

given to establish the Christian faith?

G. M. says:

"The miracles that establish the divine origin of Christ's Church have come down to us well attested."

Is he quite sure of this? The evidence is accepted generally by Christians without question. But how many eye-witnesses were there whose testimony is recorded. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul and Peter have written concerning these events, but some of what they recorded they did not see themselves. They speak of many things on hearsay. The Latter-day Saints have direct evidence of the truth of these statements, but is the mere written evidence so well attested as to amount to demonstration? Ask thousands of skeptics? Nay ask as many thousands of professing Christians, some of them regular ministers of various denominations, and it will be found that doubt is more prevalent than belief on these points. Therefore, on G. M.'s argument these signs should not cease, but be employed more extensively than ever.

But the true reason why they have ceased is because the true faith has been departed from. One of the proofs of the apostasy of the so-called "Christian" churches is, that they teach the people not to seek for these blessings, and declare they are all done away. The early Apostles exhorted the members of the church to "covet earnestly, the best gifts, but rather that they might prophesy." They declared these gifts were placed in the Church, with apostles, prophets, and other inspired teachers, "till we all come in the unity of the faith unto the knowledge of the Son of God." Paul foretold the time when these things should be done away. When was it to be? "When that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." Have "Christians" all come to "the unity of the faith?" Has perfection arrived? Are there no sick to be healed? Is there no need of divine inspiration and divine manifestations to confirm the Church, reveal the will of God, and bring His people into close communion with Him and with each other?

The "Christian" world has gone into the dark concerning these things, and miracles and signs will not open their eyes nor dispel the darkness. Honest desire for the truth and determination to follow wherever it leads, would be far more efficacious in their case than sign-seeking. For God will bear witness by "the spirit of truth" to the souls of the sincere, and faith will come to them "by hearing" the word of God proclaimed by his authorized servants. Then the signs will come to them, after obedience. In answer to G. M.'s question whether the signs in this Church are as well attested as those mentioned in the New Testament, we will venture the assertion, that where the alleged testimony of one dead person can be cited to the latter, the oral testimony of a thousand living witnesses can be produced for the former. But we do not think either their word, nor the sight of the greatest miracle, would create true faith in the heart of the prejudiced opponent of God's latter-day work.

In conclusion, we testify that every gift, blessing, sign and manifestation enjoyed by the primitive Christian Church has been restored to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, not to be performed as wonders to feed the love of the marvellous, not to be consumed on the lusts of men, but for comfort, strength, confirmation, blessing and edification of the "body of Christ." And when challenged by "Christian" infidels to show them a "sign," our answer is, "It is an evil and adulterous generation that seeketh after a sign," and if they will not believe the testimony of the servants of God to-day, corroborated by the sayings of His servant of old, "neither would they believe though one rose from the dead."

Local and Other Matters.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, FEB. 7.

Postponement.—It has been announced that the new play of E. W. Tullidge, Esq., titled "Elizabeth, Queen of England," was to be presented in the Theatre on Tuesday evening. We are

now requested to state that owing to the difficulty experienced in casting the characters suitably, the production, for the time being, has had to be postponed.

Juvenile Instructor.—Number three of the *Instructor* is laid before us, and is filled, as usual with useful reading matter. "Nature's Teachings" (illustrated) is the opening article, and is indeed an interesting one. Besides many other sketches, this number contains "Editorial Thoughts," "The Heron" (illustrated), "History of Joseph Smith," "Scientific Dialogue," written by a well-known professor living in this city, poetry, music, etc. An excellent number of a first-class periodical, which ought to be in every family.

Industry.—A number of baskets were brought to our office, this morning, by Bro. Job Smith, of this city, who invited us to closely examine the work done upon them, after which he told us they were made by three blind boys, whose parents were living in this Territory. They came to Salt Lake City to learn, if possible, some trade, and Bro. Smith kindly took them in about six months ago, and taught them the art of basket making. That they have proved apt pupils, their work plainly shows, one of them we are told being exceedingly expert. To their benefactor and teacher they will always have reason to be grateful, and we hope that those who have to purchase baskets of any kind will insist on having home made ones. Bro. Smith will thus be able to give them steady employment, and his patrons may be sure that they will receive the best quality of baskets in the market.

