

sed were more than they were to endure, and therefore they turned from the way and turned from the truth. So with many of the members of the Church, who embraced the faith, and were then overcome by the allurements of the world and the influence of the evil one. After speaking at length on the apostasy that had taken place from the ranks of the priesthood and from the members of the Church, he said he believed that in the future there would be far less apostasy than in the past. It had grown less as the ranks of the Quorum of the Twelve had been filled up from time to time. And as the Church progressed the Saints would become more and more firm and faithful. Notwithstanding the numbers that have apostatized from this Church, there are a greater number of good, faithful Saints at the present time than there ever was before. The difficulties now in our midst for the instruction of our youth, and the influence of their faithful parents by example and precepts would tend to preserve them in the path of righteousness and truth. He strongly denounced the practice of some parents who send their children to be taught by those whose mission here was to draw away our youth from the faith of the Gospel, and set them in direct opposition to the work of God. It was not the principle of polygamy that those who are fighting against its work were so much opposed to, but it was only used as a pretext for their hatred and enmity to the work of God. Those who make the loud clamor against us on account of polygamy are the more deeply steeped in the vilest practices of the age, and against which the curse and displeasure of God are arrayed. He repeated it was not polygamy that the world are opposed to, but simply the organization of the Priesthood, which was recently remarked by a visitor to President Taylor. It is the power of God that they are opposed to. It is the grand principle of revelation that God has established in these days. If they could break the link between the heavens and the earth that had been severed so long, and which the Lord had restored, they would care nothing for our polygamy. The speaker showed the iniquity of modern Christendom with its secret sins and the purity of celestial marriage as revealed from heaven, and cited the former as evidence that the pretense that the reason for opposition to the latter was because it was licentious, was the rankest hypocrisy. He then made a powerful appeal to parents not to place their children under the care of those whose object was to lead them away from the faith of their fathers and mothers, and denounced the sin of such a course, the result of which would be seen in time and eternity, and sink the guilty to shame and punishment, which they would receive instead of the exaltation they expected, for God had made us responsible for our children until they reached the years of accountability.

PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR.

With regard to the principles that have been advanced here this morning, they are things that demand our most serious consideration. We, Latter-day Saints, profess to have come out of the world, gathered together to the land of Zion for the purpose of fulfilling the word, the will, and the law of God. We are living in an eventful age, at a time when God has decreed to have a controversy with the nations, wherein He has determined to gather His people together, and wherein He has made manifest to them His will, His law, His gospel, as it existed in other ages when God revealed Himself to the human family. And living as we are in this day and age of the world, having been gathered into the fold of God, having received the holy Priesthood, and being placed in communication with the Lord, it behooves us as Saints to study and ponder well the path of our feet, to comprehend the position we occupy and our relationship to God, to each other, to our families, to the Church and the Kingdom of God and to the world, that we may act wisely, intelligently, and understandingly, and that in all of our doings we may be under the guidance and influence of the Spirit of the Living God, that we may walk in the paths of life and under the guidance and direction of the Almighty, carrying out the great and sacred principles He has committed to our care. When men do this they will not apostatize as has been referred to; when men fear God and humble

themselves before Him and place themselves under His influence and control, and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit of God, they will not apostatize; but when men, under the cloak of the Gospel, introduce pernicious practices and permit themselves to be governed by wrong influences, then they place themselves in a position to be led captive by the devil at his own will. Hence the necessity of the Saints being humble and prayerful and diligent in the performance of their duties, and in seeking to magnify their callings and to honor their God. Especially are those duties more incumbent upon men in authority than upon others, and so far from men being puffed up in pride or with any ostentatious feelings because of any position they may occupy in the Church and kingdom of God, all that a good man will seek to do will be to know the mind of his Heavenly Father and to do it, and to seek to magnify his calling, that he may prove himself worthy to be accepted of God and the holy angels, and be esteemed by all good, and honorable and upright men. We have a reason given us here [Book of Doctrine and Covenants] why men apostatize. I will read it:

