

By what authority were they given to you? Where did you get anything?

If you do not take the course you have been told to take, and as I am trying to tell you, viz: to render all you have on this earth, every man in this church and kingdom will be as bare when he leaves this earth as he will find himself when he gets out of it, for he cannot even take his shroud with him, nor a pair of stockings. I do not care if he has forty wives and a thousand children, every soul of them will be taken from him. Your wives are given to you as a stewardship to improve upon in building up and establishing the kingdom of God, and your children are given to you as a stewardship. Where did their spirits come from? Did they come from you? No; they came from God. Who is the Father of those spirits? God, and he will require them of you, and those spirits have also got to give an account to their Father from whom they came; they have got to render up an account. Thus you see that you have to render an account of your wives and children, of your substance and everything that pertains to this earth, and you cannot avoid it, without suffering a loss.

I want to get you to live your religion, and worship our God. I am not troubled about our not prospering; I trouble myself about living my religion and being faithful to the things of God, and that leads me to confidence, if not in myself, in my leader. It is not so much matter about my trying to obtain confidence in myself, or in you. We are to be connected like a vine, and then when we receive any good thing we will become impregnated with God, with Jesus Christ, with the Holy Ghost and with angels, and it is the only way in which we can become one.

I feel as br. Joseph Young feels. God bless him, and may he live a hundred years, if he wants to. I pray that God may renew him in body and blood, and bless him with every good thing that he desires; also br. Brigham, and br. Daniel, and br. Heber, and every other good man. That is my prayer and my feeling. And may the Lord bless every good woman with the same blessings.

Brethren, tumble in your interest into this great reservoir, and we will drink up the earth. And if you do not do it, as the Lord lives, the First Presidency of this church and the Twelve will drink you up. If you trifle with me, when I tell you the truth, you will trifle with br. Brigham; and if you trifle with him, you will also trifle with angels and with God, and thus you will trifle yourselves down to hell. You cannot with impunity trifle with God, for the day is too far advanced for that. Do not trouble yourselves about your sins, if you have repented of them; and if you have not, it is time you did.

I will say to the Bishops in general, take those who are humble, those who have repented and made restitution, and baptize them for the remission of their sins, and then lay hands upon them that they may receive the Holy Ghost; and they will receive it, if you take counsel and do right. And you will feel as you never felt before since you were born, and the works of God will continue, if you will do right, for the time has come.

God bless you, peace be with you for ever. Amen.

REMARKS

By President Daniel H. Wells, Tabernacle, March 1, 1857.

REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.

About the Devil's Gate, and the property left there last season. We expect to start back some teams, according to the notice which was read this morning, as soon as the season will permit us to carry feed for the different stations on the route. Those who have goods left at the Devil's Gate, by making proper arrangements, can have them brought in; and if any persons prefer going for their own goods, of course they have the privilege.

I have been highly interested and entertained this day by the instructions and exhortations we have received; they are calculated to inspire confidence and love towards our Father and our God.

Br. Heber and br. Lorenzo Snow have spoken upon the unity of our feelings and the identifying of our interests; and it is frequently urged upon this people to identify their interests, that we may have no undivided interests—no half heartedness. To be powerful we must be united, and to be united we must have our interests identified. How can we have them better identified than in that we have set our hands to do—than in consecrating all our property to the Lord? We have started out in a good cause; let us not look back, but let us urge forward in the things of God and work together for each other's benefit, for in this we shall not sacrifice anything.

We talk a great deal about sacrifices, when strictly there is no such thing; it is a misnomer—it is a wrong view of the subject, for what we do in the kingdom of God is the best investment we can possibly make. It pays the best, which ever way we may look at it, it is the principle of all others to be coveted—to be appreciated—and is the best investment we can make of all that pertains to us in this life. It is an inestimable privilege, and should be so esteemed by the community. We cannot fully fathom it, we cannot as yet altogether understand it, for ear hath not heard nor eyes seen the benefit that will accrue to the individual that will be faithful unto the end in this church and kingdom, and receive the exaltation to which he is looking forward. There is virtually no sacrifice about it. It is like sacrificing the things of time in time to gain eternal riches, and such a sacrifice sinks into insignificance in a moment. All the sacrifice we could make, even of life itself, in this world is nothing to those who are faithful. Let us not be half hearted, but let us go into this matter whole souled and cleave unto God and his servants, and identify our interests in his kingdom.

