

a second time to recover his people from the four corners of the earth. And when he should commence this great work, he would bring forth the words of them that have slumbered in the dust, should whisper out of the ground and their speech should be low out of the dust; and Israel, after that time, should no longer be made ashamed, neither should their faces wax pale. Why? Because they must be gathered from the four quarters of the earth by means of that book.

There is another object expressed in the next verse, the last verse of the chapter, for the bringing forth of this book. "And they also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine." How many hundreds of thousands of good, upright, moral people, among all the nations of Christendom, have erred in spirit because of the false doctrines that have been promulgated, from generation to generation, in their midst; doctrines of form without any power? Doctrines that excluded all communications with the heavens, that shut up the voice of the Almighty in continued silence; that closed up the heavens as brass over their heads; that proclaimed in all their creeds, articles of faith, and disciplines, that the Bible contained all that God would ever reveal to the children of men. Millions have erred in spirit because of these doctrines; others have murmured because of them, and have found fault, and said, "How can we know the true doctrine, or the true church, when we find several hundred all teaching different, each one going his own way, each proclaiming his own dogma, creed and discipline? Contradicting and quarrelling with one another? Christian nations fighting against Christian nations," &c. They have murmured about it; and many have begun to think that there is nothing in revealed religion. It has made thousands on thousands of infidels; and it is not to be wondered at, for instead of taking the Bible as their guide, and comparing ancient Christianity with the truth, they have taken this Babel of confusion, called modern Christianity, and have asked if that could be from heaven? And they do not believe in it. They do not believe that God is the author of confusion, and they have murmured, contended and complained. But when this book should come forth, "they that murmured should learn doctrine, and they that erred in spirit should come to understanding." How? In what way? Because this book, translated from those plates, contains the doctrine of Christ in such perfect plainness, that no two persons who read that doctrine can disagree in relation to it. It is plain, and easy to be understood. For instance, let me mention in relation to one ordinance about which there is much contention among the sects of Christendom, namely the ordinance of baptism. One says that it must be by pouring, another by sprinkling, another by immersion; a fourth says you must be baptized three times, once in the name of the Father, once in the name of the Son, and then in the name of the Holy Ghost. And thus they quarrel, and contend, and have their different views about that one doctrine.

Now, when you pick up the Book of Mormon, and read, in the latter part of the book, concerning this ordinance, you find that our Lord and Saviour, after his resurrection, descended to the northern part of what we call South America, and stood in the midst of a large congregation of people who saw him descend, and who also beheld the wounds in his hands and in his feet, and they heard him teach his gospel, and he commanded them that they should no more offer sacrifices and burnt offerings on this American continent, as their fathers had been accustomed to do, but that they should do away with these things. And he taught them his gospel, and commanded them to believe and to repent with all their hearts, and to come down into the depths of humility, like little children, and be baptized in his name for the remission of their sins, and promised them, if they would do so, that they should be filled with the Holy Ghost. And he called twelve disciples on this American continent, the same as he called twelve apostles in ancient Palestine. And after he had called and ordained these twelve disciples, he commanded them to baptize all penitent believers, and he gave them the pattern, saying unto them—"You shall go down and stand in the water and, in my name, you shall baptize them. And now, behold, these are the words which you shall say, calling them by name—"Having authority given me of Jesus Christ, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen," and then shall ye immerse them in the water, and shall come forth again out of the water. And after this manner shall ye baptize in my name, for behold the Father and the Son, and the Holy Ghost are one," &c.

Now, let me ask, who could draw any two conclusions from words as plain as these? No person could; and there could be no two churches differing, or built up upon the principle of baptism as here revealed. So it is in regard to every other point of doctrine relating to the plan of salvation revealed in this book; they are all just as plain as the one to which I have called your attention. Hence, when people understand, and comprehend by the power of the Holy Ghost, that this record is divine; and when they can once put their confidence in it as such, they never after that need be at a loss concerning the points of the doctrine of our Lord and Saviour. "They that erred in spirit shall come to understanding; they that murmured shall learn doctrine."

