

alder salaries to all of its members, except myself. I am paid by the government of the United States and am here obtaining skeletons under and in behalf of the United States Army. Medical Museum at Washington D. C.

Q. What was the object of Mrs. Hemmaway in fitting out this expedition?

A. To ascertain, if possible, where this ancient people came from, where they went to, or what were the causes that brought them to their end; and we should very much like to find some records giving their history.

Q. What has been discovered bearing on their history?

A. As far as we have yet discovered they were civilized, and lived by agriculture. They raised at least corn, tobacco and cotton. All these we have found in a perfect state of preservation.

Q. Have you found any metal, gold, silver, iron or copper?

A. Not the least trace of any of those metals.

Q. How long has this people been extinct?

A. At least 1000 years.

Q. Then you think it is only about 1000 years since they dwelt here?

Q. Well, as to that, I am not certain, it might be more.

Q. Might they not have been destroyed 1400 years ago?

A. It is possible and may have been so.

Q. Have you discovered any burial grounds?

A. No; it would be impossible to find them after the lapse of so many centuries.

Q. Do you find skeletons in all the houses?

A. Yes.

Q. In what position do they lie as a general rule?

A. We find them lying in all positions, just as death overtook them.

Q. Well, Doctor, will you give me your opinion as to how this people came to such a fate?

A. Their homes fell upon them, caused by earthquakes or some violent concussion of nature.

Q. How many towns have you discovered in this immediate locality?

A. Some 18 or 20; not any far apart.

Q. Below here at Los Muertos (city of the dead) did the inhabitants meet their end in the same way?

A. Yes; all so far as we have examined came to their death in the same way.

Q. Then you are satisfied that all this numerous people came to their end in one general catastrophe?

A. I am certain.

Q. As you understand physiology and anatomy will you please give me your opinion as to what branch of the human race they represent?

A. The Jews; I am persuaded they were.

Q. Are you both of the same opinion?

A. Yes; but these skeletons must be compared with the other races of the human family before it can be properly determined.

Q. How many rooms does each house, or town contain?

A. From 100 to 110; sometimes more.

Q. Upon what plan do you suppose they conducted their associations?

A. Upon general principles of equalization. It is my opinion that a large number of families lived under one roof. The plan and arrangements of their dwellings substantiate this theory; and that they all had a common interest.

Q. How many inhabitants do you suppose occupied this valley at the same time?

A. In all probability, as I should judge, 100,000.

Q. How many skeletons are you shipping?

A. Twenty complete, with 50 or 60 skulls of the best specimens obtained.

This ended my inquiries as dinner was announced. The doctor invited me to his camp table and as we sat at dinner in one of the ancient tanks, into which emptied one of the ancient canals the doctor remarked: "I have gained ten pounds since I left Washington." When dinner was over, he invited me into a large circular tent that was full of boxes, which contained the skeletons referred to. I remarked: "Doctor, this reminds me of the valley of dry bones." He laughed and replied "yes."

I said as a joke: "Doctor, what will these poor fellows say when they wake up and find themselves so far removed from where they lay down?"

"Oh," replied he, "they may call me to account for moving them; but then, I suppose it's all right; they'll be able to find themselves again."

While I gazed intensely upon the remains of so many half-preserved mummies, my mind reverted to their former history and their awful fate. At one glance their whole history seemed to pass before me, and I said to myself, "Blessed are they who keep the commandments of God." The doctor had at work a Mexican, who seemed to be of considerable of an anatomist by the way he was patching up and cementing together broken skulls, which the doctor considered good specimens for examination.

I hastened from this scene as soon as convenient, and we were soon seated in the doctor's headquarters. I here directed his attention to the 3rd book of Nephi, 4th chapter, where it says this people were destroyed by the falling in on them of their houses, caused by great tempests and earthquakes, which God brought upon them for their disobedience.

He replied: "That's just how it happened."

He asked me how the Book of Mor-

mon was obtained, and I explained to him how Joseph Smith obtained the plates, etc., all of which he seemed interested in. He purchased a copy of the Book of Mormon and I presented him with the Pearl of Great Price, for which he thanked me very kindly. He promised to read and study the books carefully.

I asked the doctor if he had any idea where these people migrated, and he replied that they came from the north, and worked their way gradually into South America. I replied that analogy and the migrations of the human race did not warrant such a conclusion. I cited him to the landing of the Pilgrims, to the great city of Babylon, city of Rome, and many other places just wherever mankind first happened to land. Here we find the greatest monuments and the highest civilization. I said this people came from Jerusalem in the days of Zedekiah, 600 years before Christ, that there forefathers crossed the great waters in vessels guided by the hand of God, and landed safe in South America on the coast of Chili; and in process of time became a great, a wealthy and a prosperous people, all of which is portrayed in the Book of Mormon. I gave him a general outline of the government and organization of the Church, and we had a pleasant time together, which I hope may result in good.

