

salvation, nor accept of the order of their organization as anything akin to the Church organized by Himself and His Apostles. Hence, He withheld His gifts, signs and blessings from them, and for hundreds of years they were unknown so far as church gifts were concerned.

An anecdote that I heard a friend relate several years ago will illustrate the contrast between the true Church of Christ and fallen Christianity. A prominent cardinal of the Roman Catholic church, on a certain occasion, visited the Pope of Rome, and together with him examined the contents of the treasure chamber at the Vatican where gold, diamonds and other costly things were deposited. While gazing upon the costly treasures the Pope remarked: "We can not truthfully say now as Peter and John said anciently that we have no silver and gold." "No, that is true," answered the cardinal, "and there is something else we cannot say. We cannot command the lame in the name of Jesus Christ to arise and walk."

We all remember the beautiful story related in the third chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, of a certain man who had been lame from his mother's womb and who daily lay at the gate of the Temple in Jerusalem to ask alms of those who entered; and how he, seeing Peter and John about to go in, also asked them for alms. Peter, after fastening his eyes upon the cripple together with John, said, being moved upon by the power of God: "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he, leaping up, stood and walked, and entered with them into the Temple, walking and leaping, and praising God.

The contrast is this: The Apostles of the true Church had no silver and gold, for they had been sent out to preach without purse or scrip; but they possessed the power of God to such an extent that they healed the sick, the lame, the blind, etc. The Catholic Church is wealthy, has plenty of silver and gold, but not the power of God. Joseph Smith was also poor as regards this world's goods, but he was powerful in the Priesthood, and in the strength of the Lord, and hundreds were healed under his ministrations. How then about the promises made in the revelations from which I have quoted? The answer is easily given and can be stated briefly. They have been fulfilled to the very letter. There are thousands in the Church who can testify and who do bear testimony continually to the effect that the gifts and blessings follow the believers, who have embraced the Gospel as restored through Joseph Smith. Not only in the United States, but in Europe, upon the islands of the sea, and in all parts of the world where the Gospel has been preached by our Elders, have the sick been healed under their administration, the lame have received their strength, the blind have been restored to their sight and the deaf to their hearing; evil spirits have been cast out; the gifts of prophecy, of tongues, the interpretation of tongues, and, in short, all the

gifts and blessings enjoyed by the former day Saints have been and are now being enjoyed by the Latter-day Saints. Our books, pamphlets, papers and periodicals are full of instances of this kind, and should an attempt be made to gather, compile and publish testimonies of this nature, we would have material enough for a book larger than the Bible and Book of Mormon combined. In the face of all these testimonies, what additional proofs do we need to establish the fact that Joseph Smith was a true Prophet.

#### CONCLUSION.

Time will not permit me to multiply proofs any further, although I have only presented a few of the many that might be cited. But in the face of the evidence already adduced, I claim positively that no one has the right to denounce Joseph Smith as a false prophet, for in the light of the key given by Moses, he must of necessity be a true prophet, as the things spoken by him in the name of the Lord have come to pass. Even his most bitter opponents have failed in one solitary instance to prove his prophetic utterances false. Add to this the consistency of his life, his almost unparalleled zeal in bearing testimony of the things the Lord revealed to him, and this in the midst of the most trying persecutions, sufferings, imprisonments and trials to which he was constantly subjected, during his entire life, and finally his martyrdom in Carthage jail for the sake of the testimony he bore and the principles he advocated. And I would ask, What more proofs does mankind want to establish the fact that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of the living God? If the divine calling of any Prophet in any age and dispensation of the world has been proven, then I claim Joseph Smith's prophetic calling has been established beyond dispute. The proofs for this are so numerous, clear and positive that they ought to convince every honest soul.

And now, in conclusion, I will bear my own testimony, which is, that I know by the inspiration of the Almighty, by the power of the Holy Spirit, that Joseph Smith was a true prophet, and that the doctrines he promulgated are also true; for desiring to know the "will of the Father," I sought unto God to know whether "the doctrine was of God" or whether Joseph Smith "spoke of himself," and the result was the testimony that I bear here tonight and that I have borne to thousands both in this land and in Europe. I ask God to grant to every honest soul, who desires salvation and exaltation in the kingdom of God, the same testimony, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

#### THE "ILLUSTRATED AMERICAN."

The *Illustrated American* of January 24, 1891, says of its attack upon the Mormon people that it "went into this matter with full determination to bring the Mormon situation before the country and to persuade Congress, in pursuance of President Harrison's message, that prompt action was necessary."

I propose to examine this and other statements of the aforesaid paper.

The President's message is made the pretext for the course of this paper in

relation to the Latter-day Saints. The President's message was given to the country in December, 1890. The attack of the above named paper began in its issue of December 27th, 1890. That a paper should obtain a complete and reliable history of Mormonism, procure photographs, make illustrations and get the matter upon the market in so short a time is highly improbable, if not impossible.

Let us look at the editor's "full determination to bring the Mormon situation before the country." If such a determination were honest and in the interest of truth and justice it would be a work of months instead of days to bring it out. The one-sided, misleading and false statements of the paper shows clearly enough that the editor was not seeking to publish the truth. He says: "The Leaders of the Mormon Church are foemen worthy of our steel." Why, then, in preparing to lay the Mormon situation before the country, did he not call upon them to state their case, to try their "steel" with him? Such a course would certainly have been of great service to him in getting a correct statement of the "Mormon situation before the country." Instead, the editor has simply pilfered from the anti-Mormon huckster-shop the chesnuts that have been on the market for over thirty years. The editor should have written "steal" instead of "steel" in his reference to the Mormon leaders.

The *animus* of this illustrated paper is not difficult of discovery. It is itself an illustration of the *odium theologum*. From the appearance of the Mormon faith it has been hated and fought and persecuted by the evangelical sects. Never a mob murdered and drove Mormons that was not instigated to act by so-called Christian ministers, if it was not even led by them. If this picture paper were to put the Mormon situation before the country in its true light its publications on the subject would be the most terrible condemnation of the evangelical sects that has ever appeared. The editor of the *American* appears to entertain a deep sympathy for our wronged, robbed, driven and murdered Indians. If he were only to acquaint himself with the truth of the history of the Mormon people he would find that they have been treated in the same way the Indians have been, and in part for the same reason; that is, because they have always been obliged to be on the outskirts of white advance across the country and by their magnificent industry have everywhere made themselves the possessors of valuable properties that have excited the cupidity of adventurers. The so-called Christian church has pushed the border-ruffian element against the Mormon people by its denunciation of them as "infidels" and "beasts," just as it has encouraged the same element against the Indians by its cry of "savages." Some of the worst slaughters of Indians have been conducted by alleged Christians, as witness the Sand Creek massacre under Colonel Chivington. Yet since the days of Penn and people have been so successful in their treatment of our Indians as have been these same maligned and persecuted Mormons.

But, to return to the main question, the motive of this editor may, I repeat, be found in his sectarianism. His pa-