

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Parson Brownlow asks, what right Tilden and Hendricks have to arraign the party which saved the Union? That's the way. Why should justice be done to the party in power?

—In order to promote tree-planting, the Massachusetts Society for Advancing Agriculture offers the following prizes—\$1,000 for the best plantation of five acres set with larch, or Scotch or Corsican pine, not less than 2,700 trees to the acre; \$600 for the second best plantation of the same; \$400 for the third best; \$600 for the best plantation of five acres set with white ash, not less than 5,000 trees to the acre, and \$400 for the second best plantation of the same. The prizes will be awarded in the summer of 1877.

—The Memphis *Avalanche* says, "The policy of the South is to stick to hog and hominy. In five years, under this measure of industrial reform, it will be able to pay its debts and be the richest section of the Union, or the world."

—The constitutions of twenty-eight of the States recognize the existence of God. The rest would be termed "godless."

—The Virginia (Nevada) *Enterprise*, commenting upon the discharge of Charles Huff, charged with murdering an unoffending citizen, by the neglect of the district attorney to prosecute the case, says—"This community is growing dreadfully weary of his kind and exceedingly impatient of such exploits as he is just now famous for. Something worse than small-pox or cholera is liable at almost any time to break out here, and we commend to such men as Huff a visit to the lake or to the warmer climate of California. It is in the interest of his health alone that we speak. The air is light at this altitude, and sometimes asphyxia attacks a perfectly healthy person. Delicate men like Mr. Huff should be careful to guard against unnecessary exposure."

—Never despair. Eben H. Little, Esq., of Haverill, Mass., 82 years old, and Miss Jerusha Palmer, a maiden of 84 years, both wealthy, and both formerly of Boston, were recently married. The groomsmen was 14 years old and the bridesmaid 13 years. Mr. Little had been married once before, but "to the bride the relations were new."

Two souls with but a single thought,
Two hearts that beat as one.

—The Cornwall (Eng.) *Gazette* of Aug. 12th, says, "From almost every one we meet, after the usual salutation we, invariably hear, 'How dull everything is! Are we never going to see things better?'"

—The New York *Tribune* thinks that it would be a good thing for the constitution to be reformed so as "to provide for the retirement of all our subsequent Presidents at the end of a single six years' term, on a moderate pension for life, with a life seat as United States Senator at large," and that it will be rather too bad to see "the man who carried our flag from Fort Donelson to Appomattox hopelessly retired to private life at the age of fifty-five."

—Says the Omaha *Bee*—"The grasshopper seems to be destined to become a powerful factor in American politics. Colorado has taken the initiative in her Republican Convention, which adopted a resolution calling upon the National Government to take steps for the extermination of the voracious 'hopper.'"

—Dr. Miller, editor of the Omaha *Herald*, was recently burned in effigy at Wahoo. The Omaha *Republican* says it was "for exposing the rascalities of one Perky, who tried to gouge the farmers of Saunders County out of \$10,000 in the narrow gauge scheme."

—This is how the unco "loyal" party in Utah publicly and shamelessly propose to inaugurate a system of lawlessness in Utah, and claim to have the courts at their back to help them—"Let every property holder who dares to assert his rights, refuse to pay his taxes. Then let the collector, if he dares, proceed to sell property for delinquency. An injunction can readily be obtained from the district court, restraining him from such proceeding; or if a sale is made, let suit be brought against the city for damages." For unmitigated and unprincipled disregard of law America leads the world.