DAVID WHITMER.
Causes of His Severance from the Church.

President David John, of Utah Stake, writes as follows to the *Provo Enquirer*, under date of March 18th:

In your issue of Tuesday, the 13th inst., I am reported to have made the remark during Conference, that David Whitmer was in adultery at a certain time in his life. This is an error. I said that I understood David Whitmer had accused the Prophet of deserting from the faith delivered to him, while the latter and others had accused Whitmer, Oliver Cowdery and some others of being guilty of various sins; some were charged with being "hypocrites and traitors," while others had their "eyes full of adultery," etc.

Several persons, not having Church history in their possession, have sent to us many inquiries of late in relation to the cause of Mr. Whitmer's apostasy. We have deemed it best to answer them briefly, in the language of recorded history. We find the following, from the pen of the Prophet, recorded in the *Millennial Star*, vol. 16, page 78, September, 1837.

DEAR BRETHREN—Oliver Cowdery has been in transgression, but as he is now chosen as one of the Presidents or Counsellors, I trust that he will yet humble himself, and magnify his calling; but if he should not, the Church will soon be under the necessity of raising their hands against him; therefore, pray for him. David Whitmer, Leonard Rich, and others have been in transgression, but we hope that they may be humble, and ere long make satisfaction to the Church, otherwise they cannot retain their standing; therefore we say unto you, beware of all dissatisfied characters, for they come not to build up, but to destroy, and scatter abroad. Though we or an angel from heaven preach any other Gospel, or introduce an order of things, other than those which ye have received, and are authorized to receive from the First Presidency, let him be accursed. May God Almighty bless you all, and keep you unto the coming and kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Yours in the bonds of the New Covenant.

JOSEPH SMITH, JR.

On page 133, vol. 16, *Millennial Star*, we find the following:

"April 13th, 1838. The following charges were preferred against David Whitmer, before the High Council at Far West, in Council assembled.

1st. For not observing the Word of Wisdom.

2d. For unchristianlike conduct in neglecting to attend meetings, in uniting with and possessing the same spirit as the dissenters.

3d. In writing letters to the dissenters in Kirtland, unfavorable to the cause, and to the character of Joseph Smith, Junior.

4th. In neglecting the duties of his calling, and separating himself from the Church, while he had a name among us.

5th. For signing himself president of the Church of Christ, after he had been cut off from the presidency; in an insulting letter to the High Council. After reading the above charges, together with a letter sent to the president of said Council (a copy of which may be found in Far West Record Book A), the Council considered the charges sustained, and consequently considered him (David Whitmer) no longer a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints."

The action taken on April 13, 1838, is evident proof that the transgression alluded to, in September, 1837, had not been cancelled, by repentance and humility before the Lord, for he suffered himself to be cut off from the Church in preference to complying with the rules of Church discipline. Eight months after this action was taken by the High Council at Far West, we find, according to the testimony of Joseph Smith, that the act was inspired by the inspiration of the Spirit of Truth.

On Sunday, Dec. 16, 1838, the Prophet wrote, while in Liberty jail, Missouri. "Know assuredly, dear brethren, that it is for the testimony of Jesus that we are in bonds and in prison. But we say unto you, that we consider that our condition is better (notwithstanding our sufferings) than those who have persecuted us, and smitten us, and become false witness

against us; and we most assuredly believe that those who do bear false witness against us, do seem to have a great triumph over us for the present. But we want you to remember Haman and Mordecai. You know that Haman could not be satisfied so long as he saw Mordecai at the King's gate, and he sought the life of Mordecai and the people of the Jews. But the Lord so ordered it, that Haman was hanged upon his own gallows. So shall it come to pass with poor Haman in the last days. Those who have sought by unbelief and wickedness, and by the principles of mobocracy, to destroy us and the people of God, by killing and scattering them abroad, and willfully and maliciously delivering us into the hands of murderers, desiring us to be put to death, thereby having us dragged about in chains and cast into prison, and for what cause? It is because we were honest men and were determined to defend the lives of the Saints at the expense of our own. I say unto you, that those who have vilely treated us, like Haman, shall be hanged upon their own gallows; or, in other words shall fall into their own gin and snare, and ditch, and trap, which they have prepared for us, and shall go backwards and stumble and fall, and their names shall be blotted out, and God shall reward them according to all their abominations.

I would remember Wm. E. McClellin, who comes up to us as one of Job's comforters. God suffered such kind of beings to afflict Job—but it never entered into their hearts that Job would get out of it at all. This poor man who professes to be much of a prophet, has no other dumb ass to ride but David Whitmer, to forbid his madness when he goes up to curse Israel; and this ass not being of the same kind as Balaam's, therefore the angel notwithstanding appeared unto him, yet he could not penetrate his understanding sufficiently so but what he brays out cursings instead of blessings. Poor ass! Whoever lives to see it, will see him and his rider perish like those who perished in the gainsaying of Korah, or after the same condemnation.

