

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

PRACTICAL RELIGION.

One of the Articles of Faith of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints which has a special application to the every day life of members of the Church is couched in the following language:

We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul, "we believe all things, we hope all things," we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report, or praiseworthy, we seek after these things.

In strict conformity to the religious belief expressed in the foregoing, the person who may hold a membership in the Church, but who may not be rigidly honest, is not accepted as in complete fellowship. While among the people generally, their character for honesty in their business dealings is a matter of national repute. There is no community which stands higher in its credit upon this point than do the Mormon people; and it is due to their religious obligations to be honest and true.

In the matter of benevolence, also, the Saints as a body give illustration of their faith in that regard. The care that is given to the poor, the mutual assistance they render to each other, the aid and consolation they seek to extend to all people, and their liberality in giving of means to forward the cause of salvation, combine to make up a work of stupendous proportions, considering the untoward circumstances the Saints have had to experience.

Regarding personal chastity, that is held to the highest esteem among the Saints. Honor and virtue are regarded as more precious than life itself to both male and female. The standard for both sexes is the same—that they should be absolutely virtuous in their conduct. Though life may be lost in defense of honor, yet the law of death comes upon all, and is overcome and recompensed for in the resurrection to life; but virtue lost never can be regained—the abandonment of chastity is the throwing away of a priceless gem which can not be regained. Hence the inestimable value that is placed by the Saints upon the maintenance of virtue.

It is the promulgation of such principles that the Mormon people are seeking, that they have sought through all their career, and which, as a people they have maintained. They seek to bring others to the same standard, that those others may realize the good that results therefrom. Such a work requires energy and intelligent toil and sacrifice; it requires patient, firm endurance, which endurance is not submission to but persistent resistance of evil till the latter is overcome; it requires a sublime faith in the guiding and overruling power of the Almighty. And such energy, effort, sacrifice, endurance, and faith come to mankind only through the principles of a religion so intensely

practical in its character and so comprehensive and omniscient in its nature as that commonly known as Mormonism, which is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE TURKO-GREEK WAR.

The Turks do not seem to be having as easy a time of it in invading Greece as they thought they would have, the opposition to them being brave and determined. Yet along the eastern route, by way of Larissa, the Greeks are being steadily though slowly driven back. At the same time the western army of Greeks is making a steady and more rapid advance in Turkey, towards the latter's stronghold at Janina, and fighting honors are not all on the side of the Turk, even excluding the exploits of the Greek fleet. If Prince Constantine can work out his present plan, as he seems to be doing with success, of engaging the main Turkish forces by slowly retiring before them, fighting all the way, and of getting his western army in the Turkish rear, the sultan's 40,000 men will be in a bad box with 35,000 Greeks in front and 25,000 behind, and closing in upon them. The Turkish commander, Edham Pasha, evidently has discovered the Greek strategy, for he calls urgently for 40,000 more men—a procedure that offers a picture of strong contrast to the glowing accounts of victories that come from the Turkish files. If the Greeks can hold out but a few weeks, and gain one important victory, the sympathy for the Hellenic defense of Christians will be likely to bring much practical aid to the Greek cause. Already the flocking in of Italian volunteers and the protection given to Greeks in Turkish provinces by France and Great Britain are straws showing the direction of the breeze in case of the prolongation of the war.

BELIEVED IN IMMORTALITY.

A friend calls our attention to an incident related by Governor Charles Robinson, the first governor of Kansas, which is taken from an account of the life of the narrator, published in the Kansas City World of January 31st. It adds to the long list of evidences in favor of immortality and of consciousness of the spirit when separated from the body.

Governor Robinson was a firm believer in the immortality of the soul and one evening a short time before his death he related to General Sears the following remarkable incident which confirmed him in his belief. While he was in California a serious conflict arose between the settlers and the local authorities of Sacramento. A pitched battle ensued on the streets one day, in which Governor Robinson was shot through the breast, near the heart. He was left for dead by his friends, but later some people living near by, discovering him to be alive,

carried him into the house. He lay there several days lingering between life and death, but at all times in the full possession of his senses. About the fourth day he began sinking and he experienced all the sensations of death. At last he felt that he was leaving his own body and finally appeared to be completely separated from it. He expressed to General Sears the sensations he experienced as follows:

I stood beside my dead body and looked down upon it as it lay there cold and stiff and white. I remember everything as vividly as if I had been looking down upon the dead body of some other person. Suddenly the thought came to me that this was death and I realized that I must get back instantly or it would be too late. By a supreme effort I rushed back into the body and the two identities immediately became one person and I revived. From that moment my recovery was rapid. The experience left a vivid impression upon my memory and convinced me beyond all doubt of the immortality of the soul.

TAKEN AT HIS WORD.

In Thursday evening's News was an account of the murder of a Mexican, Bernardino Asseuro, near Hollister, Cal. After the murder, the cabin in which the victim had lived was burned, and his body was charred, yet not sufficiently to remove conclusive evidence of murder. The sheriff began an investigation that led him to the conclusion that Jose Pincado had perpetrated the crime; in fact the officer says Pincado's guilt was beyond question. The body of Asseuro was not removed on Tuesday, the 20th, the day it was found, and that night the murderer returned to the scene of the crime. Finding that the fire had but half carried out the work of cremating his victim, the murderer proceeded to slash the unburned portions into strips and scattered them about, it is supposed, with the purpose of obliterating the evidences of his crime, which he did not know had been discovered. Up to the time of the sheriff's arrival on the scene, Pincado, who occupied the land with Asseuro, had not been suspected. The sheriff's investigation, however, led to his arrest.

Now comes another dramatic part of the affair. Pincado was taken to the office of Mr. Hudner, the district attorney, the evening after his arrest, and while being pried with questions which he sought to evade by an appeal to the Almighty to witness his innocence, said: "God strike me dead if I am guilty." Like an answer to his appeal, Pincado's frame shook as from a spasm. He clutched the air for a moment, and then sank down at the district attorney's feet, dead. He had been taken at his word, an affection of the heart being the means through which his appeal was answered in such a tragic manner.

A RELIGIOUS WAR.

The contest between the Greeks and Turks is not only one for political supremacy, but it is a struggle between Christianity and Mohammedanism so far as these religious systems are