

In the days of Noah, God destroyed the world by a flood, and he has promised to destroy it by fire in the last days; but before it took place, Elijah should first come, and turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, &c.

Now comes the point. What is this office and work of Elijah? It is one of the greatest and most important subjects that God has revealed. He should send Elijah to seal the children to the fathers, and the fathers to the children.

REMARKS

By President Brigham Young, Bowery, May 31, 1857.

REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.

We have accomplished our short and speedy journey to the North in safety and in peace, and again have the privilege of assembling with you in this Bowery for the purpose of worshipping the Lord our God, for which we are thankful. Every heart responds to these sentiments, and we give glory to our Father and to our God. His hand is over us for good; He has preserved us, he has marked out our path. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of the Patriarchs of old, of the ancient Prophets and Apostles, of Joseph and of this people, is our God, the only wise and true God, our Savior. It is him that we look to, in him we trust, and from him we receive all our blessings.

I believe that every heart is filled with thankfulness, and is also measurably filled with joy and peace. I can truly say to you, my brethren and sisters, that I am thankful to you, as well as to my Father in Heaven, for I have felt the strong cord of faith in my absence arising from this people to our Father and our God in our behalf. And I have no doubt but that our brethren who have just returned from their missions to the East can testify to the same. They have felt that the faith of the Saints has been in their behalf; they have been sustained and upheld, and brought through their trials by the arm of Jehovah, by the faith of the Saints.

The brethren have done me a kindness, and I am thankful to them for it. I am also thankful that I live in the midst of a people whose hearts and faith are measurably one, that what they rightly ask for is granted unto them, and that when they feel to bless an individual or a people that individual or people is blessed, and when they feel it a duty that the Lord should stay the wicked in their progress, their faith accomplishes their desire. I am thankful that I am in the midst of such a people, that I am numbered with you, my brethren and sisters in the gospel of salvation.

I have sustained, I believe, a good character before our Father and our God. I believe that your faith has been united with ours to accomplish that which ought to be performed, and on this occasion I am thankful that I have had your prayers and have accomplished the business proposed. I requested the people to have faith for us, and to willingly release us to visit the Northern country. They voted that they would do so, and their acts have proved that their faith was and is in accordance with their votes.

On our journey, I can truly say that we had perfect peace. In my travels with the Saints, up to this day, I can truly say that I never had the pleasure of journeying with so peaceful and orderly a company as the one with which I traveled to Salmon river. They were schooled and instructed and knew how to contribute to the comfort of each other, and performed every duty in peace, without noise, without strife, without contention. Every man was at his post performing the duties assigned him, and that too in the faith of the gospel, with a perfect resignation to the requirements upon him. I believe that I have never seen men together, to anywhere near the same number, who were so united as the company I have traveled with this spring.

We took up our line of march on the morning of the 24th of April, and were gone one month and two days, during which time we traveled 763 miles, and that too over a very rough country, 381½ miles out. Only one accident occurred worthy of mention, and that happened on the evening after we drove out of Fort Limb. While chopping some fire wood Mr. Franklin Woolley had the misfortune to cut his foot, but the wound is already so far healed that he is walking about.

We did not lose an animal, though we left two at the Fort. Mr. Woolley's was the only accident that occurred in our camp, and I do not think that I heard one cross word from man or woman during the journey, unless it was from myself. I think if any body was out of humor, or cross, or irritated, it must have been myself, for I did not see anybody else so, and I endeavored to keep my own temper as cool as possible.

I feel to bless the brethren who accompanied me and those we have visited, and I feel to bless the brethren, with all that pertains to them, who have tarried at home. Strict industry and quietness have marked well their doings in my absence, so far as I have seen or been informed. The improvements in the settlements we have passed through bespeak a contented, industrious spirit, and this place bespeaks faith and industry during our absence.

Our crops look well, and I find that the brethren have attended to making things comfortable about their houses so far as I have seen, though as yet I have not been much about the city. The Temple Block indicates hard labor, and I feel that the brethren are united in the great work that is upon us, and I am thankful for it.