Sad Bereavement.—The Ogden Junction contains the melancholy information that Bishop F. A. Hammond has met with another bereavement in his family, his son George Albert, 20 years of age, having dropped dead yesterday morning of apoplexy. The young man had been at a party in the evening, and had retired to his room, when, in the act of undressing, he was stricken and fell upon the bed a corpse. His little brother was in the room at one time and screamed for assistance. The frightened father, with other members of the family, rushed to the room only to find the lifeless body of their beloved associate.

Bishop Hammond's afflictions during the last three years have been of the most trying character, with-in that time he having been called upon to mourn the death of his wife and three grown up sons. To our bereaved friend and brother we can only extend the hand of sympathy, and trust that he may receive heavenly consolation from Him who doth all things wisely.

A Cutting Affray.—Last night between 10 and 11 o'clock a cutting scrape occurred in the Walker House billiard room, in which one Bradley received a terrible gash, reaching from his temple along the side of his face to the under part of his chin, the bone being laid bare a considerable part of the distance. The person who did the stabbing is called "Curly" or "Curly Dix," and he was arrested this morning. The examination of the case was fixed for two o'clock to-day, but an officer who went to see Bradley was informed that he was not able to be out, and on this ground Justice Pyper postponed the case until 11 o'clock on Monday, "Curly" giving bonds for his appearance. The cause of the cutting is involved in mystery, and no one has been found who saw the attack. "Curly" walked out of the saloon without any attempt being made to stop him, and it was not till after he had gone that Bradley's bleeding was noticed. The gash, though an ugly one, is not by any means fatal. It was sewed up by Dr. Fowler last evening, six stitches being taken in the side of the man's face.

FROM SATURDAY'S DAILY, FEB. 8.

NOTICE.

The following decision was rendered, and unanimously sustained by the High Council, on Sunday, February 2d, 1879, viz.: "That John E. Forsgren is possessed of a lying spirit, is guilty of unchristian-like conduct, and that he be cut off from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and that this decision be published in the papers."

WM. W. TAYLOR,
Clerk of the High Council.

U. S. Supreme Court.—It is rumored that the United States Supreme Court has adjourned. The telegraphic dispatches from the east are singularly silent upon the subject, but we are informed by a legal gentleman of this city that he received word from Washington that an adjournment was contemplated, until the first Monday in March. Though he has received no definite word that the court has taken this recess, he considers it quite likely that such a step has been taken and the rumor, therefore, is probably correct.

Brighton.—We learn from Bishop Shoenfeld, one of the directors of the Brighton irrigation district, that a meeting will soon be called of all those interested in the Brighton canal. It is intended to put a dam in the Jordan River to secure a permanent water supply and to finally convert the sagebrush and greasewood plains into fruitful fields. A new meeting house has been lately erected in Brighton, and now the bishop is determined, with the help of the people, to obtain the necessary amount of water to make farming successful and profitable.

Deseret National Bank.—The advertisement of the above named bank, which appears in another column, announces that it has been appointed a United States Depository. This will considerably increase the large business already done by the institution, which is considered one of the soundest financial houses in the country. Its paid up capital amounts to \$200,000 with a surplus of \$50,000. It receives deposits, payable on demand, receives subscriptions to the 4 percent loan, and deals extensively in exchange with all the leading cities of this country and Europe. Its officers are all well known to the people of this Territory, and are gentlemen in whom the public have implicit confidence.

Third District Court.—Proceedings in the Third District Court yesterday, M. Schaeffer, Chief Justice presiding:

In the matter of the estate of D. Berassa, deceased, Albert Vebert vs. Salvador Maltese; remittitur to Probate Court to enforce the judgment heretofore rendered herein. Court adjourned till this morning at 10 o'clock.

