

DISCOURSE

By President HEBER C. KIMBALL, Tabernacle, Sunday, p.m., June 10, 1855.

[REPORTED BY J. V. LONG.]

I can say, as I have said a great many times, that we are one of the happiest people that ever was upon the earth, but some do not appreciate the blessings which are bestowed from day to day; some do not appreciate that they are settled in the valleys in peace, and that they are with those whom God has been pleased to call to lead his people. If they could appreciate their position and acknowledge the hand of God in all things, then they could appreciate the things connected with this kingdom. It is with many as it was with my son William and br. Brigham's son Joseph, and others who have been about home all the time. They did not realize and could not appreciate their blessings, but in their missions they are sensible of the blessings which we enjoy in these peaceful valleys. William writes, "father I often think of your relating the corruptions of the old world, and what you saw and heard, but I now see and feel them by sad personal experience. I hear the groans of nations, of war and rumors of war, of famine, desolation and distress in all the world, except in the happy land of Zion, in the valleys of the mountains. How I desire to see them! and we all say 'that when we return home we shall know how to prize our fathers and mothers and the society of the saints, where we can sit down and worship God with none to molest nor make afraid.'"

Those are their feelings, after being absent only a short time. Those who go forth to preach the gospel they see the corruptions and abominations of men, and have joy in contemplating the signs of times, for they know that those things are tokens of the coming of the Son of Man; their eyes are now open to see that God is at work among the nations. Some of them hardly knew that "Mormonism" was true, until they were sent forth to preach. They believed it, why? Because they were taught it by their parents. Their parents taught them in their infancy and childhood that this is the gospel of Jesus Christ, but they have never before been brought into a situation to know that the God whom we serve lives and reigns in the heavens. Some of you may say "we wish we could have a knowledge of these things, that we might appreciate our present blessing;" faith and obedience will give you that knowledge, and it will be the best day that we have ever seen when men will appreciate their blessings, when they can feel assured that God lives above.

The world look upon us as the filth and off-scourings of society, and the most corrupt people upon God's earth. But those who do right, and keep themselves pure and clean, as br. Brigham says, inside and outside, will have houses and lands, wives and children. They are the ones who will enjoy those blessings, sooner or later, and do not you thank the Lord for it? Those who live upon this land, or any other that God gives to his people, have peculiar promises made to them. Then do not pollute this land, nor pollute yourselves or your fellow creatures, but let us keep ourselves pure and clean, and do as we would wish to be dealt with ourselves. Deal honorably with your brethren, and if you have wronged any person, even of a pin, make proper restitution. If you will cultivate yourselves in this way, not even daring to take a pin or a needle which is not your own, you will have a spirit of doing right in all things. If a person will cheat you out of a pin he will out of a darning needle, and then out of your dimes and dollars. Why does not every person live up to the principles of right and justice? Jesus says, "do unto all men as you would have all men to do unto you." If you have wrongfully taken anything restore it, whether it be little or much, and sin no more. I pray for the day to come when the principle of restoration will be carried out to the letter.

I was talking with br. Brigham yesterday about the crops, and he feels that the Lord is about to try this people. Why is this? It is to chastise this people, that they may learn to give heed to counsel.

When I see a prospect for scarcity of food stare me in the face I feel as well as ever I did in my life, and if I was obliged to see either the saints or the food cut off, I would say let the bread perish and the saints be preserved; yes, I would pray for this every time. And my prayer to God is that he will let the famine mill blow, until it blows out the chaff, that nothing but the pure article may remain. As for my regretting the loss of the crops I do not one particle; and as for you, you have been told for years to save your wheat, corn, oats, and all other products, and to increase your stock upon the mountains. You were told that there was a time coming when they would be wanted. Much grain has been wasted and destroyed, much sold at a very low price to feed horses and mules. Br. Brigham in the beginning offered a dollar and a half a bushel for all the wheat that people wished to sell, but many sold their grain to others for a dollar and a quarter, lest the tithing should be required if they sold to him.

I will tell you a dream which br. Kesler had lately. He dreamed that there was a sack of gold and a cat placed before him, and that he had the privilege of taking which he pleased, whereupon he took the cat and walked off with her. Why did he take the cat in preference to the gold? Because he could eat the cat, but could not eat the gold. You may see about such times before you die. I wish to speak of these things while they are present with us, and I wish I could impress them upon your minds. The first season that we came here I recollect that br. Brigham proclaimed the policy of our laying up grain, and told us to lay up a seven years supply, and prepare for a famine. If our crops are now cut off it will be one of the best things that has happened to this church. When a servant of God counsels you, it is your duty to hear and obey his words. I am fully aware that the world do not like the

idea of one man's ruling this entire people with his word, but I would not give one farthing for this community if they could not be governed by one man beloved and chosen of the Lord. You have no salvation only what you get through that source, and every true hearted Latter Day Saint believes so.