As to the devil, what have we to do with him? It is true, what we heard this forenoon while br.

Joseph Young was talking. If we could breathe twice where we now do once, the Holy Ghost is ready every moment to administer to our salvation, and the evil spirit is also ready to lead us into temptation. That is true, but look at the word the Lord gave us through our first parents, when he planted us on this earth. He said to the serpent, "because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life; and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel." We have that advantage over the devil; we can, if we have a mind to, resist him and he will flee from us. He can be cast out, and he is subject to us. We have the length and breadth of ourselves clear from being contaminated with him. I will say that, without fearing successful contradiction.—If he overcomes us we first let down the bars and invite him to enter; or he would not come further than our heels.

The Lord gave us our agency to do as we please, and it is for us to say whether we will be for God or the devil. We may make ourselves angels to the devil, or Saints of the Most High. We may have the blessings of the Almighty assisting us, or reject them and go to the devil; it is optional with ourselves. I will admit that we have been corrupted in our generations for thousands of years, and that the devil has power over us through this cause in a measure that he otherwise would not have; and were it not for the multiplicity of the blessings of the Almighty that gives us power and strength, we would most likely be overcome of the devil. We have become small in stature and short in years,—weak in body and mind—compared with our forefathers in the primitive ages of the world. We know they attained to a great age and large in stature, and had great power with God. We know there has been a falling away, and we have come down through the loins of progenitors who have corrupted their ways, changed the ordinances, and but little of the blood of Abraham may be flowing in our veins.

God has looked at the generations of men and has brought spirits into the world, and they have come through this long line of corrupted generation. What has he made known unto us? He has developed little by little the ways of the Lord, if we will pursue the course his servants have laid out through the channels of the holy and eternal priesthood. He has again opened to the children of men the channels of life, and we may bring ourselves back again to the might and power, life and immortality spoken of this morning. The Lord will cut his work short in righteousness, and will permit us, if we are faithful, to progress so fast that we may make up in a few years what we have lost in a thousand. We may gain, in a few generations of righteousness, what twenty of unrighteousness have robbed us of. It is a work of righteousness which the Lord will bless and prosper.

The principles of plurality have been established, in order to raise up a righteous seed unto God. The way has been pointed out, and it is a blessing that has been restored to this generation. It is a turning back to the holy principles of ancient days, even to that purity that was known in primitive ages. In this way only may we rise from corruption, through the Holy Priesthood of our God. We do not handle these things with proper sacredness, perhaps. It is a principle that is calculated to produce health, strength and happiness here as well as salvation hereafter. It is so esteemed by many, and when you see the principle as it really is, you will say that it is as I tell you.

I know our forefathers have changed the ordinance and corrupted their ways in their generations, and it has brought misery and degradation on the human family. And now, if we can turn round and reform in this, ourselves—our posterity—will be better prepared to reform themselves and become mighty before God. They will be better capable of receiving those principles which have been made known to us; they can lay hold with greater power and faith on the blessings of the Priesthood, and can obtain with greater power than we now can, because they will not have the traditions around them that we have. They will be measurably free from the corruptions which have been entailed on us.

I do not wish to take up much time, but I wish to impress these facts upon the people. I wish to have my sisters feel that this order is the order of God, and that in it they will find happiness and exaltation; in it they will find every principle that is calculated to lead them to glory and favor with God and exaltation into his presence; and by it they are redeeming themselves and their posterity from the corruptions of man, that have been in existence for many generations before us, and from which they have been brought out by the sound and proclamation of the gospel. I believe they do feel to appreciate and understand this; and I wish to exhort the brethren also, that they adhere to these holy principles and try to see and understand them as they exist, and act according to the principles of life and salvation, and not according to those of death and destruction; that they make allowance for thousands of things they may have around them in their families.