Again he says—"The deaf shall hear the words of the book." Has this been literally fulfilled, or must it be spiritualized? "The eyes of the blind shall also see out of obscurity and out of darkness in that day." Does this mean those who are blind spiritually, or does it mean literally? I think it means both. Those who

have been blind spiritually are seeing out of obscurity and out of darkness, and those who have been deaf spiritually are beginning to hear. But this is not the entire meaning. Do not the greater part of this congregation, now sitting before me, know of a surety that the Lord God has, since he sent forth the proclamation of this gospel among the people, caused the eyes of the blind—those blind physically, born blind—to be opened? Do they not know that the ears of some who were so deaf that they could not hear the loudest sound have been literally opened? Yes; you know this, for it has been done in the four quarters of the earth. Not in some obscure corner, where a few individuals have seen it, but among the nations and kingdoms where this gospel has been preached; therefore, the Lord God has indeed fulfilled, to the very letter, these predictions, uttered by the ancient prophets in relation to the great work that should be performed on the earth in the latter days, when he should bring forth this book, and should cause the earth, as it were, to open and bring forth salvation.

This agrees with the testimony of David the prophet: for not only Isaiah, but David says, in the 85th psalm, when enquiring about the long captivity of Jacob—"Lord wilt thou not bring back the captivity of Jacob, that Israel may rejoice, and that thy people may be glad?" The Lord, in answering this prayer of David, tells him how he will do it. Says he—"I will cause truth to spring out of the earth and righteousness shall look down from heaven, and they shall go before us, to set us in the way of his steps." Yes, by bringing forth this work out of the earth, and by raising up his church, by the divine authority which he restored again, and by pouring out the Holy Ghost from heaven, by sending down righteousness from heaven, and by truth, which has sprung forth out of the earth, the Lord has set us again in the way of his steps. And Israel will truly be made glad, and the house of Jacob, when this work shall go forth to them, will no longer be made ashamed.

This agrees with another prophecy, where the Prophet Isaiah, in looking after the consolation and redemption of Jacob in the last days, says—"Let the skies pour down righteousness, and let the earth open and bring forth salvation." It seems then that the earth was to bring forth truth and salvation, and the skies at the same time were to pour down the blessings of eternity upon the heads of the people, and by this means the Lord God would save the nations of the earth, and redeem Israel from the four quarters thereof. But alas! for the wicked in that day. Let us see what is to become of them. I have already quoted one passage stating that they were to be cut off in a terrible manner, and be brought to naught, the corner being consumed, and all that watch for iniquity being cut off. Let us read another passage, in this same 29th chapter. "The multitude of all the nations that fight against Zion shall be as a hungry man who dreameth and behold he eateth, but he waketh and his soul is empty; or as when a thirsty man dreameth and behold he drinketh, but he waketh, and behold he is faint, and his soul hath appetite. So shall the multitude of all the nations be that fight against Mount Zion."

Has that ever been fulfilled upon the nations of the earth? It does not matter how many of them there are, they are in the hands of the Almighty, and by the blast of his nostrils they can be consumed, and be swept away by the breath of his lips, and they will become like a hungry or a thirsty man who dreams that he has something to eat or to drink, and behold it is all disappointment; for he wakes and his soul is thirsty and hath appetite. So it will be with all people that fight against the great latter-day work; for, saith the same prophet, "they shall be visited of the Lord of hosts with thunder and with earthquake, with great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire." It will be a day not of destruction by a flood of waters, but by various judgments, ending with the flame of devouring fire, which will sweep the earth, and destroy the wicked out of it. Behold the day will come, and is close at hand, when Malachi's prophecy will be fulfilled, that shall burn as an oven; when all the proud and they who do wickedly shall become as stubble, and they shall be burned up, saith the Lord of hosts. That day shall leave them neither root nor branch. No branches of the wicked left, no roots left among the nations, but the earth, and all the fulness thereof, will be given into the hands of the Saints of the Most High, as was predicted by Daniel the Prophet, that "the kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heavens, shall be given into the hands of the Saints of the Most High." A King shall reign in righteousness in those days and his name shall be the Lord of Hosts, Jesus of Nazareth, the great Messiah. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords will reign over the nations in those days, as he now reigns King of Saints. And behold this is the preparatory work. This book that has now come forth will be sounded among the various nations and kingdoms of the earth. They who hear the words thereof, and repent of their sins, and turn away from all unrighteousness, and will receive the fulness of the everlasting gospel, will be gathered together, and the sons and daughters of God will come from the ends of the earth, even every one that is called by his name.

