

the Prophet and spoke evil of the work of God.

Now, I can see that same spirit just as plainly today working among the Latter-day Saints as it worked in the State of Missouri in early times. I can see in the background one or two apostates, publishing a document to which they do not sign their names, crouching down behind the grass like an assassin who is going to leap upon the passer by and stab him in the back. I can see that same spirit of apostasy lurking underneath the surface, attacking the present presiding authorities of the Church. I refer, as an instance, to the correspondence to the *New York Times* that has appeared, in its recent issues, attacking President Cannon in a very shameful manner and inferring that the presiding authorities of this Church are deceiving this people, and plundering them. Bless your soul, this is only another inspiration of Satan, who prompted the persecutions in the state of Missouri until the people were worked up till they were willing to put the Prophet Joseph Smith to death. I am not speaking now of the people of the world; but there were Latter-day Saints, so-called, who willingly gave their consent to these things. And we have got men and women in our midst today who willingly give their consent to these falsehoods that are published abroad about those whom God has placed to preside over us. I want to tell you that no man, after having held up his right hand consenting to support certain men as the presiding authorities of this Church, can fight those men without breaking his covenants, and transgressing the commandments of the Almighty. Whether in a church or in a business capacity, where you make covenants to do certain things, if you do not do them you are covenant-breakers. Those who are free and clean from this may rejoice and be exceedingly glad. I tell you the tongue of man was given unto him to confess the truth. The testimony of Jesus Christ is given unto this people that we may testify of Him. The presiding authorities of this Church are given unto this people that they may guide and direct us by the revelations of Almighty God. It is a day of prophets, or it is a day of nothing. Therefore, set your houses in order, and do not be finding fault with the presiding authorities of this Church. I hear of men saying that President Woodruff is an aged man, and Presidents Cannon and Smith have their own way about things. President Woodruff is eighty-eight years of age. How many men are here in this congregation that are eighty-eight years old? Christ gave to Peter the authority to bind on earth and it should be bound in heaven, to loose on earth and it should be loosed in heaven. Peter called unto his assistance James and John that they might counsel with him. What is the object of having a counselor? Is it that he shall sit down and be like a piece of wood? No! The place of the counselors in the presidency of this Church is to stand and hold up the arms of the Prophet until the sun goes down, if necessary, and Israel prevails. A counselor is supposed to counsel. He is supposed to have an opinion of his own. He is supposed to be filled with the power and inspiration of Almighty God; when old age overtakes the prophet, seer and revelator, his counselors are there to stand by and strengthen him, and to give counsel by virtue of the authority

vested in them. I want to say that I rejoice exceedingly when there is so much fault found with the presiding authorities of this Church, because I know that the spirit of their calling is with them. I know that the enemies of Zion would like to see the watchmen step down from the towers of Zion, and leave the gates unguarded and the people at the mercy of a drove of ravenous wolves. But thanks be to the Lord our God that we have men of long experience, and men who have been tried and proven in the Church of God, to stand in that great and important position. We are one, brethren and sisters; one in the testimony of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, one in a desire to build up the Church and to see the Latter-day Saints exalted to that great and honorable position which God testified they should occupy in the last days. We are not restricted in our opinions. I want to say, for the benefit of the Latter-day Saints and all the world, that I have belonged to the quorum of the Twelve Apostles for a number of years, have had the great privilege of meeting with the First Presidency often, and have always had the privilege of speaking my mind plainly and candidly, without any restriction; and it has been the same with the other brethren. But I want to say this: when a question is decided, it is decided unanimously; and if I, being young, have made a fool of myself by differing continually with men of wisdom, and they show me wherein I am wrong, it is not to be supposed that I shall remain a fool forever, and not unite with my brethren. No, it is my duty always to acknowledge the truth. We delight that we are one. I delight to see the Presidency of this Church stand firm and steadfast and as one man, even as God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost are one—not one in person, but one in faith, one in authority, one in principle and one in testimony.

I feel with all my heart to say to the Latter-day Saints, let us not become tainted with the spirit of fault-finding. Let us remember that the Holy Ghost guides us in the ways of all truth; and if we all have that spirit we all see alike. I want to tell you this; when you see the Presidency of the Church divided, and the Apostles divided, and the people divided in the things of God, then you will hear the glad shouts of our enemies, for they will rejoice exceedingly. Satan, the father of lies, and the instigator of all the persecutions against this people from the sixth day of April, 1830, until the present day, is just as full as ever of life, energy and determination to carry out his mission against the principles of truth and righteousness.

Brethren and sisters, if any of you have found fault with the Bishop of your ward, or with the president of your Stake, or with the presiding authorities of the Church, go home and repent of your sins, and put your households in order. When your children ask you for bread, do not give unto them a scorpion in the way of slandering the presiding authorities of the Church; for I tell you the seed that you sow in the hearts of your children will be hard to uproot. I bear testimony unto you that no man speaking by the Spirit of the Lord will ever criticize the authorities of the Priesthood which God has placed over him, after he has had the privilege of lifting up his hand to either support or

not support that man. Let us be one, and not desire always to have our own way, and be determined to have it. For that reason the devil today is in opposition to the principles of truth and righteousness. He was determined to have his own way, and all those who were determined to have their own way went with him, to the number of about one third of the hosts of heaven. Let us feel to say, "Our Father who art in heaven, thy will be done." That is the spirit the Latter-day Saints should enjoy. May the Lord bless you, my brethren and sisters. And should there be any strangers present, I say unto them, God has revealed unto this people the principles of truth and righteousness; and if you will repent of your sins, and go down into the waters of baptism, you shall receive the testimony of the Holy Ghost, and you shall know for yourselves that what I say is true. God bless you all and the honest in heart in all the world, and help us to be worthy of eternal life, in my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Written for this Paper.

MORTON ON THE FARMER.

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CALLED on the Hon. J. Sterling Morton, the Secretary of Agriculture, last night and asked him to give me some points for the cities which are turning their va-

cant lots into potato gardens for the poor. The Secretary of Agriculture believes that there is money in farming. He is a man of much wealth, and a great part of his fortune has come out of the soil. He is highly cultured and college-bred, but he is as plain in his ways as was Abraham Lincoln, and he has practical ideas of men and things. Like Lincoln, he has a story to illustrate his every point, and, like Lincoln, he is more of an optimist than a pessimist. He thinks that the farmers of the United States have as good business chances as the members of any other profession, and he says that those who mix their manure with brains seldom fail to amass wealth. He has of late been making a study of the condition of the farmer, and of his possibilities outside of the old lines of cultivation, and he is full of new suggestions. He is a great advocate of small farms, and he tells me there is a good deal of money to be made in potatoes.

MONEY IN POTATOES.

Said the Secretary: "There is no doubt but that there will be a large demand for all the potatoes that these cities will raise this year and for years to come. We raised last year more than 170,000,000 bushels of potatoes in the United States, and these brought about \$91,000,000. The crop was, however, not enough by millions of bushels to supply our demand, and potatoes always bring a high price. This is especially so in the cities, and if these people will work there is no doubt but that they can make some money out of their