

yond our comprehension and the innumerable motions of these millions of worlds in infinite space elude our conception. Here are perpetual motion and perpetual order, produced by the common principle of attraction which binds the universe together. The Creator of all, the Unsearchable, holds the scales in His almighty hand by which these worlds are balanced against each other, and form a harmoniously framed whole.

Could we comprehend the work of creating this one small earth on which we dwell, and the sciences necessarily employed in its construction, we would then have but a very faint idea of the intelligence of the Creator who has weighed, measured, and adjusted the various classes of material of which it is composed, so as to cause a uniform motion in its revolutions; endowed it with powers of attraction and repulsion necessary to preserve it permanently in the orbit to which it was assigned, in its relation to other planets of the same system; endowed it with perpetual life so as to provide for the sustenance of the innumerable living beings to come upon it; made earth, air and water so suited to the nature of man that he could derive from them all that was essential to his physical demands for happiness and life; caused the water to so circulate in both the earth and air as to make them useful and necessary to the life of man, and then, as did one of the prophets, we may ask—In what school was He educated, where numbers were sufficient to determine the sands upon the seashore or the dust of the earth by measures; where chemical knowledge was sufficient to determine the exact proportions of the gases which constitute the atmosphere we breathe, to make it healthful to man and preserver of the earth; and by a change of those proportions can spread pestilence and dissolution over every living thing that breathes. Where did He learn to manufacture the materials, and from whence were they produced that are spread out over the earth like a curtain, and by which He may hide himself from the face of man? Where did He learn to hold the waters in the hollow of His hand, and when He will, open the fountains thereof and deluge an earth? Where did He learn how to store the clouds with lightning and use it to destroy whatsoever He will, and the thunder thereof to be terrible to man. And not only may we ask, where are the schools that teach all sciences employed in the creation of worlds, but,

Where are His workshops and designs; where all their parts are put together; and where the founts of air and water, combine to make the change of weather?

Many have exclaimed, "Marvelous are Thy works O, Lord, and wondrous are Thy ways," and with all this it is still reserved for Him to cause the earth to quake, the mountains to sink, and the islands to flee away out of their place; the waters to be turned to blood and become an instrument of death; the earth to reel to and fro like a drunkard; the sun to refuse to shine upon it, and the moon to be as blood in the firmament; when time shall be no longer measured to man by the revolutions of solar orbits, and the awful fiat be heard that time shall cease; the relation of this to other worlds be no longer recognized, but its elements melt with fervent heat

preparatory to its celestial and immortal condition, likened in its appearance to a sea of glass, with streets of gold, having passed the fire of its purification, filled the measure of its creation and entered upon its eternal career of sunship glory celestialized.

It seems to come within the understanding of the human mind, that in the formation of the earth and its surroundings, the distribution of the material employed, whether solids, fluids, or atmospheric; or in the variety of the material used, whether of affinity or not, and the endowing of it with its inherent qualities, both of attraction and repulsion, of magnetic or electric, that every possible science, principle of philosophy, and manifestation of the most sublime arts were employed in its construction.

This simply confirms the idea that man never studied a science, never solved a problem, never made a valuable discovery relating to any of the elements, or discovered anything beautiful in art but what had a practical application and was used by the Designer in the great work of creation.

No intelligent consideration of any subject was ever contemplated by man, but what had passed through the divine mind, from whence all intelligence emanates and all inspiration comes to man.

Other writers have declared that scientific truth is but the mere discovery and arrangement of God's thoughts, and moral truth is but another aspect of God's mind and thoughts; the one being God's thoughts as to nature and the other His thoughts as to man, and all truth as necessary for the perfect culture of a human soul, whose moral nature can only be developed by truth.

Mortals on earth are but following in the wake of those who have gone before, and there may be both truth and poetry in the declaration made by one familiar with God: "There is no new thing under the sun; it hath been already of old time, which was before us."

Painters may sketch with artists' skill, in all the fairest colors known; and yet the lily of the field surpasses aught that they have shown.

The sculptor, too, with faultless form may shape the image drawn in mind; and yet how worthless when compared with life in forms by God enshrined.

The chemist, he may air dissolve, and all the gases separate; its vital power for man destroy; disease and death thus generate.

No other science makes pretense, nor can so well all nature scan; 'twill analyze and synthesize all compounds known to man.

The elements are for life to man, as God for him hath them ordained; by man dissolved, transposed and changed, are means of death—no life is gained.

Thus man has proofs that all God's works are life and science well combined; to earth and man His laws apply, for their perfection are designed.

The seams and water in the earth, like veins and vital blood in man, conveying life to all its parts, is part of the Creator's plan.

As change of seasons to the earth give vigor to producing powers; from day and night, to human life, comes vital strength from restful hours.

The air we breathe is food to earth; like man, it could not live but in it; and viewed in every light we will, is type of men who dwell upon it.

It lives and moves and honors law, sustains humanity and others; in bearing and in feeding life, becomes the very best of mothers.

How well its Author must have known the wants of those for whom created; how well intelligence divine, knew earth and man must be related.

So much like man is earth itself, that born again they both must be; by water cleansed, by fire refined, from taint of sin shall both be free.

Earth, air and water all agree and act in perfect harmony; all powers of element combine to consummate the grand design.

The earth abides the law and will fill the measure of its creation, and by reason thereof must be cleansed from all that will violate law, and pass to a celestial condition and kingdom, and become a kingdom of glory for which it was created; for God will not be frustrated in His designs of creation.

Man can only contemplate created things to which he is allied, with admiration and delight; and thereby his soul may be filled with gratitude and veneration for the Creator who has so wisely designed and adapted all to contribute to the life and happiness of His children—the intelligences who were to inhabit them. And in this we may realize the fact that as one intelligent being is greater than another, there may be another greater still who is beyond our comprehension—the fountain of all wisdom, harmony and truth, as displayed in His creative majesty and power.

To thus lead the mind to something higher and holier than earth—from the creature to the Creator—is the object in view in penning these few random thoughts. S. W. RICHARDS.

#### IN RICH COUNTY.

Joseph Irwin, writing from Laketown, Rich county, under date of October 28, says: Last week, Stake President William Budge and his counselors, J. H. Hart and William L. Rich, held meetings in all the wards of this county, one each at Garden City, Meadowville, Round Valley and Laketown, and two each at Randolph and Woodruff. Excellent remarks and spirit characterized all of the meetings. A sad occurrence happened just as the Round Valley meeting terminated. As the people vacated the house flames were seen issuing from the residence of Mr. Levi N. Early, whose family were among the worshippers. Immediately all the men present jumped into a wagon and the stake presidency into their buggy, and drove to the scene of the disaster, but arrived too late to save anything except a bed and a trunk. There were rendered homeless a man, his wife and four children. Mr. Jere B. Early lost a valuable mare in two days after on account of fast driving to the fire. The cause of the fire is a mystery, as for two hours before the family went to meeting there was no fire in the stove.

As stated in the News when the first announcement of the fire was made, last week, Mr. Early's loss was over \$1,600. He had carried an insurance of \$6.5 with the Home Fire Insurance company, but had allowed it to become void through the non-payment of the premium.