

THAT LETTER

It is an extremely lucky thing that this nest of political adventurers and their lot happens to be cast in Utah for known, as they all are to the community at large, if they were among people not strictly law-abiding, many of them would fare badly. The fact that they are permitted to move in the midst of this community unmolested is the best evidence which can be afforded of the falsity of their charges and the loyalty of the people of Utah. Although they are permitted to go unmolested, nothing can save them, ultimately, from oblivion, and the contempt and scorn of the just and good everywhere. This has been the fate of their predecessors; and we think we are justified in saying that a more unpurged set of knaves and scoundrels never infested or disgraced this or any other portion of the earth than the great majority of those composing the "ring" now trying to run the civil affairs of Utah Territory.

By President **BRIGHAM YOUNG**,
delivered in the *New Tabernacle, Salt Lake City*, September 25th, 1870.

REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.

When I look over the character of the men who have been gathered together,—a pre-
fair representation of almost all nations
it is astonishing to see the various ideas
right and wrong entertained by them
consequence of their traditions, and
teachings they have received from the
fathers, mothers, schoolmasters and sch-
madames; the priest in the pulpit and
doctor under the pulpit. I say it is
astonishing to see this variety,—all spring-
ing from traditions,—and that what
should be a great variety; we see a
variety of countenances in the human family,
we may also expect a variety of dispo-
sitions; but all these dispositions can
governed and controlled by the principles
of right and righteousness.

Our traditions, then, should be correct
we should know how to teach our children
correct principles from their youth.

I was traditionally to believe in God as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and I believe it is a bible doctrine. I do not think I am mistaken in my religious faith. My priest would probably say, "Father of all mercies, God of all graces, make those one in our midst! Send thy Holy Ghost upon us, upon our minister, that we may see! Reveal thyself unto us, as thou dost not unto the world! Give us up thy mind and thy will! Give us the revelation of thyself, and show upon thy power and the influence thereof!" I would make such a prayer the sermon to be preached would deny every word of it. Ask the ministers of the christianity of this world if the Holy Ghost is given in this manner and they will tell you "no." I have heard it preached hundreds of times, and I have seen men, who have been called upon to reveal Himself to the human family in this way, and you will be informed that they do not; that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament contain the word of God as the plan of salvation, and all that is necessary to save the human family. God does not reveal Himself; He does not come down and dwell with the children of men; the Son of God does not come to dwell in His people. The Holy Ghost is not given in an ancient time. Ask them if the gift of healing is with them, and the reply is "no, it is done away." "Have you the gift of prophecy?" "No, it is done away." "Have you the gift of seeing spirits?" "No, it is done away."

oyster. "The oysters are in the ground," he said, "and in the ground they were broken to pieces. Some had very fine quartz between the bark and wood very finely formed, beautifully crystallized perfect diamond shape. Said I, 'Major, I have come to the water.' Well, they told me when they were brought, or they had become petrified; they had become petrified, by his opinion, come from some other country, for no such trees grow here now. I said, 'Major, I have come to the place where there had been a slide of rock and there was a perfect bed of oyster shells in the rock—perfect rock. Said I, 'Major, how long has it taken for these shells to become petrified?' He philosophized a little upon it, and said, 'Major, I don't know, but I believe that there are springs of water that will petrify things of this kind in a short time, and that petrified human bodies have been exhumed whole, it was known, had not been petrified.' I said, 'Major, how do you know that it has required a hundred and fifty million of years to bring about what you now behold?' It may only have required eighteen years!" I recollect a circumstance in the State of New York, which I will relate. A certain lady had been laboring under disease, pain and sorrow for eighteen years, her sufferings and the nature and character of her disease were such as to shake the faith of her physicians; after suffering the space of time I have mentioned, she died, and, for the cause of science, was opened by the surgeons, when a petrified child was taken from her. That was in 1812. Under the circumstances, I think it would did it take to bring about this petrification? Certainly not millions of years. Some of the philosophers talk about that can be said of such things is that it

Well, then, we ought, in the first place, to train ourselves to believe correctly, to think correctly, and to practice correctly, and instill correct principles into the minds of our young people. We must remember that they will not depart from this. This is the idea, and not bring up the children as we bring them up. You recollect the wise man said, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." This is, I think, the correct principle. If we do this, they will understand the principles by which God lives and acts, and has brought forth his intelligent offspring. He has entrusted the intelligence he has entrusted man in giving him eyes to see and ears to hear,—properties that are worthy the attention of a God,—that will enable Him to contrast and know, from reason and from fact, the difference between right and wrong. If we train our children so as to place them in possession of these principles, we shall train them in the way they should go, and the saying of the wise man will be verified—they will not depart from it. We will be sure to have a mixture of truth; there will be more or less of truth mixed with it; there always has been where anything of importance has been taught. The serpent, the serpent, who beguiled our first mother, told some truth. Said he, "If you are like God, you can be like God; you can open and you will see the God as he is." This was true, but when he told her that she would not suffer death as the consequence of so doing, he lied, told that that was not true. He mixed some truth with his lying; his eyes were opened, or how could she see?

If I were to preach to this congregation who have been brought up in countries where there is no fruit raised, and I was

This is the doctrine. In our scan-
nasty, reflections to the Latter-day Saints
the live, living religion, the living
will do evil to any person on the
earth. I sometimes ask myself
question: "Do people understand what I
teach, believe and practice?" They cannot
see and understand as we see and understand
and we cannot believe as they believe
they did they would never do as they do
that is our enemies.

I have compiled all the time I should find
morning. This is only a little. God bless
your Peace be with you. Let us
God and good. His commandments, and
the words of the scripture: "Eschew evil."
Have nothing to do with it. Let us see
continually to do good to ourselves as
to our brethren, to our neighbors, to our
mother dust, when these tabernacles take
that happy nap in the bosom of our mother
earth, our spirits may be prepared
higher society than we enjoy here. This
may we and our friends and loved all
day long. God bless you. Amen.

The chronic sufferer may obtain relief with taking mercurial poisons and death.