

tutions were incorporated into the Christian church, until almost every vestige of the pure doctrines had disappeared, and nothing was left but mere forms.

Is it any wonder that the Latter-day Saints claim that it was necessary for an angel to fly through the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to the nations of the earth? If authority to administer in the ordinances of the gospel had existed among men there would have been no such necessity; but that authority had been taken back to God who gave it, and it had to be restored by Him or it could not be exercised on the earth again.

Where were apostles to be found? Why they were unpopular; every man that had held the Apostleship had been killed, yet in the words which I have read in your hearing it is said:

"He gave to some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers."

And yet men tell us to-day that apostles are not necessary! Is it surprising that the results which we see have followed such unbelief in apostles? It was very dangerous to be called apostles! It sounded better to be called bishops or some other title; it suited the popular ear better and did not excite the persecution which the name of apostle did. Yet in the words of Paul we are told that apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers were placed in the Church, for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. If there is any man on the earth who can prove from the scriptures that apostles are not necessary in the Church of Christ, then he can prove that the words of Paul and the rest of the apostles are not trustworthy, for Paul tells us they were placed in the Church for the work of the ministry, the perfecting of the Saints, and they were to continue there.

"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive."

Is there room for wonder that men are carried about by every wind of doctrine, and that they are deceived by the cunning craft of men when they no longer believe in apostles and prophets, and have taken in their stead self-constituted ministers, men who never received authority to administer in the things of God? Can any be surprised that Christendom is split up as it is to-day, and that men are so confused in relation to the doctrines of Christ? or that infidelity rears its head so defiantly in the midst of Christendom? No, it cannot be wondered at, when men have so widely departed from, and so flagrantly disobeyed the plain teachings of scripture as we find them recorded in the New Testament. The condition of Christendom alone is, of itself, sufficient to prove to every reasoning mind that if there is a God in heaven, as we know there is; that if there is such a principle as divine revelation, which we declare to be true; if there are such beings surrounding the throne of God as angels, of which we bear testimony, there never was a greater necessity for angels to be sent to earth, or for revelation to be given to man, than in the day in which we live. Some may say that we have the Bible and its divine teachings to peruse at our leisure; but it has frequently been remarked by those who scoff at it that it is like a fiddle, every kind of a tune can be played upon it. It requires something more than the Bible to guide man to eternal life. It requires divine inspiration, it requires the Holy Ghost, it requires the priesthood, as it existed in ancient days, to be restored; and I thank God with all my heart, this morning, that I do know it has been restored. I thank God from the bottom of my heart that I have this knowledge.

Before me, in this Territory, I see the fruits of this restoration, — precisely the same fruits that followed the priesthood anciently. I see, here, people gathered from various nations, of various creeds, speaking various languages, and having been reared and educated in a very dissimilar manner, from limited monarchies, from despotic monarchies and from republics, and yet they dwell together in unity, worship God alike, live lives of good order, truth and holiness, and love one another, which is an evidence, as the Apostle says, that they have passed from death unto life. This unity is one of the greatest evidences that can be given that we are the disciples of Christ, for He has said,

"If ye are not one, ye are not mine."

And it is also one of the strongest evidences that can be given that Jesus is the Christ, for, on one occasion, when praying to the Father that His disciples might be one, He said:

"Neither pray I for these alone; but for them also which shall believe on me through their word."

"That they all may be one; as thou Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."

As a people the unity of the Latter-day Saints is proverbial, and furnishes a powerful testimony that we have walked with Christ, and have received the blessings following the bestowal of the Holy Ghost.

