

Why did he reveal it to him? Simply because He had sent him for that purpose from the heavenly courts, and He told that Prophet not only where the plates were hid, but gave him the power—the gift of God—by which he could translate those records, and commanded him to have them published to the world. What do those records contain? They contain the fullness of the everlasting Gospel. They contain the power of God unto eternal salvation. They also contain

A RECORD OF THE PEOPLE

who lived upon this continent in days gone by, and give us some idea of the origin of this remnant that roamed over the land when Columbus crossed the ocean. But in connection with this statement, I will say right here, that the Book of Mormon, no more than the Bible alone, is the fullness of the Gospel. "There are records which Joseph the Prophet was commanded not to unseal. A number of plates having the appearance of gold, were given to him, and a portion of them were needed to be translated at that time. But a very large number of them were sealed, and he was commanded not to break the seal, and consequently could not translate that portion. That work has yet to be done. And when the work is done, the probability is that there will be grand truths made known, which will have within them great convincing power, in favor of God's truth. At the same time I do not think that it can be claimed that any record alone is going to convince the people of its truth. I claim that the power of the spirit of revelation itself is needed, and that must enter into the mind of the reader and investigator of these truths. The Bible contains evidence within itself of its own truth. But it does not stop the cry of the sceptic and the caviler, nor does it bring to shame the arguments of the vain philosopher who stands forth at the forum and mocks at the things of God. If he had the spirit of revelation he would see with Isaiah, Jeremiah and Daniel the truth of those things which they wrote, and with us rejoice in them. One touch by the wand of inspiration is worth more than hours of argument. One ray of the sunlight of revelation is of more value than years of reading in the twilight of skepticism. And like the people upon the day of pentecost, a person so inspired will say "men and brethren, what shall we do?" Now the Lord declared through His disciples that there would be mockers of His word in the last days, and said His people would be ridiculed and hated of all nations for His sake. Yet at the same time because the work will be cut short in righteousness, and the ungodly chastised for their sins, the elect—the obedient—will be saved. Those who receive the truth and are faithful to it will stand safely upon holy ground, when the earth shall "reel to and fro as a drunken man," and

EARTHQUAKES RUMBLE

within her bowels, and cause her to groan for the troubles that are upon her. And in Zion, this chosen land, these the people of God, if they are faithful and continue onward and upward in their bright career; the day will come, my brethren and sisters, when they will prosper more than they do now, when they will be blessed so that they will be a light unto the world. What can be a better blessing than to happily the great human family? And what is going to enable us to do this except the spirit of revelation? Can we do it of ourselves? Can we do it by searching out with our own minds? No, it cannot be done that way. We can live and study, it is true, but we must live for this power. It must come from the heart. It will be the result of the purification of the soul of man. And consequently it is necessary that we should consider for a few moments this evening how we are to obtain the spirit that we may exercise it in the way the Lord has designed. Sometimes we hear young men talking to one another, and at others we hear middle-aged brethren talking to the young men with regard to getting a testimony to know that this work is true. This is a most important theme. How then is this testimony to be obtained? It is true that we tell the world, those who have not received the first ordinances of the Church of God as given through the Prophet Joseph. We say to them, "Repent and be baptized for the remission of sins." But young men will say, "I was baptized in my childhood, when I was eight years old, and how am I to obtain this testimony of the Holy Spirit?" Some will answer, "Stand up in the meeting and speak, and the spirit of the Lord will come upon you." This is true, but it is not the fullness of the instruction, as I understand it. If a young man stands up in a meeting to speak of the things of God, and he has not lived a moral life, the spirit of testimony is not likely to rest upon him to any great extent just because he was baptized when he was eight years old. It is the living of the life that is in accord with the spirit of the prophets, that is going to bring the blessings of the prophets. It is to live that life of self-sacrifice, or self-denial and of self-control; it is to live in accord with those great principles of truth which God has revealed, and to lay before Him a life of purity, of love, of devotion to His cause; these are the things, with prayer, fasting, obedience and humility, that in time will bring the spirit of revelation. And let me say right here that

