

that which was ever exercised in behalf of heathen polytheism, pantheism, atheism, deism or agnosticism. But this new condition has been amply met in our own age; for the glorious revelations to the servants of the Lord, equalling if not transcending anything previously recorded, furnish the complete answer to all the vagaries of modern times. The appearance of the Father and the Son to the youthful Prophet; the opening up of views of the past and the future to his seer-eye; the revelations concerning the true means of salvation for the living and dead; and the eternal destiny of the human race, as contained in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, furnish the foundations for a faith that will stand the test of the Bible and of science alike. Our time is peculiar for its errors, but among them all the light of truth shines with greater clearness than ever in the history of man.

#### SUBSTANTIAL PROSPERITY.

The year now closing has been a fairly prosperous one for Utah, in a material and financial point of view. Crops have been tolerably good, though not as heavy as they are sometimes, but the prices of agricultural products have averaged higher than for several years. Wheat, cattle, hogs and dairy products this year have brought unusually high prices, and the Utah farmer has been proportionately benefited.

The mining industry, though suffering from the depreciation of silver, has not languished. It has given employment to as many men, probably, as in any previous year in the history of Utah, and has witnessed during the twelve-month the expenditure of vast sums in development work, the construction of mills, etc. The figures showing the output of silver will be reasonably satisfactory, while those showing the amount of gold will be very much so. In mercantile circles the year has been only moderately profitable. Some merchants have made fair dividends, but others have not. The number of important failures in the State has been small.

But the dawning year promises much more in the way of financial prosperity for Utah than has been realized during the one now closing. It is reasonably certain that labor of all kinds will find abundant employment, and doubt is expressed whether a sufficient number of laborers can be obtained within the State to meet the demands of the enterprises that are in hand. It has been given out that the Lake Bonneville irrigation scheme in Millard county will pay out for labor, within the next eighteen months, a million and a half, and for material, half a million dollars. There are other irrigation enterprises now under way that will furnish a good deal of employment, and it is tolerably certain that 1898 will see substantial progress made in the construction of a railroad westward from this city.

The remarkable development of the dairy industry which has taken place in this State within the last few years is furnishing a great amount of lucrative employment to many people in those parts of the State that are adapted to it. It has two great advantages: (1) Much of the labor connected with it can be done by women and children, the herding, feeding and milking of the cows, and the care of the calves being work that can be divided among and done by members of the family, young and old; (2.) A small tract of any kind of land that will produce lucern will enable a family to keep cows that will yield a comfortable living. The profits of the dairy business in some of the counties of this State are surprising-

ly large. A Cache county farmer, who has turned into hay land nearly the whole of his farm with a view to milking a large number of cows, recently stated that a good average cow would earn thirty-five dollars per year besides giving her owner a calf, which, when six months old, will bring at prevailing prices in that county from ten to fourteen dollars. This means that the milk given by a good average cow, sold to a creamery, will bring thirty-five dollars a year, payable in cash on the first of every month. The farmer who runs a dozen cows thus has the wages of a laboring man in addition to the income he may realize from crops, poultry, pigs, etc. The Utah farmer ought not to do any grumbling at all.

It is not intended here to represent that any great boom is on the tapis, but only to impart to the readers of the "News" the assurance that, according to present indications, an era of genuine prosperity is upon them. They can pay their tithes and be good to the poor in the confident expectation of receiving the blessings promised those who do these things, which blessings are not matters of faith alone, but are actually in sight.

#### A WONDERFUL OPERATION.

What the Medical Record calls "the first chapter in a new history of triumphs" has been presented to the world by a Zurich physician, Dr. Carl Schlatter. He has demonstrated that it is possible to live without a stomach, an organ hitherto considered vital, and thus proved that many theories of medicine and surgery, believed to be settled beyond further discussion, are entirely without foundation in fact.