I could give you a detailed account of our journey, and a description of the country through which we have past, but perhaps it is unnecessary to-day, though I will say, that I had not received from all the northern travelers with whom I had conversed, hardly one correct idea of that region of country. I have asked several who had been there to describe Salmon River Valley and the intermediate country, the quality of the soil, the nature of the climate, the positions

of the mountains, &c., but I must say, that when I came to travel through the country, I might readily suppose that I had never conversed about it with a man who had been there. I have frequently asked with regard to the location of Fort Hall, and the replies have been, "it is built near Snake River." Is there anything of a valley? "Yes, something." Is there any timber there? "I think there is pretty plenty of timber on the river, such as cottonwood, quaking asp, and willows." Is it anything of a country for settling? "I should think likely it might be." Is there any timber in the mountains? "I should presume there is." How are the mountains situated? "Similar to other mountains in other countries." That is about all I have ever been able to learn of the country, previous to my late journey.

When we began to approach Fort Hall, we learned that we could see over it and all around it to a great distance, and if our eyes had been good enough we might have seen the little Fort some 30 miles before we reached it. It is located on Shanghai Plains. From the Rocky Mountains at the source of Snake River this plain extends some 150 miles to 200 miles in a westerly and south-westerly direction, and from the mountains south of Snake River to those north is a distance of some 90 miles. I never had this idea before, nor could I get it from any man I had conversed with. It is a vast, desert plain, and we called it Shanghai Plain. I think it is as desert a country as ever was brought together to aid in holding the earth from parting asunder.

Upon the banks of Snake River, when it does not overflow, there is a lengthy, narrow strip of good soil, varying from a quarter of a mile to ten rods wide, and in some places not six inches wide. It is a sterile, barren, desert country, filled with belts of rock and sand. As we passed over some portions of Shanghai Plain, the brethren undertook to remove the stones, so that we might drive our wagons with a little more ease to ourselves and less danger to our vehicles. I begged of them not to take all the rock out of the road, for if they did there would be nothing to travel on.

Much of the track in that region was a perfect bed of rock covered with occasional strips of sand which much retarded the progress of our teams. I wished the sand and the rock to lie there, for I was confident that if they were taken away California and Oregon would be separated from the States by a vast gulf.

Malad Valley, north of Bear River, has been considered a pretty desolate, cold, hard, sterile valley; it was so looked upon by us, as we passed through it on our way North. At the same time we considered it a tolerably good grazing country, and thought that people could possibly live there. But after we had traveled over the Basin rim into Bannack Valley, descending a mountain beside which the one we call the Big Mountain is a mole hill, down through the little Bannack Valley on to Shanghai Plain and traveled northerly and northwesterly almost in a semicircle to Spring Creek, then up Spring Creek over to Salmon River and wended our way down that stream through swamps and willows, and climbed over points of bluffs to keep from being mired, and had paid our brethren a visit and returned again to Malad Valley, it looked to us like one of the most beautiful valleys that any person had ever beheld, while before this experience we thought that nobody could live there; and I expect that if we had gone a few hundred miles north, it would have looked still better to us, for the further we went north the further we found ourselves in the northern country. And if the Malad is a good valley, we can go further north to those not quite so good, and the further we go north the less good characteristics are connected with the valleys, except in the articles of fish, water and, in some instances, timber, and when people are obliged to live in the north country, that will be high time for them to go there. That is about the amount of the geographical part of our journey that we shall now present, though I think that I am pretty correct in my observations and could mark out the road, the mountains, the valleys, and streams, and could sketch a tolerably good map of the country.

I have accomplished what I designed to accomplish, and I believe the brethren will join with me at least on one point, viz: that we started from here to rest the mind and weary the body, and so far as the body is concerned I believe all parties will agree with me in saying that we have done that most effectually. I see one man that went for his health, Mr. East; I expect that it will prove a benefit to him. Others also went for their health; it is a hard medicine to take, but the result will be beneficial.

I rested my mind. From the time I left this city until my return, I do not think that this valley, this Tabernacle, my own house, or any of my family scarcely ever came before me to reflect upon. We spent part of the first Sabbath at Box Elder, and on the next we were camping away up Snake river, where we held meeting in the forenoon.

A number of the brethren spoke, and I told them that I would say a few words and relate some of my feelings, especially those pertaining to the journey and myself, but I could not have told from my sensations whether I had been from home a week, a month, or a year, and I could not fully realize whether I ever had a house or lived in it, or ever had any family, only those that were with me. This was a blessing to me. My mind was so taken from the cares that surround me here that it was perfectly relaxed into an easy state of rest, and I had no anxiety, not in the least, about one care that had formerly been upon me, or whether I ever saw this valley, this congregation, or my family again, or ever saw any other country than the one where I was at the time. All my home reflections, desires, and cares were as far from me as the east is from the west.