Our crops are almost entirely destroyed, and what good will that do? It will bring us into a position where we can appreciate the blessings of Providence. Br. Brigham says that he does not fear earth, hell, nor the devil, if this people will do as they are told and listen to counsel. Do you suppose that the world could ever come through our bulwarks, if this people were to obey counsel? No, they could not. We generally proclaim what is about to take place, and we tell them that sore judgments are about to fall upon the nations of the earth, but they will not believe us. If you believe us, you will be able to escape.

Dr. Bernhisel has just remarked that he thought the cat was let out of the bag when plurality was preached, but I suppose that he did not happen to think that the cat might have kittens, and the kittens grow to be cats, and thus increase to a vast number. Revelations of principles, of one truth after another will come forth until the work of God is accomplished on the earth. We have to press forward under the banner of Christ, and the more faithful we are the sterner will be the warfare. When I related to br. Joseph the view I had of certain evil spirits in England, he said that the closer we observe the celestial law the more opposition we shall meet. These are my feelings, and I should feel better if you would all hearken to the counsel given, from time to time from this stand.

We are a good people and we shall eventually triumph over wickedness, and prosper and be built up in the truth. The Lord our God will consider our cause and have mercy upon us; and if we do taste of hardships, does it not read that judgment shall begin at the house of God? If the Lord lets us taste of the cup when there is no milk in it, what does it matter? We may just as well do it now as at any other time. Why bless you, this people will live and look better without bread than the wicked can with it. If we are to have chastenings I say, Father let them come, and I will do my best to endure them and profit thereby. But when those times come you will see a great many murmurers and grumblers, and they will hunt up their filth and rubbish to circulate about the saints of God, and never go off so long as they have enough to fill their bellies. The Lord blesses those who bless his servants, and keep his commandments. If we all do this we shall have good times, we shall be blessed, and will not be required to shed man's blood, if we do right. Have I ever seen the day when I felt like shedding blood? No, never in my life; I always wished that I might not be called upon to do it. Though I will say that once in Nauvoo I was sorry when peace was declared, for I had got pretty well warmed up through the oppression of the ungodly, and I really felt like fighting.

Because outsiders come here and say that we are foolish for being led by one man, does that make us so? That man and that woman that are not willing to be led by one man I wish would clear out, for we can get along without them. God bless you and help you to be faithful, I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ: Amen.

Gibraltar and its Fortifications.

As you enter the Bay of Gibraltar and come near the town, the water, as well as the land, bears testimony to the vast physical force by which the post is defended. Several vessels of the largest size always lie anchored off the town. An immense mole, built of rock and of admirable workmanship, runs far out into the bay, with a battery of guns on each side, and bearing the significant name of Devil's Tongue.

On the north side of this mole is the landing place; and it is always covered with a motley assemblage of men of different nations: the Spaniard with his peaked hat and leather gaiters; the Moorish merchant with his full turban and embroidered cassock; the Jew with his close skull-cap and bag-like coat; the Greek with his full trousers and jaunty jacket; the filthy Arab crouching upon the ground; the Bohemian with his coarse blanket overcoat and thick boots; in short, men from almost all parts of the globe may be seen here, our own countrymen not excepted, as though this were the World's congress, in which every race had its representative. Amid the motley throng the British sentinel marches up and down his prescribed station, with measured tread, the perfection of military neatness and discipline, and in all that constitutes the soldier, so far as externals go, the very opposite of the arms-bearing population of Spain.

When you have entered the city, the same mixed mass is seen filling the streets, occupying the shops, and mingling in all the business of the place. The resident population amounts to about 15,000 persons, of whom about 10,000 are British subjects. They are, for the most part, temporary residents, engaged in the extensive and diversified traffic which Gibraltar opens with the opposite coast of Barbary, with Spain, and the other countries of the Mediterranean.

Not the least important and lucrative part of this traffic either to the persons engaged in it or to Great Britain, is the smuggling carried on with the interior of Spain. Gibraltar being a free port, merchandise is carried there and deposited in large quantities, for the purpose of being taken out again as opportunities occur, and illicitly introduced within the Spanish lines.