These are some of the doctrines that the Latter-day Saints believe in; time would fail to tell all. We believe that God is the

same yesterday, to-day and forever; that He is a God of revelation, and that the reason He has not revealed Himself for centuries is because the people so cruelly persecuted His anointed ones when He sent them into their midst. Their blood has cried for vengeance on the inhabitants of the earth, and He has closed the Heavens, as it were, for centuries, our forefathers having been left, only, with such light as they could obtain without the priesthood. But has He not bestowed His Holy Spirit upon men? Yes, millions of people have received the Holy Spirit to a certain extent, although not in its fullness. Luther had it, when he was inspired to war against the iniquities that existed in the Romish church. He was raised up especially to prepare the way for the manifestation of the work of God in the last days. Calvin and Melancthon had a portion of the Holy Spirit, and so had all the Reformers who followed them; and though they had not the authority to build up the church of God in its ancient purity, they still had a work to do and they have come in their days and generations and have labored zealously, indefatigably and fearlessly, regardless of death, inspired of God to do the work which they performed in the various lands in which they labored,—Germany, France, England, Scotland and various parts of Europe, and also in our own land—America. John Wesley, also, was raised up and inspired of God to do a work, and he did it.

Not only have these religious reformers been inspired to do a work in preparing for the advent of the kingdom of God upon the earth; but others have been raised for the same purpose. Columbus was inspired to penetrate the ocean and discover this Western continent, for the set time for its discovery had come; and the consequences which God desired to follow its discovery have taken place,—a free government has been established on it. The men who established that Government were inspired of God,—George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and all the fathers of the Republic were inspired to do the work which they did. We believe it was a preparatory work for the establishment of the kingdom of God. This church and kingdom could not have been established on the earth if their work had not been performed, or a work of a similar character. The kingdom of God could not have been established in Asia amid the despotisms there; or in Africa amid the darkness there; it could not have been built up in Europe amid the monarchies which crowd every inch of its surface. It had to be built up on this land, hence this land had to be discovered. It was not discovered too soon; if it had been it would have been overrun by the nations of the earth and no place would have been found, even here, for the kingdom of God. It was discovered at the right time and by the right man, inspired of God not to waver or shrink; but undaunted by the difficulties with which he was surrounded, and contending with a mutinous crew he persevered, and continued his journey westward until he discovered this land, the existence of which God had inspired him to demonstrate.

It was necessary that George Washington should be raised up, that the battles of the Republic should be fought, that the Colonies should be emancipated from the fetters of the mother country, and declared free and independent States. Why? Because God had in view the restoration of the everlasting gospel to the earth again, and in addition to this the set time had come for Him to build up His kingdom and to accomplish the fulfilment of His long deferred purposes.

Jesus said unto Jerusalem "How often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" But the prophets tell us that in the last days the people of God shall be gathered together from the different parts of the earth and be united together in one people. It was necessary therefore, that a land should be prepared and a form of government be established, so free and liberal in character that this kingdom could be established within its borders without conflicting with it. Therefore, religious liberty and toleration have been proclaimed throughout the length and breadth of this land. Men fought, bled and died in vindication of these principles, and they were incorporated into the Constitution; and we, to-day, are reaping the blessed results of their labors. Shall they not have glory in the sight of God for those labors? Yes, glory and honor and blessings and immortality will rest upon men who have been instruments in the hands of God in bringing to pass His great and marvellous purposes. We have the greatest charity for them; we know that God will save and bless them. We know, further, that their sins were sins of ignorance. Where there is no law, it is said, there is no transgression. They had not the fullness of the gospel declared unto them; but the generation in which we live hear the law and the testimony, and they will be held accountable for this knowledge. God will hold you, my brethren, sisters, and friends, strictly accountable for that which you hear. You live in a day and age when the purposes of God are transpiring before your eyes, and when you see the mighty going forth of His great work. Men, generally, however, will not look at it, and yet they are ready to declare that if they knew the work of God was progressing, they would be willing to help it forward.