There are many men who think they have an understanding of these things, and make no allowance for the traditions that hang around the women. Do you realize that they have been brought up in their gentle notions, as well as yourselves? A man may have, perhaps, three or four wives, and not make such allowance for them as they do for him, and find fault and be very exacting in requiring of them the most perfect obedience to every whim and notion. By taking such a course he is liable to lose the Holy Ghost, and if he does he will lose his women. It is upon the principle that you are a man of God—that you have the Holy Ghost and desire to raise up a holy seed to the name of the Most High—that your

wives have been sealed to you; they would not upon any other principle have come to you. Now if your wives discover that you lack in any virtues pertaining to the Holy Priesthood, and if you take a course that is not calculated to exalt them, do you not see that you lose their confidence? You will lose them also.

[Concluded on Page 8.]

THE DESERET NEWS.

PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY



ALBERT CARRINGTON, EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11.

THE CALIFORNIA MAIL arrived on the 4th inst., but brought only Dec. 13 & 20 of The Mormon, Jan. 10 & 17 of The Western Standard, Dec. 20 of the N. Y. Herald, the January Harper and a few other scattering papers. This was owing to the mail matter by the last steamer, which generally comprises the main bulk of letters, packages and papers, not arriving until the day the mail started, and the carrier would not wait.

HON. J. M. BERNHISEL.—By letter to Gov. Young, written at Washington, D. C., Dec. 17, we learn that our esteemed delegate, the Hon. J. M. Bernhisel, is at the post of duty and actively zealous, as heretofore, in his efforts in behalf of the just rights of Utah, though it appears to be an up-hill business amid so much groundless prejudice as exists against the 'Mormons.'

SAN BERNARDINO.—Pres. A. Lyman and C. C. Rich write, Feb. 7, that they and the people in their locality were generally in the enjoyment of health. Nearly five hundred persons had renewed their covenants.

The mills were again running, much rain having fallen, and the prospects were good for abundant crops.

AUSTRALIA WHEAT.—Mrs. S. D. Rich, wife of Prest. Charles C. Rich, has very courteously furnished us a liberal package of Australia wheat which, when sown thin, bears forty heads to each kernel sowed. This wheat has a long, good sized berry, is very solid and heavy, and has the appearance of being very hardy. We are not acquainted with its productiveness, any further than may be informed from the number of heads said to grow from one kernel, nor with the character of the flour which it will produce, not having seen it growing, nor heard of any flour's being as yet made from it. But it is in a fair way for soon having its merits tested, for we have taken the liberty of distributing the portion given to us by sister Rich, to Gov. Young and others who will carefully cultivate it and note its peculiarities.

PREST. KIMBALL'S MILL.—In company with Elder Wm. H. Kimball we indulged in a trip into Davis county, on the 4th instant, and visited Prest. Kimball's splendid flouring mill erected near City Bountiful. This mill is two stories high besides the attic story and an observatory, has two run of stones, a smut machine, elevators, a beautifully finished bolting chest and numerous bins for storing grain, all admirably arranged and finished. The machinery works to a charm, and is driven by a large overshot wheel requiring but little water. The building and its appurtenances internal and external are highly creditable to the taste and judgment of Prest. Kimball, to the skill of Bishop F. Kesler the millright, and to the faithfulness of the different mechanics engaged upon the work. It is also the most striking feature in the improvements in Davis county, aside from its great utility to the people in that section. And judging from the great care and attention on the part of the miller br. Martin Wood, and from the superior flour he produced from some samples of rather indifferent wheat, we could not discern wherein there was much, if any, room for material improvement.

FORTS BRIDGER AND SUPPLY.—Br. Lewis Robison writes, Feb. 21, that but little snow had fallen in that region during the past winter, though the weather had been rather cool at times. But few animals had died, except on Green River, notwithstanding the poor condition in which many arrived last fall. Br. Robison and party had a laborious trip from Weber Canyon to Bridger, having been compelled to leave their horses in charge of Mr. Simons near the mouth of East Canyon Creek, and prosecute their journey on snowshoes.