DISCOURSE

BY

Elder WILFORD WOODRUFF,

Delivered in the New Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday Afternoon, August 13th, 1876.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

IN connection with the young brother, Elder Joseph Parry, who has just returned from a preaching mission to England, I wish to bear my testimony and to make a few remarks on the Scripture contained in the last chapter of St. Mark, commencing at the 14th verse, wherein an account is given of the Saviour's appearing unto the eleven disciples and of his upbraiding them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them that had seen him after he was risen, etc. At this time the following commission he gave unto them—

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them; and they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

It may appear singular to some why our Elders do not treat on what is termed "the mysteries of the kingdom." I know of no greater mystery to the inhabitants of the earth than the gospel of Jesus Christ. And yet the gospel is so plain and so easy to be understood that the unlearned and the youth can know of it. The Apostle Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." He considered it of so much importance that on another occasion in writing to the Galatians he said, "But though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." From the fact of the gospel being so simple, of its being adapted to the condition and circumstances of all people, and of its having gone forth by commandment of the Saviour to all the world, in the event of its being rejected condemnation must necessarily follow.

Notwithstanding the simplicity of the gospel, where during the last eighteen hundred years has been the man or the sect that has presented it to the world as taught by the Saviour and his apostles, before it was revealed from heaven, in fulfillment of ancient prophecies, to the young man Joseph Smith, and preached by him? No voice had ever been heard to proclaim it. There had never been a church or an organization upon the earth, since the days of Christ and his apostles, directed by the revelations of heaven and owned of God.

The gospel now being preached to all the world by commandment of the Lord to the prophet Joseph is the same as taught by Adam, Enoch and the Saviour. It never changes through lapse of time; its ordinances and laws are always the same, worlds without end. The first principles of the gospel taught from the dawn of creation are faith, repentance and baptism, and the laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost; and they are the same to-day. To certain minds there might be a mystery connected with these principles. Why, say some, is this so? We can only answer, because it is the law of the great Jehovah, the plan framed in the heavens for the salvation and redemption of man. They are requirements made of the whole human family, which must be obeyed in order that the prevailing mystery may be banished and the fruits and the blessings of the gospel enjoyed. The gospel is free to all; it is without money and without price. But none can officiate in its ordinances acceptably to God, except those who have received divine authority to do so. For, says the apostle, no man taketh this honor unto himself, except he be called of God as was Aaron. But there are a great many gospels, all claiming to be of Christ, and all differing more or less from one another, and from the one taught by the Saviour when upon the earth. When he who has the authority preaches the gospel he promises, in the name of Jesus

Christ, to all that believe and obey, that the Holy Ghost will be given them. By virtue of this promise all such can know for themselves whether it is of God or whether it is of man. If an unauthorized man goes forth, pretending to proclaim this same gospel, and it matters not how able and talented he may be, his doctrine can be detected, because the promises which were to follow the believers in Christ are not realized, the Holy Ghost which imparts its gifts unto men are not received, and hence the fallacy of the doctrines of men is exposed, so that none need be deceived. Our boys are often called from the plow and the workshop to go abroad to the nations to disseminate the principles of the everlasting gospel. By what power are our young men sustained, who thus go forth, inexperienced, without much education, presenting in meekness to a learned and intelligent world the gospel of Christ? God through his angels attends them; he strengthens their feeble knees and gives them utterance.

I was once preaching to a large assembly in Collinsville, Connecticut; when I got through a young clergyman came forward and asked me if I had received my diploma from college. I answered him, "No." "Do you know," said he, "that a man who has not received a college diploma has no right to preach?" "No, sir," I said, "I do not know it." "Well, sir," he said, "that is the case." I then asked him to inform me how it was that Jesus preached without receiving a college diploma? and if such things as college diplomas were ever known or read of in the ministry of Christ and his apostles?

The Lord chose poor, illiterate fishermen and sent them forth to combat and even to confound the wisdom of the wise. His gospel is represented to-day by the weak things of the earth, and has been new for over forty years. And what is the result of our preaching? Let facts speak for themselves. You can behold for yourselves a people gathered here from the different nations, all prompted by the same motives, namely, to build up and establish Zion on the earth in fulfillment of the words of God through the mouths of his prophets. Why have we been so successful thus far in accomplishing so great a work? Simply because God has confirmed our preaching and the testimonies we have borne by conferring the Holy Ghost with signs following the believers. Had not this been the case Utah would be to-day what it was on the 24th of July, 1847, when the pioneers first set foot on its soil—a barren, desolate land, unfit for the habitation of man. The results of our preaching bespeak the fulfillment of prophecy. Zion has arisen, and some of the prophecies concerning her, recorded in the Old and New Testament, are having their fulfillment.