The Record gives an account of a successful operation performed by the Swiss doctor in September last. The subject was Anna Laudis, 56 years old. For years she had complained of stomach trouble. On investigation it was found that the organ was diseased and perfectly useless to the patient. Dr. Schlatter now decided to remove it. For two hours and a half he worked among the vital organs of the suffering woman, and when the entire stomach had been removed he united the esophagus and the alimentary canal by means of a small coil of intestine. This done, the various organs were placed in their natural position and the abdominal wound was sewed up. Minute quantities of liquid food were given the patient at short intervals, and this food seemed to be assimilated notwithstanding the absence of a receptacle.

Solid food was given the second week after the operation. This was also retained and digested, and even the daring doctor marveled at the result obtained. The patient kept on improving and by the first of November she was up and walking about. A New York physician who visited her at the hospital found her apparently well, doing her full share of work in the wards.

Whatever may be the explanation of this curious fact, it is certain that some well-established opinions will have to be changed. To what extent one organ of the body can assume the functions and perform the duties of another, whenever the necessity for it arises, is one of the mysteries of life. In this case the other divisions of the alimentary canal apparently spontaneously undertook to do in addition to their own work that usually devolving upon the part removed. For how long a time this can be done satisfactorily, and whether a similar operation would be equally successful in all cases, are different questions. At all events, the operation mentioned is one of the most remarkable feats of surgi-

cal skill and entitles the performer to the fame of a successful explorer in the wide field of scientific discoveries.

#### RUSSIA'S PLANS.

If there is to be a grand division of the Chinese empire, Russia is evidently determined to have the lion's share. The situation seems to be that Emperor William has really acted the part of an advance agent for Russia and that the real performance is yet to come, with the latter country as the principal actor. England is making some demonstrations but these are believed to be merely side shows.

The events of the past few weeks are illustrative of Russia's methods. Port Arthur was once the principal naval station of the Chinese. Its wharfs and docks were constructed by French engineers and were in every respect modern. Japan after her victorious crusade against China demanded this port, but gave it up on the energetic protest of Russia, not, however, till the expensive works had been demolished.

When the Japanese had left the harbor Russian engineers commenced the work of reconstruction and the Russians have ever since prepared for the seizure of the place. Officially it is said that the Russian fleet is in the harbor only for the winter, but the statement has not gained credence in official circles and does not harmonize with the announced purpose of the czar's government to connect Port Arthur with the great trans-Siberian railroad. Russia holds one of the most important strategic points in China, and has succeeded in obtaining the emperor's permission to do so by first allowing Germany to occupy Kiao Chou, on the supposition that Russia will take his part against Germany. That Russia's hold of the harbor, however, is to be permanent is confirmed by the latest dispatches from Asia stating that Kin Chou, north of Port Arthur, has also been occupied by a Muscovite naval squadron.

Cotemporaneous with the occupation of Port Arthur is Russia's performance in Korea. Some time ago the Russian government entered into an agreement with Japan for joint control of affairs of that country. Russia took command of the army and the direction of the foreign affairs, leaving Japan to look after the education of the country. The collection of the revenue was entrusted to an Englishman named Brown. About a month ago there appeared a Russian, Alexieff, at Seoul who called himself "collector of state and agent of the ministry of finance of the imperial Russian government and superintendent of the finances of Korea." He demanded recognition as such at Seoul. The Korean authorities urged that they had not been consulted and refused to depose the Englishman whose services had been satisfactory. M. Alexieff proved that the Korean minister at St. Petersburg had given him a contract to manage the finances of the country, but as this had been done without consulting with the home government and apparently under pressure from Russia, the Korean government refused to recognize the validity of the contract. The Russian minister at Seoul then took up the matter. He demanded favorable action upon the appointment within twenty-four hours, and got it. Brown was deposed and the finances of the country placed in the hands of a Russian agent, who now controls the revenues, the disbursements and the financial policy of the country. The assumption of these functions together with the control of the army and whatever navy there may be, amounts of course virtually to a protectorate over Korea.