Taken as a whole, the population of Gibraltar is as wretched in appearance as it is mixed in character. There are some fifteen hundred

Jews, and by far the greater portion are miserably clad and exceedingly foul in their persons. Of the native Christians, some who are engaged in menial services, are not much better than them.

The city itself, that part of it at least which is connected with its business, is indifferently built. On the other hand, all that belongs to the place as a military station, is solid, substantial, and not unfrequently in very good taste. The fortifications themselves are built in the very best manner.

In masonry nothing can be superior to some of the defences on the water side. The barracks are large, and apparently commodious and airy. The houses occupied by some of the higher grades are exceedingly pretty, in the cottage style, surrounded by gardens filled by tropical fruits, and with an abundance of shade trees, and the position of some of them, especially in the direction of Europa Point, where the surface is broken and irregular, is very beautiful and picturesque.

The Alameda, occupying nearly a central position between the northern and southern extremities of the Rock, has an area, to all appearance, of some thirty or forty acres. A large portion of it consists of beautiful walks, groves of forest trees and shrubbery, with here and there a fountain or a statue, and with a gravelled square on its western side sufficiently capacious for the evolutions of a regiment.

On several days in each week, two of the military bands are upon these grounds, far enough removed from each other to avoid the intermixture of sounds, and the walks, groves, and square are, on those occasions, always thronged with the population of the city. This is the chief source of public amusement in the place.

The officers, and the persons connected with the city government are, with their families, sufficiently numerous for all social purposes; there is a very fine miscellaneous library; the station is near home; it has a mild winter climate; the heat in summer, though great, is not insupportable; and Gibraltar, for the military, must be one of the most desirable stations among the British possessions. But to a stranger there are no objects of attraction, excepting the fortifications, and these are seen in one or two days.

The most remarkable are the excavations cut in the perpendicular face of the Rock, with port holes cut out so as to enable the guns to bear upon the neutral ground and the causeway which connects the Rock with it. The galleries are wide enough to allow a gun to be drawn through them, and where the cannon are mounted the excavation is enlarged, so as to enable them to be worked with ease.

The number of guns in each of these apartments varies from two to six, and they are so distributed that not only the neutral ground, but the road below, on the eastern face of the Rock, is commanded by them. Above these galleries there are numerous batteries in the open air, and the summit of the Rock itself is crowded with cannon and mortars.

If any military post can be said to be impregnable, certainly this may; and so long as Great Britain retains her naval preponderance on the ocean, can scarcely pass into other hands, unless by treachery.

With an immense line of fortifications below, and with numerous batteries upon and within the Rock above, it would be supposed that Great Britain would maintain a numerous garrison here.

This is not so. It rarely exceeds 3,500 men—a force just about equal to that kept up by Spain at the little town of Ceuta, on the Barbary coast. The number of guns mounted and ready for use at Gibraltar is about 1000.

A garrison of 12,000 men would not be more than sufficient on a war establishment; but with the means afforded by steam navigation of sending in reinforcements on short notice, one third of the present force would be ample for any emergency that could arise.

The efficiency of the galleries as a means of defence has not been tested, and is not likely to be, excepting in the last extremity. That they might be very serviceable in case of an attempt to assault the works on the side of the isthmus is unquestionable.

But whether they would bear long and continued discharges from the cannon within them may be doubted. They are cut in the rock with only a slight shell between them and the exterior surface, which is generally perpendicular, and it would not be surprising if by repeated firing, some of these superficial chambers should give way.—[Dix.]

VIOLINS AND FIDDLES.—Near Pittsburg, there lives an aged Dutchman, named Jacob Heinemann, who has by his industry accumulated a large property. The old man is at all times ready to yield up his substance liberally to support schools. He deems it his duty to do this, feeling the want of early education in his own case.

A gentleman called upon Jacob, not long ago, to ask his aid in establishing an academy in an adjoining county, and in the course of an appeal to the old man's philanthropy, he casually observed that there were many words in the English language which signify the same thing, and that it was necessary that boys should learn them from books.

"Schtop, schtop, I know dat," said Jacob. "Now I tell yer how I know dat. Some dwendy years ago, I goes down to Filadelfy mit mine vagon, to kit some koots for the Bittsburg merchants. Vell, I kits 'em, and up in de dop of de moundin mine vagon he sick fast in de

mut. Den I takes off all mine koots, and puts 'em by de side of de road. Vell, misther school-master, I feels vun light parrel, and I say to mineself, 'Dere, dem poy in Macalester's shstore in Filadelfy blay on me annudder drick, dey send vun emdy parrel by me glear to Bittsburg.'"