In fine we have waded through a ocean of tribulation and mean abuse practiced upon us by the ill-bred and the ignorant, such as Hinkle, Correll, Phelps, Avece, Reed, Peck, Clemonson and various others, who are so very ignorant, that they cannot appear respectable in any decent and civilized society, and whose eyes are full of adultery and cannot cease from sin. Such characters as McClellin, John Whitmer, David Whitmer, O. Cowdery and Martin Harris, are too mean to mention, and we had like to have forgotten them."

Marsh and "another," whose hearts are full of corruption, whose cloak of hypocrisy was not sufficient to shield them or to hold them up in the hour of trouble, who, after having escaped the pollutions of the world, through the knowledge of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and became again entangled and overcome—their latter end is worse than their first. But it has happened unto them according to the voice of the Savior. The dog has returned to his vomit, and the sow that was washed, to her wallowing in the mire.

Oliver Cowdery, Martin Harris and Thomas B. Marsh, united themselves with the Church before their death, but D. Whitmer died as he had lived for 60 years (an apostate) having denied in his heart the authority of the Priesthood and fancied that Joseph had transgressed, and that he now or lately has started a church of his own. This thought, he claims, has been in his heart ever since June, 1838. He claims that it was an inspired thought, still he has been disobedient to his own conscience, and has been dormant, unfruitful, and seemingly of not much service to mankind as a minister of righteousness since that time. It is apparent that he has been faithful to his testimony to the end of his life in relation to the history of the Nephites, wherein he testified, "that an angel of God came down from heaven, and he brought and laid before his eyes the plates, and the engravings thereon." May he be rewarded for his faithfulness in this.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Religious services were held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, March 18, 1838, commencing at 2 o'clock p. m., President Angus M. Cannon presiding.

The choir and congregation sang:
O Jesus! the Giver
Of all we enjoy.

Prayer by Elder George Goddard.

The choir sang:
Sweetly may the blessed Spirit
On each faithful bosom shine.

The Priesthood of the Fourteenth Ward officiated in the administration of the Sacrament.

ELDER WM. H. KING

Was called to address the congregation. He said he realized the important position which he occupied on the present occasion, and his own inability to fill it. He desired that the Spirit of God might rest upon him in speaking to the people, that they might receive spiritual food suited to their needs. It was not within the wisdom of man to administer that food, but it must come from heaven through the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. It was phenomenal to see the growth of the "Mormons" in this age—a common-

wealth holding the peculiar views, as compared with the various sects, that the Latter-day Saints accepted. Some people look on "Mormonism" as another Mohammedanism; but to the believer in the Scriptures it was something infinitely greater—it was the Gospel of Christ.

The Saints declare that God is preparing a people for Christ's second coming; that He has again communicated His will to the inhabitants of the earth, and called upon His people to come out of Babylon; that He has bestowed His authority upon His Priesthood, and guides His people by the voice of revelation. In "Mormonism" are the same principles that it is, and has been, the purpose of God to establish on the earth. Had those principles prevailed, peace would have reigned on the earth; their rejection had brought into the world sorrow and strife. The Gospel plan affords a way of repentance for those who will forsake their sins. God provided an atonement for redemption from the effects of the fall. Adam taught his children the principles of righteousness, but as the ages pass, men gave way to the temptations of the Evil One. In Enoch's day it was necessary for him and his city to be taken from the earth, because of the world's wickedness; and in the time of Noah only eight persons were considered worthy to be saved from death by the flood. The human family are the children of God, and it is necessary for Him to make known to them His will in order that they might regain His presence. In His infinite mercy He instructed man in the way to eternal life, through the teachers whom He calls to act in His name. The principles that He gave in the beginning He has again revealed for the salvation of mankind. In every age when the Gospel was on the earth, it was opposed by the majority of the world's inhabitants, who seemed to prefer the guidance of man to that of the Almighty. He cannot coerce men into obedience, for the very foundation of the Gospel was the agency of man, which even God could not take away.

In pursuance of the Gospel plan, Jesus came in the meridian of time, offering His life to give to the world salvation. In the New Testament were many of His declarations, which emphasized the teachings of the Old Testament. It was the same plan which had been taught from the beginning, and from which the Jews had departed, having but the shadow, while the substance had been cast away. He taught them that there was but one true path, and pointed out that He was the way and the life. There is but one God, one faith, and one baptism. The inquiry may be "Where is that faith?" men have vainly sought for it in the world; God had now revealed it anew for the acceptance of His children. He gave to every dispensation the same plan—the everlasting Gospel: He did not give one form, and to another another. The Latter-day Saints believe that they have that Gospel; that after Christ was crucified the primitive Church went into apostasy, and because of the wickedness of the world they were left in darkness for centuries. It had been declared by ancient Prophets that such a condition should exist. They also predicted that in the latter days an angel should again declare the Gospel—that God would establish His kingdom to stand forever. The Jews looked for the Messiah to come in power and establish His kingdom by physical strength; they forgot that the prophecies indicated that after Christ should come, the world would wander for ages in unbelief; they forgot that He was to suffer for mankind, and looked forward to His glorious second coming, when he would come to reign as Lord of lords and King of kings; they confounded the first and the second coming.

