

and dialects, but mainly of one religion, one language, one race and one origin. Their origin was, in all probability, Asiatic, for the features, language, customs and religious rites of the two races were strikingly similar. In prehistoric times the people crossed over from Asia, and had since remained there, founding empires and attaining to a high civilization. There were 6,000,000 of Indians in North America, and 7,000,000 in South America. He had been a missionary amongst them for some time, and had consequently had an opportunity of studying them. In Canada itself there were a great number of tribes, to whom by Divine right the whole of the land belonged. The desire amongst the white men for aggrandizement, however, had caused them to appropriate the land for their own uses, and the red men were continually being driven back further and further, without one voice being uplifted in their Imperial Parliament to save the race from extermination. It was customary when the Indians had business of general interest to transact to call a meeting of the chiefs of the different tribes, but when the business only affected one tribe, the chief of that tribe himself transacted it. With regard to the language of the Indians, none of the tribes when discovered by the Europeans had any written language. It was a unique fact that the only one which could claim the honor of having invented an alphabet was the Cherokee tribe. The people had a tradition to the effect that when God created the red man and the white man He gave the red man a book and the white man a bow and arrow. The latter, however, stole the book and left the former the bow and arrow. They, therefore, considered it useless for a red man to attempt to write a book. One of the tribe, Geo. Gues, did not believe this story. He consequently set about the task, and after failing to write one with symbolic characters he ascertained the number of sounds in the language and formed a character for each. In this manner he succeeded. With respect to their religion, they believed in the existence of one Supreme Being—The Great Spirit—and of numerous subordinate deities. Great importance was attached to dreams. Owing, however, to the efforts of missionaries Christian settlements and churches and schools were springing up.

In the foregoing Dr. Watts has brought out several points which confirm the authenticity of the Book of Mormon most decidedly.

1. He admits that the present Indian tribes have one origin.
2. This origin is Asiatic.
3. A high civilization has once flourished among them.
4. Their written language was lost when the Indians were first discovered.
5. They still retain some recollection of a lost book.
6. Their religion shows clearly that they once have had the light of revelation shining among them, for how could they otherwise know anything of a Supreme Being, a spirit world and revelation through dreams?
7. Their great number, amounting to some 13,000,000 in all.

Now, it is well known that the Book of Mormon teaches all this. For half a century that remarkable volume has laid these facts before the world and also shown how they came about. As Genesis explains

how the human race came to be scattered on the surface of the earth, the origin of the diversity of languages, and gives a brief history of the world down to the time of Moses, so the Book of Mormon accounts for the presence of the red people on the American continent and treats of their wonderful history for a period of many centuries; and all in harmony with the latest reliable discoveries. How is this to be accounted for? Is any other conclusion possible than this—that the book must be a genuine and authentic record?

To say that it is a mere chance that the Book of Mormon came to contain the truth in these respects will not do any longer. That is too silly altogether. It might just as well be said that the history of England by Macaulay is nothing but a work of chance. The Book of Mormon cannot be accounted for in this way. Its historical truths are too apparent. How, then, did these truths come into that much contradicted volume? To an honest thinking mind only one answer is possible. The Book of Mormon is a genuine record; its history is proved to be true. Its doctrines must, consequently, be true too.

A tract entitled "The Mormon," quite extensively circulated among the Germans, has fallen into my hands lately. It appears that Rev. I. C. Iliff, the prominent Methodist priest of Utah, visited Berlin in 1881, and on May 20th in that year delivered a lecture on "Mormonism." The tract professed to be the substance of that lecture, and it will, no doubt, be interesting to residents of Utah to learn how that reverend gentleman abroad represents the people who have been so courteous towards him. On the first page of that tract we learn that "Joe Smith" was a dishonest and "unbridled" character, and that Brigham Young himself testifies to this effect concerning the people.

That this accusation is a palpable falsehood is easily demonstrated. The very first persons who accepted Joseph as a Prophet were those who knew him best in his private life. This is a sure proof of the purity of his character.

It is a moral impossibility for any man to exercise influence over his fellow men unless he is pure. As soon as it is known that a man has fallen his influence is gone. Let Mr. Iliff try the experiment, and he will soon find that from the moment he becomes known as an "unbridled" character his influence is gone.

Mr. Iliff further says, on page 3, that the "Mormons" were driven to Ohio and finally to Utah on account of the "godless, corrupt life of Joseph Smith and his followers." Another palpable falsehood! When were men ever driven away from a place on account of their ungodliness? Such a thing has never been heard of before in the whole history of America. There are thousands upon thousands of godless persons in America, and the Methodist churches, who pay Mr. Iliff, have a considerable share of godless persons in their holy estab-

lishments. But they are never driven away. Satan never makes war upon himself. No; swearers, and drunkards, and liars, and thieves, and adulterers, and murderers live peaceably everywhere. Such are not driven anywhere as long as they can keep out of the clutches of the law. Only Saints are driven away.

Further, on page 5, we learn that Joseph Smith, according to the theology of the "Mormons," is the fifth person in the Godhead. Mr. Iliff, a professed preacher of the Gospel, has the impudence to coin the following barefaced falsehood: "According to Parley P. Pratt's 'Key to Theology,' the Mormons teach that the Deity consists of several beings. Elohim is the first, Jehovah the second, Adam the third, Jesus Christ the fourth, and Joseph Smith, the god of this generation, the fifth."

If it were possible for a priest to have any good feelings in his breast, a priest whose whole position as such is nothing but one continuous falsehood from the beginning to the end, then the rev. gentleman would feel ashamed of himself when reflecting on the fact that he has circulated the above lie. But, alas! a priest is a priest.

We are further told, page 7, that the religion of the Saints sanctions murder, and that in Utah a secret organization "The Danites" exists, which is a bloody inquisition and has to put out of the way everyone who appears to be "suspicious." What next? How can men dare to speak such falsehoods against their fellowmen? Is there no judgment to come, and shall liars not be "cast into the lake that burns with fire and brimstone?" Danites? Would Mr. Iliff have dared to appear among the "Mormons" if he had thought for one moment that such a "bloody inquisition" existed among them? I think not; for a man who can bear such false testimony against his neighbor, when abroad and then come back all smiling and sunshine is a coward. The Rev. Judas Iscariot was just as afraid of Danites among the Twelve as the Rev. Iliff is among the Saints.

"Emigrants," we are further told, "have been murdered in multitudes (sharenecise.)" Page 8. "Brigham Young not only commanded the Mountain Meadow massacre but sanctioned it, and rewarded those who took part in it, because they had done their duty." (Pages 8 and 9.)

Finally comes a long jeremiad concerning the fearful fate of the women of Utah. They are slaves! Their hearts are broken! and so on. And this is Mr. Iliff—a gentleman who has received much courtesy in Utah. He has preached in our meeting houses, and numbers, I believe, several prominent "Mormons" among his personal friends. It is time that these friends and the people in general should know the quality of that "friendship," and also understand that it is impossible to find "friends" among enemies. In religious matters a man must be either—or. A medium exists not, and must not be sought after. Either for or against is the law of the Kingdom of God, as well estab-