"Vell, I dakes de emdy parrel, and I puts him on his het up, and I sees him marked 'Violins.' Den I know it vas vun drick, because I knows dere vas no sich man in all Bittsburg as Mishter Violins. And I kits so mat mit mineself for being made sich a fool of, dat I shoost dakes mine ax and I prakes de emdy parrel all into leetle smashes."

Now mishter school-master, vot you dink vas in dat parrel marked to Mishter Violins? Fittles (fiddles) sur, all full of fittles! Vell, ven I kits to Bittsburg I have to bay two hoonret dollars to vun Frenchman, shoost because I didn't know dat violins and fittles was de same dings. Now I gives you vun hoonret dollars for your pig school—here ish de money.—[Life Illustrated.]

EXTRAORDINARY FIGHT BETWEEN ELEVEN HUNDRED HORSES.—Southey, in his History of the Peninsular War, relates the following:—

"Two of the Spanish regiments which had been quartered in Fuenen, were cavalry, mounted on fine black long-tailed Andalusian horses. It was impracticable to bring off these horses, about 1,100 in number—and Romano was not a man who could order them to be destroyed; he was fond of horses himself, and knew that every man was attached to the beast which had carried him so far and so faithfully."

Their bridles were, therefore, taken off, and they were turned loose upon the beach. A scene ensued such as probably never before was witnessed. They were sensible that they were no longer under any restraint of human power."

A general conflict ensued, in which, retaining the discipline they had learned, they charged each other in squadrons of ten or twelve together, then closely engaged, striking with their fore feet, and biting and tearing each other with the most ferocious rage, and trampling over those who were beaten down, till the shore, in the course of an hour, was strewn with the dead and disabled."

Part of them had been set free on rising ground at a distance; they no sooner heard the roar of battle, than they came thundering down over the intermediate hedges, and catching the contagious madness, plunged into the fight with equal fury."

Sublime as the scene was, it was too horrible to be long contemplated, and Romano, in mercy, gave orders to destroy them; but it was found too dangerous to attempt this, and after the last boat had quitted the beach, the few horses that remained were still seen engaged in the dreadful work of mutual destruction."

WARM QUICKSILVER.—The Placerville American is inclined to believe from a series of experiments recently conducted in that city by Mr. James Patterson, that in many places, and particularly where steam is made the motive power, that an additional saving of fine gold can be made, sufficiently in many instances to pay largely upon the cost of the necessary arrangements for the purpose.

The theory (and experiment has clearly proven its correctness) is this: That quicksilver, like water, becomes a better solvent when heated, and particularly is this the case with quicksilver when used for the purpose of taking hold of fine gold brought in contact with it.

The colder quicksilver becomes, the nearer it approaches the solid state, of course losing to a considerable degree its fluidity and susceptibility of readily uniting with any substance passing over its surface.

Workers of sluicing claims are well aware of the impossibility of saving with quicksilver an equal amount of fine gold in winter as in summer, and without being fully aware of the real cause.

It is to be found in the want of perfect fluidity in the quicksilver, as when quicksilver congeals from cold, it does not freeze over live water, upon the surface first, but the whole body of the metal becomes thickened, and can be cut with a knife like hard butter."

To render the quicksilver therefore as perfectly fluid as possible, we would suggest in all steam quartz mills the use of hot instead of cold water, wherever practicable, as a medium to convey the pulverized quartz to the quicksilver or amalgamators. This arrangement would keep the quicksilver in a highly fluid state, and well conducted experiments have clearly demonstrated its superiority."

FISH IN THE ARTESIAN CREEKS.—Mr. Dabney showed us last week three beautiful little fish taken from his Artesian creek.

In shape these fish resemble the bass, and are very red under the mouth and belly, and have shaded stripes of a dark brown color on the sides. They have been kept for a week or more in a tumbler of water, where we noticed them feeding on the crumbs of bread. Mr. Dabney says that they have grown very fast since they were first taken. There is no doubt that these fish came from the subterranean stream through the Artesian pipes to upper earth. Mr. Dabney says that one of them was found in a bucket which was set under the spout of the Artesian well."

In many of the Artesian creeks at San Jose these fish have been found; but in Distillery creek, which flows past our domicile, none have been discovered—the "Native American" element from that manufactory probably not being congenial to the life of fishes.—[San Jose Telegraph.]