

be a child of Abraham—to be a child of God. We are to be born of water and of the Spirit. What will the Spirit do for us if we give place to it and allow it to act according to its office in our own bosoms, and oppose it not, doing nothing to grieve it and to paralyze its force and influence upon our systems? Will it not create us anew in Christ Jesus, making our flesh, blood and bones anew, creating the whole creature anew, being born from above and sanctified unto God? It seems so to me. It was said to Jesus, "Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee." But he answered and said unto him who told him, "Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?" And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother and sister and mother." I do not know that I understand the exact meaning of the word sanctification, it is a very commonly used word; what I understand by it is, that the sanctifying influences of the Spirit of God is that influence which purges us from everything that is worldly, selfish and contrary to the mind of God, and the creature who is sanctified can say "our Father who art in heaven" because he is born from above. Now the presumption is, if a child is born to me that that child inherits my spirit—my nature—by virtue of his birth and "being begotten by me;" if we are then begotten of God and born of His Spirit we inherit the qualities of the Deity Himself. Then may we not all become Abraham's? It seems to me that the Almighty can furnish territory enough, room enough, for He is not limited, and this world and all other worlds are subject to Him; He controls, governs and manages them, and they are to provide ample room for the existence and increase of His faithful children.

I do not pretend to understand the secret springs that are subject to the Almighty's touch, but suffice it to say that I know they exist, and that He can touch them aright; and that if we will serve Him and honor Him and keep His commandments, He will touch them every time in our favor. I do not feel that the kingdom of God is going to be overthrown, that the wicked are going to prevail against it. I would have great mercy upon the wicked, so far as they will repent and obey the gospel; but if they will not repent and obey the gospel, if they will love unrighteousness and practice it all the day long, they cannot be acknowledged as the children of God, but will be accounted enemies of the Most High and will be overthrown.

I wish to put the most charitable construction upon the purposes of all men. When the army was sent up to Utah under Johnston, their design was to overthrow the "Mormons" in these valleys, for they considered our religion a dangerous error, though this was not their manifest and avowed reason. They however, did us no harm, and that great army, the flower of the United States, was broken to pieces and scattered hither and thither. They exhibited to all men and to the heavens their purpose, but God saved His people. What did they get for their reward? Look at the fields of Virginia and Tennessee. Look on the battle-fields in the South that have been drenched with blood; the nation has been clothed with mourning, sorrow and wretchedness, and this is their reward for seeking to fight against God and to overthrow His kingdom. Do they look at it so? They do not. And they will spurn this testimony as they would the testimony that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, was armed with the Spirit of God and carried life and death on his tongue. The nation has had a bloody war and a sore time of suffering, and many a heart will ache and be filled with sorrow after this day; it will take a long time to heal up the deadly wound it has inflicted upon the nation, a long time to cure up the sore, and while it is being cured up in one place, I have thought there is danger of it breaking out in another place. The whole organization of the nation has been infected with a disease that seems to be incurable perhaps it may be cured, but I cannot say how this may be. Is the trouble ended? I do not apprehend that it is, they may cry peace and safety, but I do not think there is a good foundation for it. If they will provoke further calamities, after the severe reproof that has been given, further calamities will come upon them.

It is perfectly right to look at things as they really are; here is perhaps a million of men to be disbanded, that have been accustomed to live not by agricultural and mechanical pursuits, but they have been accustomed for the last few

years, to live by destroying the fruits of the ground, and the productions of mechanical labor, by destroying men women and children, and laying towns and cities in flames, and they have had joy in the work of their hands. When this multitude of men are turned loose, are they going to adopt their former course of industry? Some may, but I fear the majority of them will not; the great mass of them have learned to do otherwise, and they are like so many fire-brands scattered over the land.

When I was young I used to read about a day that should burn as an oven, and all the proud and they that do wickedly shall be as stubble. I then had an idea that a sheet of fire should come down from heaven and burn up the ungodly, that the sun would be darkened and the moon turned to blood and the stars fall from heaven. I look at things in another point of light now; I now consider that the elements, the agents of destruction, are right here to accomplish that work, and the revelations of God will be fulfilled; for God has put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and they shall make the whole of all the earth desolate and naked and shall eat her flesh and burn her with fire. That great day of burning is beginning we have had a few drops before the shower; it will wax worse and worse, and men will continue to deceive and be deceived until the earth shall be burned up. The word of the Lord is, "Come out from her my people that ye be not partakers of her sins and receive not of her plagues."