OBEEDIENCE

is one of the foundation stones of spiritual prosperity; it is the first law of heaven. The poet says that "order is heaven's first law." But now would you get order unless there was obedience? It would be impossible. If one should rise and say I want it done this way, and another should want it a different way, there would be the same confusion that now exists among the various sectarian religionists of the world. One says, "this is the way, walk ye in it!" And another says no this is the way, and in this confusion how are we to learn the way of the Lord? The way Joseph Smith learned it,—by revelation—the spirit of truth. That spirit impresses the man with the seal of the Almighty, and his thoughts become sanctified, and he knows what God requires him to do. He knows the way and he walks in it. And I wish to say, my brethren and sisters, that I have such a testimony. God has made known to me by the inspirations of heaven, by the light of the Holy Ghost, that Joseph Smith was a prophet of the Lord, and that he was not a false or a fallen prophet. That he was God's prophet, His seer, His revelator; that He raised him up for the very purpose of revealing to the world the gospel in the last days in its purity, and giving them another opportunity for salvation. And I testify to you in the name of the Lord that unless we are obedient to those revelations which He has given through that prophet, that we shall fall in the same way as the antediluvians did in their time. There will be destruction follow disobedience to the revelation of those mighty truths brought to light through that great servant of God. Prophets are not peculiar to any age. They are raised up when needed to carry out the great design of the Creator, that we may have salvation and blessing and that His purposes may prevail in the land, for the benefit of the whole human family. It is as important to hearken to the prophet who speaks in our generation as to believe those of former times. His words are revelation to us and our contemporaries. And now let me in closing offer an exhortation to the youth of Zion. I will not assume that it is necessary for me to say anything to those of middle-age who have been and are struggling just as hard as I am, just as hard perhaps as any of us are, to do God's will and obtain His blessing. But I do say to the

YOUTH OF ZION

who cannot declare within their own hearts, "I know this is the Gospel of Jesus Christ;" seek it; seek the spirit of revelation as you would seek to obtain the "pearl of great price." And when I say the spirit of revelation what do I mean? Do I mean that everybody must try to get a revelation to lead the Church? No! We must remember the teaching of Saint Paul upon this subject, "Ye are the body of Christ and members in particular." And it is my opinion that we should have the spirit of revelation within us just as the spirit of the individual quickens every part of the body of a man. And just so soon as a part fails to perform its functions in its own sphere, to perform the duties allotted to it by the command of nature, fulfilling the object of its creation,—then it is only fit to be severed and no longer allowed to encumber the body. When a member will not obey the dictates of the controlling power—and becomes a law to itself, it is discarded. The head, the throne of reason, is the presiding authority of the body, and unless every member willingly responds to its wishes, and moves in harmony with the mind, it will become useless and finally be paralyzed. And when paralysis sets in, and the body of a man is so disabled physically that it is no longer useful, the spirit leaves it and soars away to await the call of the resurrection, that it may unite again with the body when it shall arise, and if worthy, rejoice in the fullness of glory and of joy. Consequently every man should be in his place, and every woman in her place in the household of God as members of the body of Christ, walking in harmony, living in the principles of truth which God reveals, obedient unto the laws of heaven as made known through God's servants, and following in the footsteps of Christ, who submitted to the authority of both God and man. And I will say my brethren and sisters that I am just as confident to-night concerning the

PRESENT ORGANIZATION

of the church, as I am with regard to the divinity of the mission of the Prophet Joseph. My faith is not of that kind which dies with the prophet. I say that these heavenly principles will continue and flourish, although the prophets who reveal them may be laid away in the silent sepulcher. And I testify that Pres. Wilford Woodruff, with the quorum of the twelve, is the presiding authority of the church today. And that they are the appointed servants and apostles of the most high God. And those who are faithless to the principles which are revealed through them will in due time falter, and fail to receive the blessings of eternal life, unless they repent. I like to add this, because I believe in repentance, and forgiveness shows mercy. I know that God realizes our weakness, and if we humble ourselves before Him He will answer our prayers. And it is my opinion, that the people of God will, by the impressions of the Holy Spirit—the spirit of revelation—continue to grow and to increase in righteousness and become

more enlightened day by day. They will continue to learn of the great truths and principles of the Gospel, and at last Zion will be made to shine forth as the "joy of the whole earth." And this land of America being sanctified first, because it is the Zion of God, will send forth its inspired rays of influence and power, so as to quicken the whole earth, and prepare it as a resurrected globe, for the residence of a resurrected people. And it is my prayer that we who are here to-night may ever have the influence of this spirit, live in the light of God and be obedient to His servants by being faithful to His commandments, and finally inherit the reward of righteousness, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION: One Sind COLT, 2 years old, white star in forehead, brand resembling on the right shoulder.

If not claimed in 10 days, will be sold to the highest responsible bidder, in Woodruff estray pound, in Rich County, Territory of Utah, on Saturday, the 19th day of May, at 10 o'clock a. m., 1888.