Whether this was the case with others I cannot tell, but I believe they are all joined in saying that their bodies were most thoroughly tired. I feel that I am renewed, though my body has

been very tired since I returned. But I am becoming rested, and I now feel just about right. I feel that I have renewed my strength, renewed the vigor of my body and mind; and I believe that I am as ready to act in any capacity now as ever I have been in my life, and a little more so, for I hope as I grow old to grow wiser; as I advance in years I hope to advance in the true knowledge of God and godliness. I hope to increase in the power of the Almighty and in influence to establish peace and righteousness upon the earth, and to bring all the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve, even all who will hearken to the principles of righteousness, to a true sense of the knowledge of God and godliness, of themselves and the relation they sustain to heaven and heavenly beings. I hope to increase and advance, as I do in days and years, in the wisdom and the knowledge of God and in the power of God, and I pray that this may be the case not only with myself but with all the Saints, that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth and be made perfect before Him.

There never has been a day for ages and ages, not since the true church was destroyed after the days of the Apostles, that required the faith and the energy of godly men and godly women and the skill, wisdom and power of the Almighty to be with them so much as this people require it at the present time. There never was that necessity, there never has been a time on the face of the earth from the time that the church went to destruction and the priesthood was taken from the earth, that the powers of darkness and the powers of earth and hell were so embittered and enraged and incensed against God and godliness on the earth as they are at the present. And when the spirit of persecution, the spirit of hatred, of wrath and malice ceases in the world against this people, will be the time that this people have apostatized and joined hands with the wicked, and never until then, which I pray may never come.

I feel thankful for the privilege of lifting up my voice before you this day, my brethren; I feel that it is a great privilege. There is no other people on the earth that are blessed like this people, though some of them say they are not blessed because they have trials, that they are not blessed as they wish to be because they have cares upon them, because they are persecuted and hated. But I say that in all this you are blessed, if the words of the Savior are correct, which you and I believe. He said to his disciples formerly, which will also correctly apply to the Saints in our day, "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." If this is not now done to perfection by the world, wait a little while and it will be. The world will hate us to perfection; and if they have not spoken all manner of evil against us falsely, it is because they have not knowledge enough to do it. At this time there is no falsehood which they can invent but what they are active in their service to their father the devil against the Saints; consequently, according to the words of the Savior, "Blessed are ye."

We know that we are blessed, and God knows it, if we love the Lord our God, and our works prove that we do. Blessed are the Latter Day Saints, if they love God and keep his commandments. And let the world revile them and do what they will, we are blessed because we have the words of eternal life and know how to perform and are actually performing the works to secure to ourselves an eternal salvation and an existence in the presence of our Father and God, while they will be wasted away and be destroyed from the earth and from every kingdom where there is peace and righteousness.

We are blessed, and we may never expect our happiness and heaven until we gain a perfect victory over the devil, hell, and the grave, and that we cannot do in this mortality, but we can conquer to a certain degree and gain admission into the favor of our Father and God, and receive his promise to be received into his celestial kingdom, when we shall have a perfect victory and power over every thing that is evil. I will give way for others. May God bless you: Amen.

THE WANDERING JEW IN NEW YORK.—A sensation was created in William street, on Thursday morning, by the appearance of a man on the pavement with a long floating beard, and dressed in loose pantaloons, with a turban on his head. He carried in his hand a little manuscript Hebrew book, out of which he read to the crowd which gathered around him. He represented himself as the veritable Wandering Jew. Nobody knows who he is or where he came from. A learned Jewish Rabbi was sent to converse with him, which they did in the Hebrew language, and the stranger was found to be perfect in his knowledge of that most difficult tongue.

The Rabbi tested him in the Arabic, in Phœnician, and in the Sanscrit, but soon found that the aged stranger far surpassed him in intimacy with them all. The Rabbi invited him to his house; but, said the stranger, "nay, I cannot stop. The Crucified One of Calvary has pronounced the edict, and I must not rest. I must move on—ever on!" He was last seen on Thursday, but to where he has departed no one can tell.

BOILING A TEA KETTLE.—Which is most trying to a woman—a greenhorn of a servant girl, or a stove that "won't draw," the very day she expects company? Mrs. Jones hired, the other day a Miss McDermott, just from Cork. Miss McDermott, was ordered to "boil the kettle."

"The what?"
"The tea kettle."
"An' do you mane that?"
"Certainly. If I did not I would not have ordered you to do it—and be quick about it."
"Yes, marm."