Proceedings to-day:

E. Holman vs. Scott and Anderson. Motion by plaintiff to recall execution having been heretofore argued and submitted, was this day overruled by the Court.

Thomas Pitt and Charles H. Stevens were admitted to citizenship.

James Crane et al. vs. William E. Winsor et al. Motion for defendants for leave to amend answer allowed. Motion by plaintiffs to strike out part of defendant's answer was argued by Zera Snow for plaintiffs, and S. P. Longstreet, for defendants, and was submitted and taken under advisement.

FROM MONDAY'S DAILY, FEB. 9.

Decided.—The case of C. R. Savage vs. Anthony, on appeal to the Supreme Court of the Territory, was decided, to-day, in favor of appellant. Charles, we congratulate you.

Y. M. M. I. A.—A meeting of the officers and members of the Y. M. I. Associations of the Stake will be held in the Council House next Thursday evening, the 13th inst., commencing at 7 o'clock. A full attendance is requested of all those interested.

Postmasters Appointed.—A telegraphic dispatch from Washington states that J. Stickley has been appointed Postmaster at Alta, Salt Lake County, and that Hans Thernesson, has been appointed Postmaster at Gunnison, Sanpete County.

Manufacturing Association.—A letter from John Ashworth, superintendent of the Beaver Co-operative Wool Manufacturing Association, appears in the *Beaver Chronicle* of the 6th inst. From the full report of the doings of the company for the fiscal year ending Jan. 31, 1879, we select the following abridged statement:

Our stock amounts to about \$30,000. Our productions were about as follows: Doeskins made 4,350 yards; kerseys, 2,950 yards; flannels and shirtings, 16,625 yards; stocking yarn, about 2,000 pounds.

Third District Court.—Proceedings of the Third District Court, this morning, M. Schaeffer, Chief Justice, on the bench.

Stephen Garrett vs. Arie Pinede. Demurrer to amend complaint argued by J. C. Royle for defendant and Frank Hoffman for plaintiff, and submitted to the court.

Last Chance S. M. Co. vs. Flagstaff S. M. Co. Demurrer to complaint argued by J. R. McBride for defendant and R. Harkness for plaintiff, and submitted. Demurrer overruled.

C. H. Livingstone vs. John Longmaid et al. Order approving sale made by Special Master under decree herein.

Court adjourned.

Norman Horses.—Col. Thomas Logan has arrived in this city with a band of imported horses, which are now on exhibition at the Dexter Stables. We called there this morning and had the privilege of seeing the animals, among which are some of the finest horses of the Norman breed ever brought to this country. A heavy chestnut stallion, three years old; his sire of Norman descent, his dam a descendant of the famous Lexington, attracts the attention of the visitors at the stables, and hearty admiration is expressed at his splendid appearance. The horses are all in good condition, though slightly disfigured from their confinement on the ears. It is well worth the time of any admirer of fine horses to call at the stables, and to those who are anxious to secure good animals a rare opportunity is now offered.

Mail Irregularities.—A correspondent in Richfield, Sevier County, writes, that for some reason no issues of the *DESERET NEWS* have been received since the 24th ult., and that a few weeks ago eight sacks of mail matter were received at one time. Such a manner of carrying on the postal service is disgraceful, and we cannot wonder that the inhabitants of the neglected towns are indignant.

Concerning the non-arrival of the *News*, we can say that the mail taken from this establishment goes regularly and promptly to the post office, and we cannot think that any cause for complaint exists between this city and the terminus. Of course, we cannot state exactly where the difficulty is, but if there is any officer of the postoffice department whose business it is to attend to such matters, we respectfully urge upon him the necessity of a thorough examination and rectification of the evil.