In conclusion, let me say that I know this is the work of God, I know it to be the truth of heaven, I know that Joseph is a Prophet of the Most High God, and I know that he gave the mind and will of Heaven to the world in the days of his mortal life. I know that President Brigham Young is the man now chosen of God to guide the destinies of this people, and I say, May the Lord bless him and those that are connected with him, and those that listen to his counsel; and may the blessing of God be upon all Israel, and His wrath and indignation be upon all that hate Him, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

REMARKS,

By Elder GEORGE A. SMITH, in the Bowery, General Conference, G. S. L. City, Oct. 7th, 1865.

REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.

It is with very great pleasure that I have listened to the instructions and counsels of my brethren at this Conference. In fact, the season of Conference is a period of reflection with me. It is eighteen years ago yesterday when the first October Conference was held in this valley under the shade of a hay stack, and it served an abundant means of shading all that attended. As we are here assembled now it would require an extensive haystack to create a shade sufficient to accommodate the assembly, and there is but a very small representation here from the settlements of the Territory, though there are considerable numbers from some of them, trains of fifty or sixty wagons loaded with persons to attend Conference. Those of us who are in this city and who have not had the privilege of traveling through the settlements can form very little comprehension of the extent, strength and population of the Territory, and of the amount of labor, toil and the results of that toil and labor which is progressing throughout.

President Young has devoted a large portion of his time, since last Conference, associated with a number of Elders in traveling and visiting the Saints. He has visited perhaps one-half of them after traveling about eighteen hundred miles. Our Territory is said to be sparsely settled, but our location renders it necessary that wherever a settlement exists it shall be of considerable size in order to carry out the necessary arrangements for protection and cultivation. It is seldom that a small settlement can do this successfully. I have been pleased at the suggestion offered by President Hyde in relation to the better cultivation of the soil; for when we go to the expense of taking out the water, of keeping up dams, making requisite canals, repairing tunnels, and smaller ditches and water sects, it would seem really sound policy that every foot of land thus watered in order to make it effective should be cultivated in the best possible manner. If the Lord had seen proper to send rains from heaven to water our lands sufficiently and gratuitously as in other places we might spread over the land, and cultivate the soil without so much labor on our part. If the suggestions which have been made are duly considered, and applied throughout the Territory, the result will be the production

of from one to three times more of the necessities of life in the same area.

So far as the unity of the people is concerned, I have felt to rejoice the past season; I have accompanied the President this Summer except while on his last trip to Cache Valley, during which I was on a journey to the South with Elder Amasa Lyman. We held 24 meetings. It is really an expressive and singular incident that we live to visit so many climates inhabited by Saints in so short a time. We passed near the snow region in July, went directly into a semi-torrid zone to see the effects of all the changes in this variety of climate, thermometer at Washington 110° in the shade, all within our own borders. Our settlements may be compared to a thrifty tree throwing out annually a new growth more extended and more vigorous. While Pres. Young and company passed on south, Elders F. D. Richards and A. M. Musser took another direction through the new counties of Sevier, Piute and Kane, through a chain of new settlements never before visited, only in part, by some of the Twelve, visiting on their route some 600 families. It is really astonishing to reflect that such an extent of settlements have been thrown out. We have been gratified very much with the efforts and exertions made by our brethren who were sent on missions to our cotton region in opening and enlarging the settlements there. They have met with many difficulties of which their northern brethren have very little conception. The soil along their streams in many places is composed of such loose material, that it is almost impossible to carry a water ditch through it for irrigation, the soil of the banks dissolving in the water like sugar in coffee; dams are washed away by frequent bursting of clouds. You may take the best fields in the vicinity of St. George, and the annual expense of keeping up their canals and dams for irrigation has been 15 dollars per acre, and yet the courage, energy, perseverance and diligence of the brethren have not failed, but they continue to construct dams, and contend with the natural obstacles that lie in their way to the permanent improvement of the country. This perseverance which will eventually bring forth an abundant supply of the needful staples which can be successfully produced in that climate is very commendable; to support themselves by producing their own breadstuff is true political economy. Notwithstanding the number of mechanics sent there they have not sufficient to supply the wants of the people. There are many towns without a blacksmith, plasterer, mason or carpenter. A considerable number of these could find employment and make themselves good homes in many of the southern settlements. We would direct the minds of the brethren to this item.

