

The Memory of Earth represents, along with *The Worthing Saga, Saints*, and the *Tales of Alvin Maker*, sequential steps in Card's attempt to penetrate the heart of Mormonism, to create from its history and teachings and practices an imaginative restructuring of its inherent mythic power. *The Memory of Earth* should not be read as a revision of The Book of Mormon, of course, and certainly not as a replacement

for it; but rather as a guide to understanding the human decisions critical not only to The Book of Mormon but to life itself. By reimagining the Book of Mormon narrative on another world, with other people, other cultures, and other spiritual crises, Card allows us a unique opportunity to analyze and assess our own relationship to visions and revelations, to the frequent oppositions of culture and belief.

BRIEF NOTICES

The Life of Andrew Wood Cooley by Myrtle Stevens Hyde and Everett L. Cooley (Provo, Utah: Andrew Wood Cooley Family Association, 1991), xxvi, 287 pp., index, \$25.00. (Available from Andrew W. Cooley Family Association, 1825 Oak Lane, Provo, Utah 84604.)

WHEN ANDREW WOOD COOLEY started his westward journey from Michigan in 1863, he hoped to make his fortune in the gold fields. Instead, he joined the Mormon Church, which changed his plans forever.

In this biography, prepared by family members, we follow Cooley through his life until his death in 1887. We learn not about life among the Mormon elite in Salt Lake City but about life on the periphery. Cooley lived and worked mainly in Brighton settlement (west of the Jordan River) and, for a time, in Huntsville.

This volume details his business dealings, plural marriages, and family life. The facts as we follow them from year to year make it clear that life was not easy. His wives endured deprivation, sometimes living in a damp dugout or their parents' homes. This story is not incessantly happy nor idyllic. One is appalled to read of the frequent deaths among children in this growing family. Yet, when all is said and done, this was a family whose members—husband, wives, children—loved one another and stuck together.

One of the most interesting parts of the book is the account of Cooley's incarceration in the Utah Territorial Penitentiary for unlawful cohabitation, an experience

he was forced to repeat a second time when he refused to obey the law. He did not keep a diary, and many of the letters from this prison experience have been lost. But enough survive to provide a richly textured description of what it was like to be a "prisoner for conscience sake."

This book provides details on what a more typical life would have been like in early Utah. Sources for this work were taken from many primary works located in repositories in Utah.

The Autobiography of B. H. Roberts edited by Gary James Bergera with Foreword by Sterling M. McMurrin (Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1990), 266 pp.

A VISIT TO MOST ANY public or academic library in the state will reveal a substantial collection of books or pamphlets written by or about B. H. Roberts, one of the intellectual giants and General Authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Most noted and recognized of his works are: *A Comprehensive History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* and *The Life of John Taylor, Third President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*. Perhaps less well known to the reader of LDS Church history and theology are *Rasha—The Jew: A Message to All Jews*, and *Corianton, A Nephite Story*. However, missing from book collections has been Robert's own autobiography. That is no longer the case. Editor Gary James Bergera has used two extant versions of B. H. Roberts's autobiography to prepare

this autobiography. Sterling M. McMurrin provides a foreword.

The autobiography's twenty-six chapters cover such diverse events in Roberts's life as his sorrowful separation from his mother and unpleasant early years spent with Church members in England until he was able to join family in Utah; to his strong views of how the First Council of Seventy should be called and organized within the Church priesthood structure.

Roberts presents an honest view of his life, his feelings, and appraisals of his friends and associates. In addition to developing close ties with such Utah characters such as Ben Maynard and Alma "Al" Peterson, Roberts is forthright in his criticism of the way the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve direct and

manage the Seventies.

Roberts believed that "history to be of any worth must not only tell of your successes but also of your failures or semi-failures" (p. 228). By Roberts's own pen and the honest editorial pen of Gary Bergera, this autobiography reveals the many successes and failures in Roberts's life. Roberts admits to failures, including his first marriage. He confesses: "Among the foolish things done while attending school was to contract a marriage without any forethought or scheme looking to the maintenance of that relationship with dignity and reasonableness of successful negotiation with the consequences involved in such relation" (p. 70). All autobiographies should be so honest and forthright.

