

mills appears to have been even more ill-advised than the other. The employees at the mills were fully aware of the situation. They knew that the factory was enabled to run only through the employees taking cloth and produce for their pay. That was understood when the mills came near closing last summer. The factory management kept its agreement. The demand of the strikers that cash be paid for wages was one that the factory management could not be compelled with, and it insisted on work must have stopped. A portion of the employees did a wise and commendable thing when they refrained from joining in the demands. Fortunately for the strikers themselves they receded from their position upon sober second thought.

The present is no time for strikes except on the most grievous provocation. Employees should exhibit a kindly feeling toward employers in a business depression like this, by having a fair degree of patience with business managers who are doing their best to keep things even. A little forbearance may enable a business man, by hard work, to make both ends meet, when if he were sharply pressed he would have to go to the wall.

THE LOST TRIBES.

Where are the lost tribes of Israel? is a question that has often been asked since the attention of Bible readers was called to the promises made by the ancient prophets that Israel shall again be gathered and the identity of the nation restored. Lately a New York paper commented favorably on the theory advocated by Lieutenant Totten, Professor Piazza Smyth and others, that the lost tribes are to be found in the Anglo-Saxon race. The paper referred to justly remarks, that it is a subject "replete with international interest and should be accorded a dignified discussion and candid consideration."

History accounts satisfactorily for a large part of the ten tribes, as will appear on consideration of the following facts:

When Israel formed an alliance with Syria against Judah, King Abaz applied to the Assyrian ruler for assistance. He came and made the whole kingdom of Israel tributary and carried away to Media a great number of the two and a half tribes, whose inheritances had been given them east of Jordan. Ten years later Israel revolted from Assyria, relying upon Egypt for support. This brought down upon the kingdom the Assyrian king, Shalmaneser, with a large host. Samaria, the capital, fell. The country was annexed to Assyria. The rich and influential families were carried away captives and Israel was no more an independent country. This happened about the year 720 B. C.

The country thus almost depopulated was soon settled by immigrants from various parts of the Assyrian empire. These intermarried with the remaining Israelites and adopted much of their habits and customs, and even their religion. This mixed population became known as Samaritans, a few of whom still remain as an organized religious body in the Holy Land, watch-

ing carefully their old traditions and their very ancient version of the Pentateuch. Here then is some of the blood of Israel to be found.

About the time the kingdom of the ten tribes was threatened with destruction, through the policy of apostasy followed by the rulers, many devout Israelites fled to Jerusalem and other cities of Judah. They became citizens of this kingdom and shared its fate. The name of one of these, Lehi, a descendant of the tribe of Manasseh, has been preserved in the Book of Mormon. Shortly before the great national calamity known as the Babylonian captivity occurred, inspired men left Jerusalem. Jeremiah, the Prophet, was one of them, but he was captured and imprisoned, accused of treachery to his own people. Lehi also left Jerusalem, with his family, having received a command to that effect from the Lord. After one of the most wonderful journeys on record, Lehi with his family reached this continent, where they were blessed by the Almighty and multiplied. Their descendants peopled not only this continent but also some of the islands of the Pacific. In the aborigines of these countries, then, we find another part of the ten tribes, chiefly of Ephraim and Manasseh.

The captives were taken to the interior of the Assyrian empire. Hoshea, the king, lived in the capital, Nineveh, and the rest became located mostly in Media. That they mixed with the population freely and partly lost their identity as a separate people was but a natural consequence of their previous neglect of their religion.

Assyria and Babylon were but two great divisions of the same empire, both struggling for the supremacy. Finally the Babylonians and Medes revolted and burned Nineveh and the seat of the vast empire was transferred to Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar, the greatest of the Babylonian kings, carried a large part of Judah into captivity. Israel and Judah, who had separated in their own country, now met as captives in a strange land. But the deliverer came in the person of Cyrus, the Persian conqueror, who attacked Babylon and ended Nebuchadnezzar's empire.

This monarch issued a proclamation addressed to "all the people of God" in his dominions, whether of Israel or Judah, that whosoever felt a desire to go to Jerusalem should do so, and those who remained should assist those who would go with the necessary means for traveling expenses and for the building of the temple. As a result of this proclamation the chiefs of Judah and Benjamin formed companies to go back to Palestine. Among the returning captives were some of the ten tribes, for we read in Ezra that among the first company were over six hundred souls who claimed to belong to Israel, but as they had lost their genealogical records, they were barred from receiving the Priesthood, until a prophet should arise, who through the aid of the Urim and Thummim should confirm their claim to membership among the chosen people. These, and perhaps other Israelites, returned with the Jews to Canaan, and their return and assimilation with their brethren account for another part of the ten tribes.

After the dispersion of the people by the Romans, some still remained in Palestine. They mingled with the Samaritans and others and are certainly still found among the Christianized so-called Arabs, many of whom, if features are any indication of origin, have more of the blood of Israel than of Ishmael in their veins.

So far the fate of parts of the lost tribes is discernible on a clear, historical background. But the most considerable number of those who remained in the strange country is still not accounted for. Indeed, the eastern nations, themselves, are almost lost sight of in history for a long period. The country was overrun and conquered by stronger nations. The cities were ruined and a whole civilization buried in oblivion. Migrations took place under these circumstances, especially northward. And those families who descended from Israel and took part in the migrations scattered the seed of the chosen race abroad. Much of it is found among the Anglo-Saxon and the Teutonic nations. This we know by revelation. For in these latter days the Lord has been pleased to raise up a Prophet, a descendant of Israel, Joseph Smith. He had the Urim and Thummim, and through his seer gift this great truth was discovered. But to point out the events by which these nations became sprinkled by the blood of Israel has not yet been given to any man. Let it, however, be remembered that history knows the names of several great nations, Goths, Vandals, and others, the origin of which remains a mystery. Perhaps in the migrations of these the key is to be found to the scattering of Israel in the north countries.

In the second book of Ezra, an apocryphal book of high antiquity, we are told that a number of the ten tribes in the captivity resolved to emigrate to an uninhabited place in order to serve the Lord. They crossed the Euphrates and journeyed for one year and a half to a region which the author calls Areareth, to dwell there until the latter time. This account, apocryphal though it be, is more than probable. But where this part of Israel now is, is not known with absolute certainty, except that they are in the "north countries." Doc. and Cov. 133: 26. It has not been revealed. Conjectures and hypotheses are numerous, but proofs in support of these are missing.

However, all Israel shall be gathered. This is the promise of the Lord through both ancient and modern prophets. And the work of gathering has commenced, in the formation by the command of the Lord of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The complete restoration is thus described in the Doctrine and Covenants, Sec. 133: 28-33:

And they who are in the north countries shall come in remembrance before the Lord, and their prophets shall hear His voice and shall no longer stay themselves, and they shall smite the rocks, and the ice shall flow down at their presence.

And an highway shall be cast up in the midst of the great deep.

Their enemies shall become a prey unto them,

And in the barren deserts there shall come forth pools of living water; and the