MARCUS C. VORSE, Poundkeeper.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One bay HORSE, about 7 years old, white strip in face, saddle-marked, blind in right eye, shod on front feet, brand resembling on right thigh, blotched brand on right shoulder.

One bay STALLION, about 2 years old, four white feet, star in forehead, end of tail gray, brand resembling on left thigh.

If the above animals are not claimed and all costs and damages paid within ten days from date of this notice, they will be sold to the highest cash bidder, at my corral, at 3 p. m., on Friday, the 25th day of May, 1888.

A. A. JONES, Poundkeeper.

Hunter Precinct, May 15, 1888.



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Messrs. Stevens & Bruner, Monroe, N. C.: DEAR SIRS:—About two months ago, on your recommendation, I bought a bottle of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, one box of CUTICURA SOAP, and one cake of CUTICURA SOAP, for my son, aged thirteen years, who has been afflicted with eczema for a long time, and I am pleased to say that I believe the remedies have cured him. His sufferings were intense, his head being nearly raw, his ears being gone except the gristle, and his body was covered with sores. His condition was frightful to behold. The sores have now all disappeared, his skin is healthy, eyes bright, cheerful in disposition, and is working every day. My neighbors are witnesses to this remarkable cure, and the doubting ones are requested to call or write me, or any of my neighbors. WM. S. STEPHENSON. Winchester P. O., Union Co., N. C.

MONROE, N. C., Oct. 29, 1887.

The Potter Drug and Chemical Co.: GENTLEMEN:—Mr. Wm. S. Stephenson, of this county, brought his son to town today to let us see him, and to show us what CUTICURA REMEDIES had done for him. This is the case referred to in our letter to you some time ago. To look at the boy now, one would suppose that there had never been anything the matter with him,—seems to be in perfect health. We have written and herewith inclose what his father has to say about the matter,—wrote it just as he dictated. We are selling quite a quantity of CUTICURA REMEDIES and hear nothing but praises for them. We regard the CUTICURA REMEDIES the best in the market, and shall do all we can to promote their sale. Yours truly, STEVENS & BRUNER, Druggists and Pharmacists.

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LEGAL NOTICE.

In the Probate Court of the County of Salt Lake, Territory of Utah.

In the Matter of the Estate of Thomas W. Stephenson, deceased.

Order to show cause why Order of Sale of Real Estate should not be made.

ALICE N. STEPHENSON, THE AD- ministratrix of the Estate of Thomas W. Stephenson, deceased, having filed her petition herein, duly verified, praying for an order of sale of the real estate of said decedent, for the purposes therein set forth, it is therefore ordered by the Judge of said Court, that all persons interested in the estate of said decedent, appear before the said Probate Court, on Monday, the 28th day of May, 1888, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the Court Room of said Probate Court, at the County Court House, in the City and County of Salt Lake, Utah Territory, to show cause why an order should not be granted to the said administratrix, to sell so much of the real estate of the said decedent at private sale as shall be necessary, and that a copy of this order be published at least four successive weeks in the DESERET WEEKLY NEWS, a newspaper printed and published in said City and County.

Dated April 19th, 1888. [SEAL.] ELIAS A. SMITH, Probate Judge.

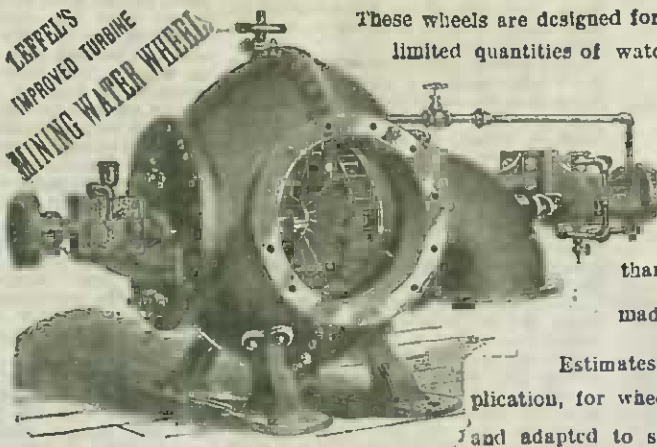
TERRITORY OF UTAH.

COUNTY OF SALT LAKE. ss.

I, John C. Outler, Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Salt Lake, in the Territory of Utah, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of order appointing time and place to hear petition for order of sale of real estate in the matter of the estate of Thomas W. Stephenson, deceased, as appears of record in my office.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, this 19th day of April, A. D. 1888.

JOHN C. OUTLER, Probate Clerk.



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