

find principles which are in direct contrast to what is generally taught. The teachings of Christ are often looked upon as not adapted to this life or to our present condition, but pertaining to a future life. It is not practicable, people think, to carry them out as He taught them. This is as remarkable as the truth which Brother Carlisle dwelt upon. It shows that we cannot judge of divine things unless we be instructed by God. It seems as if God's ways were not to be comprehended by man in his fallen condition. The Spirit of God is required to raise man up to a higher level.

We testify, as the servants of the Lord, that God has revealed His gospel again in its primitive purity. Yet, how far are we from coming up to the standard the Lord has placed before us. How difficult, it seems in many respects to carry out the teachings the Lord has given us. We may have repented of many of our sins and been baptized for remission of them and been confirmed as members of the Church of Christ. These ordinances we may have complied with, but there are others which require our obedience, and we should carry out all that He has revealed to us from time to time. He who hears the words of Christ and obeys them is likened unto a man who built his house on the rock. It stands when the floods come. But he who only hears without obeying is like a man who builds on sand. His house falls when it should stand the test. Not he who says, "Lord, Lord;" not he who has only profession, but he who practically carries out what the Lord says will be able to abide the day of the Lord. Many will come on that day and say that they have performed miracles and prophesied in the name of the Lord, but He will answer them that He knows them not.

There are many difficulties in our way as human beings with regard to the carrying out of the commandments of the Lord. Therefore we have been gathered together here in order that we might escape from the evils that are so popular in the world. It should be our constant endeavor to free ourselves from them. We have to be a different people from the world, in order to illustrate the principles of the Gospel which God has taught us. We should be as different from the world as the light is from darkness. And the young should particularly understand this. There is too much of a tendency to drift away from the word of God. The Bible is not read as much as it might be. The Book of Mormon is not read enough. The Doctrine and Covenants is not studied as it should be. Instead, novels are read. Works of fiction and papers with all manner of trash are found upon the centre tables of those who profess to be Latter-day Saints, and many wrong ideas are derived from such works. It can be stated, however, that no true Latter-day Saint substitutes such reading for the word of God. The mind becomes darkened by it, and it is no wonder that we hear of wrong-doings as a consequence.

How many times, in our families, are the Book of Mormon and the Bible read? Or are they not rather found dust-covered upon the shelves? Have we got beyond these? There are many truths in those records, of which we

have not yet begun to have a conception. If we read and study diligently, we shall perceive them. We should seek for the Spirit of truth that we may understand and be able to carry them out.

By our fruits we shall be judged on the day of our Lord—not by our professions, but by what we have done. If we are not able to do everything today, we should not be discouraged, but strive to carry it out tomorrow, and thus seek to become more and more like the Lord whom we hope to meet and sit down with at the marriage supper of the Lamb. This ought to be the hope of all of us.

The choir and congregation sang:

The Spirit of God like a fire is burning;
The latter-day glory begins to come forth.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder A. M. Musser.

PROGRESS ALONG THE SEVIER.

Twenty-one years ago the present month the writer traveled from Kanab, Kane county, to Salt Lake City, and in the first two hundred miles of the distance passed over the rim of the Great Basin down the Sevier valley as far as Gunnison, Sanpete county. In that entire space of country were found but a few hamlets at Marysvale, Piute county, inhabited by miners, and a few log cabins at Glenwood. The old forts at Panguitch, Circleville and Monroe, we found in the condition of solitude just as the people left them when driven out by the Indians years before, and as the Indians have a superstition against visiting deserted homes, everything was apparently undisturbed. Old family cradles, flour boxes, tables and other household furniture, too bulky to move in the excitement of leaving for places of safety were scattered about.

Today all is changed. One continuous line of settlements have grown up and hundreds of miles of irrigating canals and ditches have been constructed. The whole area between the settlements is dotted over with prosperous and happy homes, surrounded by smiling fields of grain and lucern. The sharp inclusive click of the mower and reaper, and the labor-saving harvester, are busy at work from early morn to dewy eve. The granaries are full to overflowing, and the hearts of the people are glowing with gratitude to the bounteous Giver of all good.

The contrast was so great that the writer could not pass it by without comment, and still the work of reclamation goes on. New ditches are being surveyed and constructed, and every available spot of ground is being taken up clear to the summit of the great divide. Homes are being built, lands fenced and crops raised, where a few years ago it was thought impossible. Dry farming is also being largely adopted on and near the summit and hundreds of bushels of grain are now raised without water.

In Kane county, with the exception of the Kanab valley, the crops both of grain and fruits are very abundant and prolific. The people of Kanab are still working at their dam, and water is now over forty feet above the level of the creek, running through a rock spill two

hundred feet long and over twenty feet wide. It is blasted out of the solid ledge and is within six feet of the level of the ditch. Unless some very heavy flood should strike the work before its completion it bids fair to be an eminent success, and will solve the question of getting out water, in all the box canyons of the southern country. The cost to the people of Kanab in the past six years has been about fifty thousand dollars and will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of ten thousand more before the present work is completed.

J. R.

THE IRRIGATION QUESTION.

W. H. Mills, manager of the land department of the Central Pacific railway, has written to President Simon on the irrigation question as follows:

SAN FRANCISCO, August 26, 1891.

To the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Salt Lake City, Utah:

Dear Sir—It is important to a proper consideration of the subject of irrigation in the region lying west of the Rocky Mountains that some statistical facts relating to the importation of agricultural products be obtained.

The people of the Eastern States are opposed to the development of irrigation on the theory that the fertilization of arid lands will bring a competing producer into the field. It is asserted by the friends of irrigation that the practice increases the demand for eastern products of agriculture.

May I request at your hands information as to where the statistics relating to Utah may be obtained. Is Utah a surplus producer of agricultural products and therefore an exporter, or is it an importer of flour, grain, pork, beef, fruit and other field, orchard and agricultural products? If the facts are at your command, I would be pleased to be furnished with them. If they are not, I should be grateful for the address of some one or some department of territorial government which could furnish this information.

This will be handed to you by my friend Hon. Thomas Marshall.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM H. MILLS.

PRESIDENT SIMON'S REPLY.

Hon. William H. Mills, Land Department, Central Pacific Railway, San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sir—Your favor of the 26th ult., was handed to me by the Hon. Thomas Marshall.

I have read your letter with much care, particularly as it suggests thoughts in a direction in which I did not think it would be necessary to labor. That any one would be selfish enough to aim to counteract the interests of our country is almost incredible, and yet human nature is selfish, and will crop out even in the direction indicated.

The secretary of the committee on statistics is now preparing a pamphlet covering all the questions you propound to me, and as soon as the pamphlet is printed, which will be in perhaps ten days, I shall be pleased to send you one or more copies of the same.

I shall therefore not attempt to answer any of your questions, and will only say yet, that should you find it convenient to attend our convention, you will no doubt be fully repaid for your trouble, as issues will come up which will no doubt prove instructive and beneficial to the interests of our western country.

I am yours, very truly,
FRED SIMON