermons: "I wish my women to understand that what I am going to say is for them as well as others, and I want those who are here to tell their sisters—yes, all the women in the community. I am going to give you from this time to the 6th of October next for reflection, that you may determine whether you wish to stay with your husbands or not, and then I am going to set every woman at liberty, and say to them, now go your way. And my wives have got to do one of two things, either round up their shoulders to endure the afflictions of this world, and live their religion—that is, polygamy—or they must leave; for I will not have them about me. I will go into heaven alone, rather than have scratching and fighting about me. I will set all at liberty. What, first wife, too? Yes; I liberate you all. I want to go somewhere or do something to get rid of the whiners. I do not want them to receive part of the truth and spurn the rest out of doors. Let every man thus treat his wives; keeping raiment enough to cover his body, and say to your wives, take all that I have and be set at liberty; but if you stay with me you shall comply with the law of God in every respect, and that, too, without any murmuring or

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A disputch from Salt Lake dated July 30 gives the following additional information:

"The papers in the case of Ann Eliza Webb Young, praying for a divorce from Brigham Young, were personally served yesterday. The Prophet seemed undisturbed, and passed the documents over to his secretary. The following are some of the principal points in the complaint: The plaintiff avers that she is the wife of defendant; was married on the 6th of April, 1863; has two children by a former marriage; has no personal property or means of living; for one year after marriage defendant lived with her; since then he has almost entirely deserted her; defendant sent her and the children to live on a farm four miles from Salt Lake, where she had for an only companion her mother; had to do menial work, dressing coarsely and faring badly; defendant visited her occasionally, and never remained over half an hour; treated her with scorn and contempt, and exacted the earnings of the farm; in the Fall of 1872, by direction of defendant, plaintiff took up residence in Salt Lake City, which she had been compelled to leave from want of support and fear of violence from defendant; has called upon defendant frequently for maintenance, but has been refused. She is in feeble health and under medical treatment, and has been obliged to sell her furniture to meet current expenses. She sues for a divorce on account of neglect and bad treatment, and states that her husband has an income of \$400,000 a month. She prays for lawyers' fees of \$20,000, of which \$6,000 are to be paid down a as preliminary fee and the balance on the termination of the suit, she meanwhile to receive \$1,000 a month for support. She finally prays \$200,000 to be set aside from defendant's estate and paid to her as alimony. The replic set down for August 5. Judge Emerson will probably hold court."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> New York Clipper, Volume 21, Number 19, August 9, 1873.

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Eliza Webb Young, has eloped.

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2

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3