

converse with the people, visit their houses and their meeting houses, talk with them in their fields, in their workshops and by the fireside, and ask them what their feelings are concerning these matters. The universal testimony from all these people is, that they have received the testimony of the Son of God and the gift of the Holy Ghost, and they know for themselves, by the power of God, not by the power of man, that they have entered and are walking in the straight and narrow path which leadeth to the Lord.

I thank God with all my heart this afternoon for His goodness and mercy in restoring once more to the earth these great blessings and gifts, which men have so long sought for in vain. In many, many instances, in days that are past, men have sought with tears and with unceasing prayers to Almighty God for the fullness of the Gospel, and the gifts thereof as they were enjoyed in ancient days, and as they are now enjoyed by us, and have not found them; for the time had not come for them to be revealed. Therefore, I say, I thank God that they have been restored, and that the authority is given to man by which, though he may be a weak and a very insignificant person, he can lead his fellow-man into the water and baptize him, and the man or the woman that is baptized receive a testimony from heaven that his or her sins are remitted. My brethren and sisters, I thank God this day that this power is restored to the earth, and that we live in a day when the unquestioned authority is held by man, and when God in His great condescension has consented to bestow the sealing blessing and power upon those who obey the Gospel through these ordinances. Is it not a cause of thanksgiving, and ought not our hearts to swell with unutterable praise to our great Creator for that which He has done for us? Can we not say, as one of old said, our God is an unchangeable God. He has not changed since the old times. He is the same yesterday, today and forever, and there is no turning in Him. And we can rely upon Him. Men may fail us, as they do. I often think of the Scripture which says, "Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm." The best of men will fail us. They are fallible beings, full of frailties and shortcomings; and they are not to be trusted with our salvation. But our God can be trusted to the very uttermost. No matter how serious the trial, how deep the distress, how great the affliction, He will never desert us. He never has, and He never will. He cannot do it. It is not His character. He is an unchangeable being; the same yesterday, the same today, and He will be the same throughout the eternal ages to come. We have found that God. We have made Him our friend, by obeying His Gospel; and He will stand by us. We may pass through the fiery furnace; we may pass through deep waters; but we shall not be consumed nor overwhelmed. We shall emerge from all these trials and difficulties the better and purer for them, if we only trust in our God and keep His commandments. Then He has a future for us. That bliss which we have a foretaste of here, we shall have

a fullness of hereafter. You who have received the Holy Spirit; you who have felt its power; you whose hearts have been gladdened under its heavenly influence, you know how sweet it has been; you know that there is nothing on earth so sweet as the outpouring of the Spirit of God on a human being. No matter what experience you may have had in riches and in all that earth desires, there is nothing that compares with the heavenly sweetness and joy of the Spirit of God. This is a foretaste of that which is to come. We shall receive a fullness of that, if we are faithful. If we hold on without finching, and without turning to the right hand or to the left, our God will lead us straight on until we are brought into His presence and crowned with glory, immortality and eternal life; which I pray may be the happy lot of every one of us, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

GENERAL MORGAN'S VIEWS.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Recently General Morgan, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was requested by the Secretary of the Interior to give an expression of his views upon the communication of the Governor of South Dakota, urging the disarming of the Indians in that State. In reply General Morgan states: "The reasons for disarming the Indians are obvious and weighty, viz., to prevent them from going on the warpath and quiet the fears of the white settlers in their vicinity. If I thought there was really serious danger of any considerable number of Indians going upon the warpath, or that the surest way of preventing any Indians from becoming hostile was to disarm all, I should be very slow to interpose any objection to the measure.

"If I felt that the white settlers were in serious danger of attack by the Indians, and was convinced that their safety demanded the action above suggested, I could not resist; but, so far as my knowledge extends, I can hardly believe that there is now any serious danger of the Indian uprising. I believe the Indians to be for the most part inclined to peace and opposed to war. They are sufficiently intelligent to understand at what fearful disadvantage they would be in a war with the United States. They know our vast resources and are conscious of their own weakness. Moreover, many reasons which have existed among them for discontent can be, and by Congressional action just had, will be removed. Settlers in the vicinity of the reservations have been frightened, and not without reason, and yet, during all the excitement and in spite of bitter provocations, the Indians have attacked no white people in their homes. So far as I know, they have not seriously threatened their peace. Those who have been or really are hostile, should unquestionably be disarmed and their leaders be severely punished, but during the late trouble in Dakota the great body of Sioux were friendly, and the innocent should not suffer with the guilty.

"To make no distinction in the treatment of Indians who took part in the hostilities and those who remained loyal, many of whom suffered for their

loyalty, would be an act of injustice, which the Indian is as quick to recognize and resent as the white man. It would be a great hardship to these Indians to lose their arms, which they greatly prize. They use them in slaughtering their cattle, in hunting and in sport. 'It is with some hesitation that I say, and I say it only after careful deliberation and with sincere sorrow that it must be said, that I greatly fear the Indians would not be safe, either in their persons or in their property, if it were known that they were entirely without guns for self-defense. The recent sad events in Dakota, where, it is said, women and little children were shot down by soldiers of the United States army, and others were ambushed and slain without provocation by citizens, have shown us how pitifully defenseless these poor creatures might be if wholly unarmed and unable to protect themselves.'

"To disarm the Indians generally and leave the whole body of Sioux smarting under a sense of helplessness and wrong, would tend to produce among them a widespread feeling of irritation, unrest and distrust, disastrous not only to the peace and prosperity of the Indians, but liable in itself to bring about the very danger which disarming is intended to prevent. For should the arms they now possess be forcibly taken from them, there is nothing either in the law or the habits of the people surrounding them to prevent them from arming themselves at the earliest opportunity by purchasing from the whites. For the prevention of further trouble it seems to me necessary to treat them justly and kindly; maintain among them a well-disciplined, suitably paid, vigilant Indian police force, and lastly, keep at exposed points a small garrison of troops, sufficient in case of a great emergency to aid in maintaining order and protecting both Indians and whites."

ANOTHER VIEW OF IT.

Editor Deseret News:

In your semi-weekly of January 27, 1891, we notice a "Welcome" extended by your correspondent "A. B. C." and a wish expressed that a "few hundred families move in this spring and help us redeem this country." It is stated, "we have three wards, two on the east, and one on the west side of the Salt River. A better grazing country than this could not be found, and we have every reason to believe that this will be one of the finest agricultural districts in the mountains."

Permit me, Mr. Editor, to occupy some of your valuable space in giving to your readers, many of whom are my friends and relatives, my views on the matter quoted, and some others connected therewith. I agree with friend "A. B. C." that there is room for hundreds of families to locate and make comfortable homes in this valley, with all that the word make implies. Therefore, as a kind of preparatory step toward "moving in," I would suggest that the big boys be fitted out with good four-horse teams, one year's supplies and plows and scrapers to take out that "never ending supply of water," with instructions to report preparation in due season. For be it remembered, this is a new coun-