No word had reached the Forts concerning

br. Heywood and the October and November mails from Independence, further than that brought a long time ago by Mr. Gerrish.

Indians very peaceful and friendly, and the settlers all well.

ELDERS' MOVEMENTS.—We learn from The Mormon of Dec. 20, that Elders Thomas Bullock, James G. Browning, William Brown, John H. Tippetts, Thomas Pierce, Daniel Page, jr., and Henry Harris sailed from New York for Liverpool, in the packet-ship Guy Mannering, on the 18th of December. They were in good spirits, and had been kindly treated by the Saints in New York.

Elder W. I. Appleby was in Philadelphia, Dec. 15, and we regret to add that his health was poor, though improving.

Elders George A. Smith and Erastus Snow were in New York City, at latest dates.

CARSON VALLEY.—Elder Wm. Nixon writes to the 'Standard,' under date Jan. 2, very favorably concerning the people and their prospects in that section of Utah.

On the 29th of Dec. a portion of the Valley was visited by a hurricane; it did but little damage.

PEACH TREES.—Prest. H. C. Kimball has 5000 peach trees which he will dispose of at rates one half less than he paid two or three years ago.

CARROT SEED wanted; please deliver it at the Post Office in this city.

OPERATIONS ON GREAT SALT LAKE.—Capt. Dan Jones informs us that he has commenced sailing our lake in the 'Timely Gal,' built and owned by Gov. Young, and that he anchored in Black Rock harbor, on the 13th ult., with a 'general cargo' mainly composed of cedar wood, fine salt, and flagging for side walks, yards and cellar floors, which articles he offers for sale at Black Rock, also at his residence in the 14th Ward, at reasonable rates.

Capt. Jones also informs us that he has made arrangements for quarrying large quantities of roofing slate, which he expects to soon have on sale at the above named places, and at prices which he thinks will successfully compete with the present price of shingles.

Summary.

Kansas is reported to be in a quiet condition. —Congress had done but little, up to December 21, the always beginning, never ending and toothsome subject of slavery and its collaterals occupying the most of the time and efforts of the reputed wise men in the capitol of our nation. —Snow fell during the past winter to an unusual depth in Upper California.

—Rumors of a threatened rising among the blacks in several of the Southern States, to have come off on last Christmas day, had occasioned considerable alarm. Many slaves were imprisoned to await examination; stringent vigilant measures were being adopted; and 19 slaves were hung in Tennessee, under the accusation of having been concerned in the contemplated insurrection.

—In California, D. C. Broderick has been elected for the long and W. M. Gwin for the short term in the Senate of the United States.

—Slight shocks of an earthquake trembled San Francisco on the 8th and 9th and Sacramento on the 16th of Jan.

—Some of the Southern States are endeavoring to establish a commercial non-intercourse with the Free States, and to open a direct trade between themselves and England and France.

—The Dean Richmond, a schooner 145 feet long, 12 feet deep, and drawing 9½ feet, arrived in September at the Liverpool docks direct from Chicago, Illinois, with 400 tons of grain. The schooner made the trip in 62 days, including 12 days accidental detention in the river St. Lawrence. The 'European Times' expresses itself highly delighted with the success of this experiment, the prosecution of which promises mutual trade advantages to England and the rich grain growing region which finds market in Chicago.

—The Territory of Minnesota has applied for admission into the Union as a State.

—In January, and near the San Joaquin Ranch Mountains, Cal., a sheriff named Barton and three of his company were killed by highway robbers. The people of Los Angeles and the neighboring settlements had arranged vigilance organizations, arrested some 40 persons, and hung 4, as we learn from the Los Angeles Star of Jan. 31, kindly furnished by br. Joseph Cain.

—Dr. E. K. Kane, the Arctic Explorer, has left England for the West Indies, with the view of improving his health, which is said to be very precarious.