Angels have visited the earth and delivered the keys of salvation to the prophet Joseph. He lived long enough to effect a complete organization of the church, strictly according to the revelations of God to him. God has in our day given gifts to men, for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. The apostle likened the church unto a perfect body. One part cannot say to the other, I have no need of you; but all the parts are necessary to complete the organization; which is just as necessary to effect the perfection of the Saints of this generation as of any other. Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, repentance and baptism for the remission of sin, are absolute requirements, which must be complied with before the Holy Ghost can be received. These signs, says the apostle, shall follow them that believe: in my names shall they cast out devils, they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover, etc. These blessings are the right of every honest believer in Christ. They were set in the church by the Saviour and remain with the church, as a mighty cloud of witnesses throughout this Territory could testify to; and not only they of this Territory, but those of every land and clime wherever the gospel has been preached and a branch of the church organized. Says the apostle John, This gospel is to be preached to all that dwell on the earth, to every nation, and kindred, and tongue and people; as a witness before the second coming of our Saviour to dwell on the earth, who will come, not as a lamb to the slaughter, not riding upon a

colt, the object of the people's scorn. But he will come in power and great glory taking vengeance upon them that love and fear him not. We, therefore, are sending glad tidings of great joy to whomsoever will receive them, that they may come up to Zion and escape the judgments that will most assuredly overtake the wicked.

I know that we are engaged in the great latter-day work, the work of the living God. And I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, chosen and set apart to usher in this last dispensation of the fullness of times. He has left a record, published, sealed by his own blood, confirming the truth of the same. This testimony is in force to all the world and it will be in force until the end of time. This we declare is the kingdom which the prophet Daniel saw in vision, never more to be thrown down or given to another people. In these mountains Zion is to be built up, in fulfillment of prophecy, and every jot and tittle that has been spoken of her must come to pass.

The last is first and the first will be last. The gospel was first sent directly to the Jews; the Saviour himself was of that lineage, through the loins of David. He came to his own, but they received him not. He was reproached of them from the day of his birth until they crucified him on the cross. Consequently the risen Redeemer commanded his apostles to turn to the Gentiles. They received the work and enjoyed the gifts and blessings of the gospel, even the Comforter, the Holy Ghost; and the priesthood continued with them until a portion of them became unworthy of it through their falling away, while the faithful were harassed and persecuted to their death. The gospel is now restored to us Gentiles, for we are all Gentiles in a national capacity, and it will continue with us if we are faithful until the law is bound and the testimony sealed and the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled, when it will again revert to the Jews, whom the Lord will have prepared to receive it. They will gather to their own land, taking with them their gold and silver, and will rebuild their city and temple, according to the prediction of Moses and the prophets. When this time arrives, which is nigh, even at our doors, let the Gentile nations who reject the gospel which is now sent to them prepare to meet the judgments of an offended God! For when their cup is full even to the brim, the Lord will then remember the chastisements of the Jews, his favored people, and at whose hands they will have received double for their iniquities. Offences must come, said the Saviour, but woe unto them by whom they come. Woe unto the Gentiles who have administered afflictions to the Jews for these many years! Woe unto them if they now reject this only means of salvation, for the awful calamities spoken of in these books, the Bible and Book of Mormon, will certainly befall them.