We might go on still further, but this is sufficient for the time being. Amen.

Graham bread is said to be excellent food for the children on account of its superior bone-giving qualities. You can feed a child on that bread until he is all bones.

Correspondence.

The European Mission.

We have been favored with the use of the following letter to a gentleman in this city—

"NOTTINGHAM, June 20, 1875.

"Your very welcome letter of April 24th found me in Copenhagen on May 26th, where I went, in company with Pres. Joseph F. Smith, to visit that part of the mission and to hold conference and other meetings. It found us in the very best of health and spirits and we are in the same condition today. We had splendid times at our conferences at Copenhagen and at Berne, and other meetings among the Saints, and found the Elders laboring faithfully, and successfully gathering in the seed of Ephraim, which is plentiful in those countries.

"The German Ocean and Baltic Sea were calm and smooth as glass, so that I escaped seasickness upon them, but when I crossed the channel from Calais to Dover, on our return, I almost threw up my toenails. On our return we attended a district meeting in London on the 13th, which was one of my best days.

"I have now labored in this conference over nineteen months and I thought I would spend the rest of my days here, that is, my missionary days, but not so—I am appointed to labor in the London conference, which looks very much like postponing my return home to some uncertain time, distant in the future, but all right, my health and spirits are splendid and a happier man than I have not yet been found in the mission. Bro. A. D. Young is with me, and is doing splendid in his missionary labors, he comes right up to the mark, and never backs out or shirks. He is applying his mind to the study of the Scriptures and the works of the Church, and is making good progress; he is steady and circumspect in his deportment, and if he had any bad habits he has parted with them.

"June 21.—I quit your letter yesterday to attend the last meetings for me in Nottingham. The room we occupied at the Assembly Rooms was well filled. Bro. Maughan spoke twice and so did Bro. Young and I, and Bro. Farrell spoke once. We had fine meetings and the spirit of the Lord rested abundantly upon us.

"The old lady you spoke of died last fall, aged 101 years, 9 months and 15 days; her daughter was in to see me last night.

"Bro. Wm. A. C. Bryan, laboring in this conference, is travelling with Bro. Squires, and is thoroughly imbued with the spirit of his mission. Out-of-door preaching is the order of the day, and we get good, attentive audiences to listen to our testimonies. On the 13th Bro. Betts, of Mansfield, baptized five and yesterday I baptized one. Next Sunday we purpose holding a large camp meeting at Sheepshed, which will close my labors here, and I go at once to London. We are emigrating but few from this conference this year, and I think from the whole mission the emigration will be lighter than usual. Elder Squires is in fine health and spirits, and is doing a fine work. Our summer opens pleasantly, with more rain than we had last year. Work seems to be falling off about these parts, and our people suffer with the rest. Bro. Wm. Horley, of Hucknall, was buried in the pit at Hucknall, but was dug out alive, and is getting around all right again. The youngest Staneiforth girl died lately of consumption. We have prospects of raising up a good branch at Burton-on-Trent. Bro. Young and I will hold meetings this week at Belper, Derby, Burton, Gresley, and Whitwick, and on Sunday morning, 27th, walk to Sheephead to the camp meeting.

"I have become so much at home and so attached to the Saints in this conference it is like leaving home for me to part with them. My labors here have been very pleasant, my brethren have sustained me in every measure, the Saints have received my counsel in willing hearts, and the Lord has blessed me all the day long, so that I have not been confounded nor left barren of the Spirit of Truth. I seem to have been surrounded from the first with good, kind circumstances, and my faith has grown little by little all the day long.

"You will please remember me kindly to President Young, uncle George and your father, and to all who ask after me, not forgetting Bros. Wm. Clayton and Geo. Crismon."