From Nephi.—"H. H.," a Nephi correspondent, writes to us the particulars of a joint meeting of the Y. M. and Y. L. M. I. Associations held in that city on the 7th inst. Reports from the different associations were read, which showed an attendance of about 300 members, among whom was a good spirit and an earnest desire to do their duty. After music by the brass band, the following was the programme of exercises: Reading of the different newspapers of the associations. Lectures on the Bible and doctrines of our Church. Prose readings, poetry and songs, together with a great variety of questions prepared for the occasion. There was a splendid attendance, quite a number of the local authorities of the church being present. A marked improvement was noticed in all those participating in the various exercises. In the evening a grand ball was given for the members, and our correspondent writes that much good feeling and encouragement in well-doing is sure to be the result.

Mail Robbery.—Some time during the month of November last a mail sack was stolen from the stage between Helena, Montana, and the terminus of the U. N. R. R. Not long afterwards another sack was stolen, and, though a sharp watch was maintained, no clue to the robber was discovered. Finally Col. J. B. Furay, special agent of the Postoffice department, took the case in hand and speedily secured the guilty parties. He discovered that the first sack had gone no further than Sand Hole, Idaho, and after considerable inquiry he was led to suspect Wm. Downing (or Dewing) as being the thief. He followed Downing, who had gone to the mountains on a hunting expedition, and secured him, immediately after which Downing confessed his guilt and told where the mail sacks could be found, also naming his accomplice, J. G. Vandervert. Col. Furay came to Salt Lake City to Vandervert, and heard that he was

working in Bingham under the name of Vanderbilt. He was taken into custody on Friday, and was, on Saturday, removed to Malad, where both the robbers are now awaiting trial.

The rifled mail bags were found buried in the rear of a stable in Sand Hole, with most of the letters and a number of registered packages missing.

THE NEW PENSION ACT.

[PUBLIC—No. 14.]

An Act to provide that all pensions on account of death, or wounds received, or disease contracted in the service of the United States during the late war of the rebellion, which have been granted, or which shall hereafter be granted, shall commence from the death or discharge from the service of the United States; for payment of arrears of pensions, and other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: That all pensions which have been granted under the general laws regulating pensions, or may hereafter be granted, in consequence of death from a cause which originated in the United States service during the continuance of the late war of the rebellion, or in consequence of wounds, injuries or disease received or contracted in said service during said war of the rebellion, shall commence from the date of the death or discharge from said service of the person on whose account the claim has been or shall hereafter be granted, or from the termination of the right of the party having prior title to such pension: *Provided*, The rate of pension for the intervening time for which arrears of pension are hereby granted shall be the same per month for which the pension was originally granted.

SEC. 2. That the Commissioner of Pensions is hereby authorized and directed to adopt such rules and regulations for the payment of the arrears of pensions hereby granted as will be necessary to cause to be paid to such pensioners, or, if the pensioners shall have died, to the person or persons entitled to the same, all such arrears of pension as the pensioner may be, or would have been, entitled to under this act.

SEC. 3. That section forty-seven hundred and seventeen of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which provides that "no claim for pension not prosecuted to a successful issue within five years from the date of filing the same shall be admitted without record evidence from the War or Navy Department of the injury or the disease which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made: *Provided*, That in any case in which the limitation prescribed by this section bars the further prosecution of the claim, the claimant may present, through the Pension Office, to the Adjutant-General of the Army or the Surgeon-General of the Navy, evidence that the disease or injury which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made originated in the service and in the line of duty; and if such evidence is deemed satisfactory by the officer to whom it may be submitted, he shall cause a record of the fact so proved to be made, and a copy of the same to be transmitted to the Commissioner of Pensions, and the bar to the prosecution of the claim shall thereby be removed," be, and the same is hereby repealed.

SEC. 4. No claim agent or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services in making application for arrears of pension.

SEC. 5. That all acts or parts of acts so far as they may conflict with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved, January 25, 1879.

VALENTINES AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL AT DWYER'S.

THE *Millennial Star* will be mailed to any address, on receipt, by the publishers, of \$2.10. Three copies will be forwarded for \$4.20, the reduction being on account of the difference in postage. Address William Budge, 42 Islington, Liverpool, England. dswtf