"Behold there are many called, but few are chosen. And why are they not chosen?—[here is the reason]—'Because their hearts are set so much upon the things of this world, and aspire to the honors of men, that they do not learn this one lesson—That the rights of the Priesthood are inseparably connected with the powers of heaven, and that the powers of heaven cannot be controlled nor handled only upon the principles of righteousness. That they may be conferred upon us it is true; but when we undertake to cover our sins, or to gratify our pride, our vain ambition, or to exercise control or dominion, or compulsion upon the souls of the children of men, in any degree of unrighteousness, behold the heavens will withdraw themselves; the spirit of the Lord is grieved; and when it is withdrawn, amen to the Priesthood, or the authority of that man. Behold, ere he is aware, he is left unto himself, to kick against the pricks; to persecute the Saints and to fight against God. We have learned by sad experience, that it is the nature and disposition of nearly all men, as soon as they get a little authority, as they suppose, they will immediately begin to exercise unrighteous dominion.'"

Hear it you Elders of Israel, you Presidents of Stakes, you Bishops and you men in authority, and you Elders everywhere! This is the reason why men have departed from the truth and have apostatized.

"Hence many are called but few are chosen. No power or influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the Priesthood, only by persuasion, by long suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned; by kindness and pure knowledge, which shall greatly enlarge the soul without hypocrisy and without guile."

This is the reason why so many have stumbled, and I will say still further that unless the Elders of Israel realize their position, whether they be Presidents of Stakes, or whether they be the Twelve, or the counselors of the Twelve or the First Presidency, or whether they be Bishops, or whether they hold any office of authority in the Church and kingdom of God—no matter what position they may occupy, if they go to work to seek to aggrandize themselves at the expense of the Church and Kingdom of God, the Spirit of God will be withdrawn from them and they will be left as others have been left to "kick against the pricks" and to fight against God, and they will find their way to perdition instead of to the Celestial Kingdom of God. When we have great rights, great intelligence and great blessings conferred upon us, the more need we have of being watchful and prayerful and diligent in the observance of our duties, and to feel that we are the representatives of God on the earth, the mouthpieces of Jehovah, to proclaim the will of God to men and to act as shepherds in Israel and feel interested in the welfare of the people and the building up of the Zion of our God. When we entertain feelings of another nature our minds become beclouded, we get led astray, as others have been led astray in former ages and under other circumstances. This is no new thing. We can trace it back to eternity, and we can follow it also with the times to come. The Scriptures tell us that the angels who kept not their first estate, but rebelled against God and violated His law were cast out. How many of them? One-third of them we are told. Who were they? The children of our Father as we are. Were they cast out? Yes, we are told they were, and we believe it. Why were they cast out? Well, I will go a little further on this point and show the reason:

When the plans of God in relation to this earth on which we live were presented before the intelli-

gences of heaven, there were many there who thought, as some men frequently think now, that they knew the proper course to pursue better than God our Heavenly Father knew; and hence we read of Satan presenting himself before the Lord and saying, "Father, I will be thy Son." And what will you do? "I will redeem every soul of man, that there shall not one be lost"—just as people are trying to do now-a-days, as Brother Joseph F. has been telling us, and they would like to redeem your children, and redeem you, yes, and corrupt you and lead you astray—for we are told the Devil is a liar from the beginning; and he keeps it up pretty well yet. The Lord then turned to His well beloved Son and said, "What would you do?" He understood things better than Satan and said, "Father, thy will be done. You have presented before us your plans, your ideas and views which are calculated to exalt and ennoble mankind; and believing in your intelligence and in your good motives, and in the instruction that comes from you, I shall be subject to you and your law. Father, thy will be done," while Satan said that he would go and save every soul, and then asked the Father to give him His honor. That is, in effect, "O Lord, thou art all powerful and great and magnanimous, bestow upon me thy power that I then, in thy name, may bring about the destruction of thy people." Just as people now want to get in many instances, the honor of the people and of the Priesthood to bring about their own purposes and to lead us down into the path that leads to death. What did the Lord do? He knew the designs of the enemy and the course which he would pursue. He wanted to do away with the free agency of men—like men do to-day in this broad republic, to deprive men of their liberty and their rights, which God being our helper, we will try to sustain from this time henceforth. [Amen, by the congregation.] And because he sought to take away their liberty, their free agency, going contrary to the law of God, he was cast out, and those also who clung to him, even one-third of the angels of heaven, before they had their bodies.