"Your friend and brother always in the Gospel.

"F. M. LYMAN."

Drouth—Mortality—The Drowning in the Weber—The Twenty-Fourth.

OGDEN CITY, July 25, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

The long spell of hot dry weather we have experienced in this section has parched up many pieces of land which cannot be reached by irrigation, and there appears no prospect of relief from the "upper deep." We have looked and expected a long time but in vain for a cool refreshing shower of rain. The clouds have loomed up, gathered, thickened, blackened, and threatened, and then passed off with the first breath of wind, leaving us high and dry. This kind of weather has been in no way conducive to the health of our people here. Many complain of drowsiness, and others have been afflicted with pains in the head for several days at a time. The bill of mortality has been greater during the present month, from disease or accident, than I have known it to be for a number of years in and immediately adjoining this place; and the sexton's services have been called into requisition very frequently, a strange contrast to what it was in former times, when health was the rule, and sickness the exception. A good thunder-storm or shower would do much towards clearing the atmosphere and making the air more bracing and invigorating.

The Messrs. Robb and Fuller who met with such a sudden, untimely end in the Weber river on the 22nd instant, were buried yesterday. Their remains were not brought to this City for interment in the cemetery, but were consigned to their last resting place at Alma. The sad occurrence has cast a deep gloom and melancholy over the whole neighborhood. I hope, verily, that the County Court will receive the suggestion of the jurors, that the Court will act promptly in the matter, and build a good substantial bridge across that treacherous stream in the place indicated by the jurors, especially as the citizens of the western part of the county are willing to contribute liberally to that end. It has been a subject of much remark, and also of surprise, that last year was the only year, for many years past, in which no one that we remember was drowned in Weber river. We were congratulating ourselves that the high water time had passed by this year without any fatality, but, alas! we have been rudely awakened from our pleasant dream to learn that three of our fellow citizens have just found a watery grave almost in sight of their own dwellings, but out of reach of any aid to save them.

The 28th anniversary of the entrance of the Pioneers into this valley was celebrated yesterday. Many of the stores were closed, but, it being Saturday, some of the merchants kept open most of the day. As soon as the grey dawn appeared young "Mormon"—America was out and airing himself, and making the welkin ring by the incessant discharge of his fire crackers, miniature cannons, and various kinds of fire arms. By sunrise the stars and stripes were floating proudly in the morning breeze.

Later on, Company A Fire Brigade, with their noble little engine, were out in full force, and in uniform, practising for some time on Main street. The energy and skill with which they worked were highly commendable, and the height to which they forced the two streams of water at the same time was a source of much pleasure to themselves and to all who witnessed their operations. Having no Salt Lake company to compete with this time, of course they were left masters of the field and bore off the laurels.

Still later in the day many vehicles loaded with celebrators rolled up to Jones' and Farr's Groves and spent the day in various kinds of amusements and rational enjoyments. The day passed off in peace and quietness, and I did not learn of anything special to mar the happiness of the day so memorable in the history of this region and so dear to every genuine "Mormon."

SEMPER.

We expressed a wish, the other day, that our graduates could escape from college some other way than on the sea of oratory, and the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, speaking sarcastically to the same purpose, says: "Boys, when commencement is over, and you go out into the great world, (which is your oyster), apply for none but thoroughly first class positions. Your sheepskins will be honored as passports to any lucrative situations you may want. Go on and show the old gray-haired plodders of counting-rooms how to do business."—*Ed.*

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE in my possession:
One red, four-year-old STEER, white on forehead, some red in it, branded D L on right hip, swallow fork right ear.
One red COW, 4 or 5 years old, branded L W on left hip, upper half crop right ear.
One black HUIFER, 2 or 3 years old, line black, some white under belly, brand on left hip illegible.

If the above described animals are not claimed and taken away in ten days they will be exposed at public sale the 5th day of August, 1875, at 3 o'clock p.m., at Mount Pleasant Estray Pound.

JOHN TIDWELL,
District Poundkeeper.
Mount Pleasant, July 26th, 1875. ds&w

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