They are the same as the Jews were with the Lord Jesus Christ. When He was with them He was despised and put to death; now men think they honor Him, but if He lived upon the earth to-day do you think He would be honored? He would be treated to-day as He was then. God sent His only Son, the Prince of life and glory; He came to the earth in humble mien, in the garb of poverty, speaking ungrammatically, yet He was Heaven's Prince, the Lord of all things. He was born in a stable and cradled in a manger. But God's noble sons are not always born to thrones; some of the noblest men who have lived on earth have not been found in the courts of kings. Where shall we look for them? Frequently among the humble and lowly. I thank God it is so. I have found among the humble and lowly, men with minds which were like rich jewels; men who loved the truth, and who have been willing to die for principle. I have also found many of the rich and noble who have

"Crooked the pregnant hinges of the knee, That thrift might follow fawning."

And who have been willing to do anything to curry favor, who worshipped popularity, and were ready to bow at its shrine in humble, abject reverence. While among the poor, the meek, and the lowly, I have known men, and we all doubtless have, who would die rather than step aside from principle. Among such God has placed his nobles in this generation in order to be pioneers in this work and lay its foundations. They could sacrifice, and endure poverty for the sake of truth, and they have done so, and have risked all, braving the world fearlessly, establishing principle after principle, and declaring truth, in all its simplicity and purity, to the nations of the earth. Thus far God has vindicated their course and upheld them and has borne them off triumphantly, and He will continue to do so until the victory is achieved and the desired consummation of His purposes is reached.

This work will stand and spread abroad, because it is the work of God. After awhile it will gather within its fold men who, at the present time, consider it beneath their notice. It will accomplish the destiny that has been assigned to it. It will gather every honest man and woman on the face of the earth; all who will acknowledge truth will receive and rejoice in this work. I thank God that it is restored to the earth. It is more precious than the good will of men to know God. To have the spirit of truth, and the union and fellowship which exist among the Latter-day Saints is worth more than the riches of California, more than all the mines of the earth or all the jewels in the crown of every monarch on the earth, or their entire treasures, because they will fade away, but these will endure forever. And the man who obeys the gospel of Jesus need not feel that he is bound or enslaved, or deprived of the exercise of any of his faculties, as many suppose. He is emancipated from thralldom; he can rejoice in the light of truth, and go forward and embrace every principle of truth. Not religious truth alone; it is a wrong idea that people who are religious must confine themselves to what are termed religious truths only. The gospel of Jesus Christ embraces within its scope every truth known to man; every truth pertaining to astronomy, geology and every other science belongs to and is incorporated in that gospel.

I have spoken thus far and have not said a single word about that much-mooted doctrine—plurality of wives. I expect there are gentlemen and ladies here who would rather hear that spoken of than all that could be said besides; who would rather hear an elder tell how many wives and children he has got than all that could be said about Jesus, His Apostles, the Holy Ghost or its gifts. There is a prurient curiosity on the part of a great many people in relation to this subject, and were it not transcending the bounds of politeness, about the first question they would ask after being introduced to an elder would be "how many wives and children have you got?" That is about the extent of their desires. Here is a great phenomenon before their eyes in this Territory, of intense interest and of immense importance, yet their souls cannot rise high enough to comprehend the first feature of it, and no higher than to ask about the number of a man's wives! When I hear such inquiries I pity the person who makes them. I think if a person cannot allow his or her mind to rise any higher than that he or she is in a most deplorable condition.

I am satisfied that there is an immense amount of misunderstanding among the people of the world with respect to the Latter-day Saints and their belief in this peculiar doctrine. It is generally believed that we have embraced it for sensual purposes, and that we are a sensual people. We see these ideas frequently advanced in newspapers, and it is stated by them that we gather the people from the nations because of this doctrine. What a silly idea! Why, any man with a grain of common sense might know better if he would give a little reflection to the matter! How much easier it would be, if we were licentious, to practice licentiousness according to the popular method! Why go to the trouble and expense and incur the odium of sustaining wives and children merely to gratify licentiousness, when we could do it to the fullest extent, on the popular plan, without incurring odium or assuming responsibility and care? Read the records of N. York, Washington, Chicago, and the records of