There is much land that can be cultivated in wheat with flood water that cannot be made to produce cotton in consequence of drouth later in the season. The raising of bread this year has not interfered to any great extent with the culture of cotton, the supply of which has been greater than last year, and two-thirds of breadstuff necessary has been produced to supply the inhabitants; the other third must be brought from the north. Many vineyards have come into bearing, and extensive new vineyards have been planted, and the efforts at cultivating more breadstuffs has proven successful; and if men continue to follow it up an ample supply will be produced for home consumption, without materially lessening the breadth cultivated in cotton and vines. While my brethren are contending with these obstacles I sympathize with them, and rejoice when I see them victorious, when I pass through the mineral lots in St. George, and see their barren aspect, and see the men working on them to conquer those combined chemical elements which eat up everything that grows, even the rocks and fences of sandstones are desolving before them, yet men are conquering this soil, and making it produce. Nearly three-fourths of all the fruit trees planted in St. George have been unsuccessful, yet the place is looking like the Garden of Eden, showing that perseverance, faith and energy will conquer everything. It is a delightful and pleasant locality. I name these things because we are interested in them, and wish the brethren to realize that those brethren on that mission have spent the accumulated property of many years, and many of them are successful, some are yet struggling to make a start, and it is with them as the old adage has it, while the grass grows the cow starves; but they are not discouraged, their eyes look bright, their spirit is de-

termined, and I was pleased to hear Elder Snow speak of the good spirit they felt, and that they were determined to overcome. A people possessed of such great energy, aided by the ready co-operation of their brethren in the north are bound to conquer that desert, and not only make it blossom as the rose, but make one of the most delightful regions of the earth. I would suggest to all persons who go there to fulfill what is required of them, and not forget that it is necessary to carry the staff of life with them, that those that are there, and those that are going may be provided with ample supplies of bread; it is better to have a little over when next harvest comes than to go two or three weeks without bread. May the blessings of God be upon Zion, and lengthen her cords and strengthen her stakes, that they may be blessed with that wisdom, knowledge and intelligence continually that guides the head and inspires the body. We are improving in everything; we must continue to improve until the light of life shines throughout the whole earth, for our business is to be like a city set upon a hill, or a candle set upon a bushel to illuminate the earth, and bring all to a knowledge of the truth, life and peace. May God enable us to be so in my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ: Amen.

A BUTLER in Herefordshire England, recently stabbed himself four times in the stomach, with a carving knife. He, however, recovered from his injuries, and upon being asked for what reason he committed the act said: "I was cleaning the plate, and a carving-knife was lying before me. The devil came up and tapped me on the shoulder, and after some conversation he told me I must put the knife into my stomach, and then I should become immortal. I therefore put the handle of the knife up against the wall, and thrust myself against the point. I am sorry now I took his advice, and I shan't try it on again."

A PREACHER WANTED AND HIS QUALIFICATIONS.—A Western correspondent of the New York Independent, in giving an account of the Congregational Churches visited or heard from in the course of his pilgrimage, speaks of the growing demand for fresh young ministers. The old ones have outlived their day, and, it might be added, the piety of their congregations. One of these writes:

"Tell brother—he should be looking for another preacher for his Church. I hope he will succeed better next time. They have a citified Church and want a citified minister—a young good looking man, of superior talents, able to interest the class that never felt any interest in sacred things, and turn back all the old back-sliders that were brought in by the furnace heat of a protracted meeting, and sprung back as soon as they got cold. They want an eloquent man, who can throw off a sermon at a spurt, without study; an unmarried man preferred, if not engaged."

BISMARCK.—Bismark, the Stanton of Prussia, is tall in stature and walks stiff, the arms hanging down, the countenance grave, and the brow thoughtful. He wears a brown jacket covered by a grey overcoat; a hat of grey felt; large moustaches, and a thick imperial. On his left cheek, close to the lower lip, is a deep scar, the result of a wound received in a duel. Previous to his diplomatic career, M. De Bismark was Captain in the cavalry. His physiognomy, considered in its totality, expresses a firmness which appears inaccessible to discussion.

ENGLISH LAW.—A Rev. Mr. Hill and other magistrates of Stowmarket, Suffolk, England, lately committed a woman seventy years of age to prison for fourteen days, with hard labor, for plucking a handful of corn of the value of two pence.

ACCORDING to an official statement, the number of cattle carried off by the plague within the last twenty years amounted to no less than 200,000 in the one Province of Tobolsk, the original seat of this terrible scourge.

B. N. BUGBEY has this year manufactured 10,000 pounds of raisins, in his vineyard near Folsom, Cal.

THE Folsom Telegraph says that a miner there who was nearly dead with inflammatory rheumatism, cured himself by the use of kerosene, applied externally and also taken in small doses inwardly.

THE brains of the gigantic deceased elephant Cleopatra were found to weigh fifteen pounds. They are preserved in a glass case.