

we love the Lord God when silently we meditate upon the principles of righteousness and practice them. Malachi, in his last chapter, calls upon the people to remember the instructions that God gave to Moses on Mount Horeb. Have those laws ever been repealed? I think not. Do you not think it would be worth our while to study up these things and see what Malachi meant? to see whether we are living as we should live and whether we are in harmony with the revealed will of God? If we are kind to ourselves, we will do so.

I am interested in my own salvation. I am interested in striving for part in the first resurrection, and to have an invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb. Can I attain to this by following after the fashions and the follies of modern Babylon and putting myself in harmony with their unfortunate condition? I think not, and God forbid that anyone should ever do so that loves the Lord Jesus Christ. I want to bear testimony here that there is no one that loves the Lord Jesus Christ that wants the iniquities of Babylon.

We talk sometimes about the First Presidency and Twelve Apostles. Did it ever occur to us that the Presidency and the Twelve are just as anxious to obtain their salvation as anyone else? Did it ever occur to us that they are as anxious to be in harmony with the revealed will of God as any other men or women in the kingdom of God, or any quorum of the Priesthood? Is it not to be supposed that they are just as much interested to keep themselves clean and unspotted from the blood and sins of this generation, and to manifest the power and love of God in their works by striving to do His will and keep His commandments? It is a cruel thing to stab a man in the dark. I pity anybody that would do it. God help the poor creature who writes something that he is ashamed to put his name to. "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." If we love God, we will not do it. Such inspiration is from beneath. We want the inspiration from above. That is the reason we pray. We can only obtain it through prayer. You have your schools of theology. What can you do with them? All that you can do is to teach your scholars how to obtain the fellowship of the Holy Ghost and the revelations of Almighty God. And how can you obtain that? By being humble and childlike, and forsaking the world and all its abominations, and living a pure life. I do not care whether it is a child or an aged man, we are dependent upon the revelation of Almighty God; and we can only obtain this by line upon line, precept upon precept, grace for grace. So far as we manifest our love for God and the principles of righteousness, so will we grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth.

My testimony is that God lives, that Jesus is the Christ, and that He has raised up in these days the Prophet Joseph Smith; that He has organized His Church upon the earth, and that we have living Apostles and Prophets. Anciently He set in the church, first, Apostles, then Prophets and Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. He has done the same today. The world need not fear us. We are not going to exercise any unrighteous dominion. The inhabitants of this country need not be afraid of us, even if we had political

power. We can afford to be generous; we can afford to honor them in their rights, if they cannot see just as we see. They have certain rights as citizens, and we are bound to recognize them. Even if we were the head and front and had all the power, their rights would have to be respected. I say, therefore, they need not be afraid of us. I do not know much about what you are doing here only from the newspapers, as I live a long way off; but I know this: that the only way for us is to serve God and keep His commandments. Hear it, O Israel! And if you think that your political affairs are more to you than your Priesthood and your Priesthood meetings, I am sorry for you. The Lord knows our hearts. He knows whether I love Him. So far as politics is concerned, if I were here I think I would have sense enough to know how to vote in order that we may have a proper government. All we ask for is for honest men, who will properly represent us, and not plunge us head over heels into debt like we are today. Whenever a man is in debt he is in bondage. We are commanded in the Scriptures to owe no man anything, and if a man has the Spirit of the Lord he will try to keep out of debt. He may be forced into it sometimes, but as a general thing he will try to keep out of debt. My feeling is: Father in heaven, bless all Israel. Bless the men and women that love thee and are striving to keep thy commandments. Bless the men that thou hast placed to be thy representatives over Stakes, over missions, over conferences. May thy power and blessings attend them, and the convincing power of thy Spirit rest upon thy ministering servants, that they may preach thy Gospel in the power and demonstration of thy Spirit and win souls to thee that shall be eternally saved, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Written for this Paper.

JENSON'S TRAVELS.

LETTER NO. V.

VICTORIA, Vancouver Island,
May 21st, 1895.

Monday, May 20th. Instead of sailing today at noon, we remained stationary on the Vancouver harbor, the broken machinery not yet being fully repaired.

Tuesday, May 26th, at 3 o'clock a. m., the good ship *Miowera* left the wharf at Vancouver, and wended her way down the Burrard Inlet, thence through the so-called "Narrows" and across English Bay, and she reached the strait of Georgia about 5 o'clock. A few hours later we found ourselves sailing between the wooded islands of the archipelago which dots the strait of Georgia and Puget sound almost from one end to the other. The numerous channels and straits which separate the different islands are very deep, permitting the *Miowera*, which draws about twenty-two feet of water, to sail within a few hundred feet of the shores in several places. This makes the voyage very interesting. Most of the islands are inhabited, though very sparsely. One of the smaller ones called Darcey is occupied by seven Chinese and one white lepers, who are doomed to absolute solitude during the remainder of their natural lives. A local steamer calls once in three months to bring them provisions; they cultivate a nice little gar-

den, and live throughout quite comfortable.

An enthusiastic traveler who sailed over these waters some time ago, writes: "Puget Sound scenery is the grandest scenery in the world. One has here in combination the sublimity of Switzerland, the picturesqueness of the Rhine, the rugged beauty of Norway, the breezy variety of the thousand islands of the St. Lawrence, or the Hebrides of the North sea, the soft, rich-toned skies of Italy, the pastoral landscape of England, with velvet meadows and magnificent groves, massed with floral bloom, and the blending tints and bold color of the New England Indian summer. The geography and topography of this sheet are alone a wonder and a study. Glance upon the maps. The elements of earth and water seem to have struggled for dominion one over the other. The strait of Juan de Fuca and the strait of Georgia narrow into Admiralty inlet; the inlet penetrates the very heart of the coast country, cutting the land into most grotesque shapes, circling and tossing into a hundred minor inlets, into which flow a hundred rivers, fed in their turn by myriads of smaller creeks and bayous—a veritable net work of lakes, streams, peninsulas and islands, which, with the mountain ranges backing the landscapes on either hand, cannot fail to be picturesque in the extreme."

Puget sound and the strait of Georgia have about eighteen hundred miles of shore line, and all along this long stretch is one vast and almost unbroken forest of enormous trees. The forests, in fact, are so vast that although the thousands of saw mills in the country have been ripping five hundred million feet of lumber out every year for the past ten years, the spaces made by these inroads seem no more than garden patches. An official estimate places the amount of standing timber in the regions of country lying adjacent to Puget sound at 500,000,000,000 feet, or a thousand years' supply, even at the enormous rate the timber is now being felled and sawed.

From 1846 to 1872 the ownership of a large number of the islands in the strait of Georgia were in dispute. By a treaty of 1846 the boundary line between the United States and British America was run westward along the forty-ninth parallel 'to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver Island, thence southerly through the middle of the said channel and of Fuca's strait to the Pacific ocean.' The question subsequently arose: Should the middle referred to be interpreted as passing through the Strait of Rosario on the side next to Washington territory, or through the Canal de Haro, on the Vancouver side of the archipelago? Should those islands be looped into the territory of Uncle Sam, or given to John Bull? This question was finally referred to Emperor William I, of Germany, who on October 21st, 1872, decided in favor of the United States. "The award," said President U. S. Grant at the time, "leaves us for the first time in the history of the United States as a nation without a question of disputed boundary between our territory and the possessions of Great Britain." It was a proud result for President Grant, and is said to have assisted him much in his re-election as President.