The principle of gathering has been preached for the past thirty-seven years. Before this principle was preached by the Elders a great many of the people had received the spirit of it; and the consequence was that no sooner had it been taught by the presidency of the church than the people everywhere were ready to receive it. It had been revealed to them by the Holy Ghost, whose office is to reveal that which is past, present, and that which is to come, and no surer, stronger testimony can be given to any one than it affords. We have gathered here for the express purpose of establishing Zion, which, according to the Scriptures, must be before the gospel can be sent to the Jews. Passage after passage might be found in the Bible, referring to our coming here; the casting up of the highway on which the ransomed of the Lord might travel; the building of our city in a low place which was to be called Sought out, a city not forsaken; and how the Lord would cause springs of water to spring up, and the desert to blossom like the rose, etc., all of which have had their fulfillment. But how do the inhabitants of the earth regard these things? With great indifference. In fact it would be a marvel to me were it otherwise, for according to the predictions, the people in this age were to be like unto the people of the days of Noah and Lot, marrying and giving in marriage, practising all manner of wickedness and abominations, and wholly

unprepared for the coming of the Son of Man. The Jews were under no condemnation for rejecting the Saviour, until he appeared amongst them as the light of the world, then they had no longer a cloak for their sins; and in rejecting him and those who were sent unto them, they stood condemned before the Lord, and consequently his threatened judgments overtook them. The people who heard not the gospel preached from the days of the apostles until its restoration in our day are under no condemnation for rejecting the gospel during the time it had been taken from the earth. But the light again has dawned upon the world, and the elders of Israel are engaged proclaiming it far and wide, and as it was with the Jews so it will be with the Gentiles who reject it, for the predictions of God's prophets must have their fulfillment, and neither you nor I can prevent it if we would. We are charged with being uncharitable because we proclaim these things. We are not to blame, we are merely the creatures used by the Almighty in doing his bidding. The work is his, the plan of salvation is the creation of his superior wisdom, not ours.

Let me say to my brethren and sisters, our responsibilities are great, far greater than the outside world who reject the gospel. We have received the light, the knowledge of God; we are under sacred covenants to stand by the truth and by one another in righteousness. If we are found traitors to the cause, crucifying the Son of Man afresh, great will be our condemnation. Our time allotted us to tarry here below is short; but our spirits are eternal and will live for ever, and our future destiny depends on this our earthly career. The Lord has given his angels charge concerning us; they are our friends and their eyes are over us. They stand in waiting with sharp sickles in their hands, ready to go forth and reap down the earth. Our calling is to perfect ourselves, to purify Zion and make it a fit habitation for the Son of God when he comes, to build temples and in them perform the rites and ordinances for the living and the dead, and accomplish all that God designs us to. And that we may be faithful in the performance thereof is my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The Full Instructions to the Indian Peace Commission.

Department of the Int.,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, Aug. 24.

Gentlemen—You have been appointed by the President as members of the Commission to negotiate with the Sioux Indians, pursuant to the following provisions contained in the Indian appropriation act of the current fiscal year—

"For this amount for subsistence, including the Yankton, Sioux and Poncas, and for the purpose of their civilization, one million dollars; provided, that none of said sums appropriated for said Sioux Indians shall be paid to any band thereof while said band is engaged in hostilities against the white people; and hereafter there shall be no appropriation made for the subsistence of said Indians, unless they shall first agree to relinquish all right and claim to any country outside the boundaries of the permanent reservation established by the treaty of 1868 for said Indians, and also so much of their said permanent reservation as lies west of the 103d meridian of longitude, and shall also grant the right of way over the said reservation to the country thus ceded for wagon or other roads from convenient and accessible points on the Missouri river, in all not more than three in number; and unless they will provide all such supplies herein received for and provided for by said treaty of 1868 at such points and places on their said reservation and in the vicinity of the Missouri River as the President may designate; and provided also, that no further appropriation for said Sioux Indians for subsistence shall be made until some stipulations or agreement shall have been entered into by said Indians with the President of the United States, which is calculated and designed to enable said Indians to become self-supporting."

And the further sum of \$20,000 is hereby appropriated to be expended under the direction of the President of the United States for the purpose