The Latter-day Saints recognize in their work today a preparation for the glory of Christ's second coming. The principles He taught in the meridian of time He had again revealed to man, through the Prophet Joseph Smith. The world did not accept the doctrine of revelation today; they had turned from true Christianity, which was founded on the rock of revelation God has prepared a way for the salvation of the human family, and to those who will receive it He will make it plain.

If all men were governed by revelation from Him there could not be the many religious sects that exist today. If men had been led by the Spirit of God there would not have been the crime that is now recorded in the annals of this earth's history, and religious wars would have been unknown. But because of a rejection of revelation, all these sorrows had come upon the earth. If revelation was necessary once, why is it not now? Had the world advanced beyond its requirement? Could one truth be taken and made an error? If revelation was a rock in the Gospel once, could it be removed? It could not be; such a thing would be absurd. It is as necessary today as it ever was for men to receive the inspiration of truth, for by their own wisdom they could not find out God.

The ancient prophets had foretold a time when God would establish a people in the tops of the mountains where they would serve Him. The Latter-day Saints believe they are that people and that the land upon which they were gathered was the land given to the seed of Joseph as an everlasting inheritance, where the seed of Jacob would come for their blessings, and where the kingdom of God would be established. To them has been committed the work of purify-

ing the earth. The trust reposed in them was a great one, and if they were recreant to it God would raise up a people who would do his will.

The speaker exhorted the Saints to faithfully and sincerely perform all their duties. Those who profess to follow Christ should have but one altar in their homes and that one dedicated to the true and living God. They cannot trifle with sacred things; but, if faithful, each succeeding difficulty that was overcome would give greater strength to meet and cope with others. The Saints should keep themselves undefiled. With the prize within their grasp, they should not grow careless and turn aside, but should show to the world by their example that they are engaged in the work of God, which would triumph over all the powers of darkness, and be established upon the earth.

Miss Crissie Lawson sang, "Come unto me."

ELDER GEORGE M. CANNON

was the next speaker. He said that the Saints knew the Lord had revealed the Gospel in this age for the benefit and salvation of mankind. It would be carried to all the nations of the earth—not for one class, but for the whole world. Those belonging to the house of Israel were cut off for a time, and the Gospel taken to the Gentiles; but it was to be restored to Israel, and all would have the opportunity to partake of its blessings. The Saints today have this message to proclaim to the world—to declare that there is but one way whereby mankind may regain the presence of God, and that He has revealed that way. If people are unwilling to submit to the laws of truth, they cannot obtain its benefits; but if they render obedience to God He will reward them. He points out the proper path, and it rests with men whether or not they will walk therein.

No matter how much light a man possesses, if he refuses to listen to the Almighty he will be rejected. Ancient Israel suffered because of their rebellion against God; and if the Saints today rebelled they would share a similar fate. Many of the nations of the earth profess to believe in Christ, and in the brotherhood of man, yet are continually making war upon each other. This is not the fruits of the Gospel they profess. On the contrary that Gospel gave to every person his rights as a child of God. It gave to all a spirit of independence that maintained the rights of all, and produced a perfect unity of interests. Under this spirit the Saints act as one—they are united in the works of righteousness, notwithstanding the fact that they may be gathered from different parts of the earth. The union among the Latter-day Saints is one evidence of the Spirit of God in their midst.

The speaker testified that Christ came to save mankind; that His Gospel had been revealed in this dispensation; that Joseph Smith was called as and was a Prophet of God; that the Spirit of God rested upon those who did His will, and that every man would be judged according to his works. The Gospel gave to all the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. It gave no power to any to exercise unrighteous dominion, but taught toleration, and mercy, and love toward all. The Saints should show by their example that they are the people of God, and should strive to bless all mankind.

The choir sang an anthem, and benediction was pronounced by Elder H. P. Richards.

PANGUITCH STAKE.

The quarterly conference of Panguitch Stake of Zion was held in Panguitch on the 10th and 11th inst., President Jesse W. Crosby presiding. The various wards were well represented and their reports were all of an encouraging nature. Speakers from different wards spoke upon subjects pertaining to our temporal and spiritual welfare, and a lively interest was manifested therein by the audience.

It was decided to have three days' conference in the future.

GEORGE DODDS,
Stake Clerk.

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