What followed after? There is a big field before me and I have not time to enter into the question; but I will briefly touch upon a few principles.

Man came to the earth, and when man came, Satan came also. You know the history in regard to this. God gave man a law, and Satan began to try to pervert that law; this was one of the first things he did. In process of time there were two men born—Cain and Abel, and many others besides; but these were two representative men. One placed himself under the influences of God; the other under the influences of the devil, and he became the father of liars and deceivers, and was instructed by the enemy of all righteousness to introduce murder and bloodshed and confusion, which we read of as having descended from Cain, passing through the different ages, and to many people of this age and continent; and it is now spreading among the nations of the earth in every form of terrorism and secret organizations; and murder, bloodshed and destruction are in their hearts. They hatch coconatrice eggs, and weave the spider's web; and those that eat of the eggs die; and the eggs that are hatched break forth into vipers. We see this spirit in the earth; and that spirit would like to find a footing among us; and nothing but our adherence to God and His laws, our fidelity to truth and our integrity to correct principles, will preserve us from these infamies that are spreading themselves abroad in the world. And if we would secure to ourselves eternal lives and possess thrones and principalities and powers in the eternal worlds, it is for us to obey the Lord our God to keep His commandments and square our lives according to the principles that God has revealed, be in communion with each other and with the Holy Priesthood on the earth, with God and the Holy Priesthood in the heavens, that we may be one with the Saints of God, one with the Apostles and Prophets and Presidency, one with the ancient Apostles and Prophets and men of God, one with God our Heavenly Father and with Jesus the Mediator.

I would like to talk an hour or two on this subject if I had the time and strength to do it, but the time has expired.

Brethren, let us be for God, for truth, for righteousness, and watch

over ourselves and our families that God has placed within our power and under our direction, and do not let us throw them into the hands of the destroyer as has been referred to, but let us cleave to the truth and honor our God and God will bless us and sustain us and exalt us in time and throughout all the eternities to come. And about the plans and contrivances of men, they may rage and imagine vain things, yet God has them and us in His charge and He will say to all as He did to the waters of the mighty ocean, "Hitherto shalt thou come and no further, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed." And the principles of eternal truth shall roll forward and continue to progress, until loud anthems will be proclaimed upon the earth, and glory and honor and might and majesty and dominion be ascribed to God that sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb forever. Amen.

The choir sang an anthem:

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.
Conference adjourned till 2 p.m.
Benediction by Elder E. Snow.

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM SATURDAY'S DAILY, APRIL 2.

Fire in Logan.—A fire in Logan on Thursday night, burned down the Round House of the Utah and Northern Railroad, causing a loss of about \$40,000. Five engines were badly damaged, and it is feared cannot be repaired. The cause of the fire is a mystery.

Grasshoppers.—A gentleman just arrived from Sanpete states that the prospects are that grasshoppers will have their own way in that region this year. He estimates that there are enough eggs deposited to produce 100 bushels of the "iron clads" to the acre. The people are doing all in their power to destroy them. Chickens to the number of from 5,000 to 10,000 are let loose on the farms and, it is said, devour the hopper's eggs with great avidity, and in addition to such protective measures, the farmers are skimming the soil and burying the egg-laden ground in trenches constructed for that purpose. Others are plowing the eggs under, in hopes of putting them where they will do the least harm when hatching time arrives. Considerable apprehension is felt and doubts are entertained of the advisability of doing much planting this year. We learn from other sources that the same feeling is prevalent in Goshen, where it is feared the devouring pests will commit great ravages this year.

FROM MONDAY'S DAILY, APRIL 4.

MISSIONARIES.

Those Elders who have been expecting to leave this city on Tuesday, April 12th, as missionaries to Europe, will not now take their departure until Tuesday, April 19th, as the time of starting has been thus changed.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
F. D. RICHARDS.