all the cities east and west on our continent and then go to the old world, and you may find that men can gratify their lustful desire without incurring odium. They can even destroy females by the thousands in the gratification of their sensual appetites, but because the Latter-day Saints chose to marry them, to make women and their children respected and honorable, all hell is moved against them. The devil does not like it. I will tell you a rule, brethren, sisters and friends, that I have observed through my intercourse with men, in my travels, and that is, that they who have opposed this principle most bitterly, when they understood it, have been the most corrupt men, the very men who have practiced adultery and whoredom in secret; while openly, to hear them speak of our system of patriarchal marriage, one might think them immaculate; but I never found pure minded men or women, honest and true to their God, and to their partners if they had them, but whar, when they heard it explained as the Saints in this Territory understand, preach and practice it, let them believe what they might on other points, they would acknowledge that there was something god-like in that doctrine if we carried it out as we believed it. That has been my experience.

We are solving the problem that is before the world to-day, over which they are pretending to rack their brains. I mean the "Social Problem." We close the door on one side, and say that whoredoms, seductions and adulteries must not be committed amongst us, and we say to those who are determined to carry on such things we will kill you; at the same time we open the door in the other direction and make plural marriage honorable. What is the result? Why, a healthy, pure and virtuous community, a community which, in these respects, has no equal on the earth.

I say these few words by way of explanation; they are very inadequate to convey the ideas that we entertain, and that I would like to convey to my hearers, in relation to celestial marriage. That God may bless and sustain you in the practice of truth, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus: Amen.

OUR DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.—Late on Saturday evening the joint Congressional Committee on Retrenchment, accompanied by a number of invited guests, reached this city in three special coaches. The members of the committee consist, on the part of the United States Senate, of Hon. James W. Patterson, of New Hampshire, Hon. Carl Schurz, of Missouri, and Hon. Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio; on the part of the House of Representatives, Hon. M. Welker of Ohio, Hon. J. R. Reading, of Pennsylvania, and Hon. Jacob Benton, of New Hampshire; also D. F. Murphy, Esq., Clerk of the Committee, and J. I. Christie, Esq., Sergeant-at-arms. The committee was accompanied by Hon. A. G. Cattell, U. S. Senator of New Jersey, Hon. J. S. Morrill, U. S. Senator from Vermont and a number of ladies and gentlemen.

Yesterday the party attended the morning and afternoon services at the Tabernacle, and to-day they visited President Brigham Young, took a walk round his grounds, and were shown the method of irrigation practiced here, in which they manifested much interest. Accompanied by a number of our leading citizens they also visited the Tabernacle, the Theatre, the City Hall and other places and objects of interest in our city, expressing much pleasure in what they had noticed in our midst since their arrival. This afternoon they again started on their journey westward to San Francisco. We learn that their journey has been a very pleasant one thus far, and we hope its pleasures may continue to the end.

UTAH CENTRAL R. R.—From Feramor Little, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of the U. C. R. R., who returned yesterday evening from Ogden, we learn that the work on this line is progressing very favorably. From the point where the first ground was broken at Ogden to the river the grading is completed, and he expects to immediately commence laying ties there. Of the 700 feet of piling to be put in the river on which to build the bridge, one half is already done. The heavy cut on this side of the river is completed, and, indeed, all the heavy work on the line is finished, and men are scattered all along the track from the city to the fields in Davis county. The road can all be graded, furnished with ties and finished in a very short time whenever the rails shall be on hand, for the work which has yet to be done is very light, and any required number of men can be put on it to crowd it through.

THE SERMON TO-DAY.—The discourse in this issue is on the first principles of the Gospel, as taught by the Latter-day Saints, and will be of more than ordinary interest to all who may be desirous of learning the foundation of their faith. Faith in Jesus Christ, repentance of sin, baptism for its remission, and the laying on hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost, are the four cardinal principles, without obedience to which, no man or woman, who has the privilege of hearing them taught by legal authority, ever can gain admittance into the Kingdom of God. The most weighty reasons for that faith, and the passages of Scripture upon which they are based, may be ascertained by a careful perusal of the discourse in to-day's paper.