Miss McDermott obeyed orders. In about a half hour afterwards Mrs. Jones resumed the conversation.

"Where's the tea kettle, Bridget?"
"In the dinner pot, marm."
"In the what?"
"In the dinner pot. You told me to boil it, an' I've had a scald on it for nearly an hour."

Mrs. Jones could hear no more. She had a rush of blood to her head, and went into a swoon. The last we saw of her she was being carried in an arm-chair up stairs.

THIRTY CHILDREN.—About a year ago, Mr. Jesse Harbor, of Concord township, in this county, informed us that he was the father of twenty-nine children, and that he was not without hope that he would yet be blessed with the thirtieth. Well, sure enough, (as old Williams would say) the old gentleman was in town the other day, and told us that his wife had presented him with his thirtieth child! It is a fine boy, and has been named after our old bachelor friend, Simon Weaver.

Mr. Harbor is in his 72d year, was one of the early pioneer settlers of the county, and is remarkably active for a man of his years, as will readily be inferred. He has been married twice. By his first wife he had thirteen children, twelve of whom he raised. By his second wife, who is forty-two years of age, he has had seventeen children, making thirty in all!

We think we might safely challenge the state, if not the nation, to produce a man who has done more for his country, in the way of increasing the population.—[Urbana (Ohio) Citizen.

GREAT GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERY IN GEORGIA.—A DRY SWAMP.—Interesting intelligence has just been received from the State survey of the Okefenokee swamp, which covers nearly a fourth of the map of Georgia.

The great swamp does not appear to be a swamp after all. So far from being impeded by water, the expedition suffered severely from want of it, and were compelled to sink three wells for drinking and cooking purposes. The underwood also was found of almost fabulous thickness, through which they were compelled to cut their way with knives, whereby they were so much delayed as to be in danger of starvation, their supplies being exhausted.

The most erroneous opinions have been entertained of the extent and nature of the whole region. No published map gives any idea of its geography. The survey will prove a fortunate venture. The submerged portion is found to be easily drained, whereby thousands of acres of the most valuable cotton lands in the South will be reclaimed.

FAMILY NAMES.—Are rather a rich study. The English registrar-general, recently published, shows that there are nearly forty thousand different surnames in England. It is estimated that among these there are forty-three thousand families bearing the name of Smith and fifty-one thousand bearing the name of Jones.

The Smiths and Jones's alone are supposed to include about half a million of the population.—In an average, it seems that one person in seventy-three is a Smith, one in seventy-six a Jones, one in one hundred and fifteen a Williams, one in one hundred and forty a Taylor, one in one hundred and sixty-two a Davies, and one in one hundred and seventy-four a Brown.

LONGEVITY IN THE UNITED STATES.—There were found in the United States in 1850, 2555 persons over 100 years of age. This shows that about one person in 9000 will be likely to live to that age. The French census shows only 102 persons over 100 years old, though their population was larger, by more than one-third, than the population of this country. Old age is, therefore, attained among us much more frequently than in France.

PUTRID SORE THROAT.—A correspondent of the Iowa Hill News furnishes the following recipe for cases of putrid sore throat, said to be an infallible cure: "Take two tea spoonfuls of cayenne pepper, one tea spoonful of salt, to half a pint of boiling water: let it stand one hour, then add half a pint of warm vinegar. Dose—one table spoonful every hour, and use as a gargle."

A "WARD"ER.—"I say, friend, is there anything to shoot about here?" asked a Kentucky sportsman of a little boy.

Boy—"Wal, nothing just about here, stranger; but the schoolmaster is down the hill yonder: you can pop him over."

That boy will do for this generation.

One of the toasts said to have come from a lady, at the Nantucket (Mass.) submarine cable ball, is supposed to reveal the remarkable interest which the island ladies take in the new line. It was this: The Electric Fluid—may it be the means of introducing many "sparks" to the ladies of our island home.

INFINITE TOIL would not enable you to sweep away a mist; but by ascending a little you may often look over it altogether. So it is with our moral improvement: we wrestle fiercely with a vicious habit, which would have no hold upon us if we ascended into a higher moral atmosphere.

BATS.—"ISAAC, can you describe a bat?"
"Yes sir. He's a flying insect, about the size of a lasses stopple; has hinky rubber wings and a shoestring tail. He sees with both eyes shut, and bites like the very devil."

He that is sensible of no evil but what he feels, has a hard heart; and he that can spare no kindness from himself, has a narrow soul.