Feels Grateful.—Brother John Johnson, of Ovid, Bear Lake County, who is about to start on a mission to Denmark, wishes to express his gratitude to the Saints of Ovid for the kind assistance tendered him before starting away. The settlement has but 28 families, but within nine days, they raised Brother Johnson a purse of \$140, to help him on his journey across the mighty deep.

The Miles Case.—The judgment of the Utah Courts in the Miles polygamy case, has been reversed by the Supreme Court of the United States, and a new trial ordered. Following is a copy of a telegram that came to-day.

Washington, D.C.,
April 4, 1881.

Arthur Brown, Counselor at Law:

Judgment in Miles case reversed, and new trial ordered.

J. H. MCKENNEY.

Wriston Found.—In the News a few evenings ago was an inquiry for John Wriston, one of the Mormon Battalion. His brother, Franklin Wriston, of North Ogden, stepped in to-day to inform us that the man asked for lives in Oxford, Oneida County, Idaho.

Our informant also states that in the list of the Battalion published last winter, another of his brothers, deceased, was misnamed. The name

should have been Isaac Newton Wriston.

Sentenced to be Shot.—Fred Hopt, alias Welcome, the convicted murderer of John F. Turner, was sentenced to-day in the District Court, to be shot on the 20th of May. The day set for the sentence was the 9th inst., (next Saturday), but it was understood by the Court and those immediately concerned, that it would not take place as announced. This was done in order to avoid the mob which would have collected and rendered the way impassable. At 2 o'clock this afternoon, Hopt was escorted by a strong guard, from his cell in the City Jail, where he has been confined for some time past, into the presence of the Court. He was there required to stand up, facing the Judge. After citing the main points of proceedings in the case since the murder was committed, his Honor asked the prisoner if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be pronounced upon him. The latter said: "Yes, sir, I have. I am not guilty; I am not guilty." The Judge told him he had been so declared by the jury, after a fair trial, and that it was the duty of the Court to pass sentence upon him. He was told he could have his choice of two modes of execution, viz: hanging and shooting. He replied that he would rather be shot. The Court then sentenced him to be shot on the 20th day of May, 1881, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m. The prisoner received the sentence with great coolness and sat and conversed with his lawyer a while afterwards, previous to being taken back to the jail, where he will remain until the day of his execution.

After his return to the cell he was shackled. He became very indignant when the irons were put upon him, and swore terribly. He had previously said that if the shackles did not suit, there was not enough men to put them on him, but he did not offer to resist during the process.

Deseret University.—As per notice published Friday evening, the Chancellor and Board of Regents of the Deseret University met on the Union Square grounds last Saturday to further investigate the character of the soil on the proposed site of the new University Building, and confer with experts on the advisability of proceeding with the erection of the structure at that place. Among those present by invitation were Bishop John Sharp, Messrs. Wm. H. Folsom, Elias Morris and Edward Brain, men of wisdom and of experience in building for many years. After an extended consultation, it was decided to go ahead and erect the University on the Union Square; it being deemed the best place, considering all things, that could be procured. The difficulties in respect to the nature of the ground were not considered insurmountable, it was declared by the experts that a good and suitable foundation could be constructed there at a reasonable expense. The vote was unanimous to approve of the site, and to begin and prosecute the work thereon as speedily as possible. The southeast corner of the proposed edifice was defined, the spot chosen being situated 200 feet from the line of the street south of the square, and at the same distance from the line of the east street. We think the choice made will be satisfactory to the people generally, and we heartily endorse the action of the Board and the Building Committee who have the matter in hand. Before the Legislature meets again, it is very likely the appropriation (\$20,000) will have been expended in the work of putting up a building which will eventually be a pride and ornament to the city, and a credit and honor to Utah Territory.

HARNES.

I have in stock a full line of Team Harness, and I am in a position to fit farmers out in this line at the same time they buy their wagons, at my place half a block south of Theatre.

s&w L. B. MATTISON.

THE SPECTROSCOPE.

Prof. Tyndall says that the Spectroscope can so analyze the distant planets as to give us the elements of which they are composed. It reveals iron, antimony, platinum, silver and gold, but no starch, which is used exclusively by the inhabitants of the earth. The best Satin Gloss and Corn Starch in the world is being made by the Duryeas of Glen Cove.

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