

Government, to be stable and permanent and have any show for success, must be reduced to a science. It is the same with religion; but our traditions are such that it is one of the most difficult things in the world to make men believe that the revealed religion of Heaven is a pure science, and all true science in the possession of men now, is a part of the religion of Heaven and has been revealed from that source. But it is hard to get the people to believe that God is a scientific character, that He lives by science or strict law, that by this He is, and that by law He was made what He is; and will remain to all eternity because of His faithful adherence to law. It is a most difficult thing to make the people believe that every art and science, and all wisdom comes from Him, and that He is their Author. Our spirits are His: He begot them. We are His children; He set the machine in motion to produce our tabernacles; and when men discard the principle of the existence of a Supreme Being, and treat it with lightness, as Brother Taylor says, they are fools. It is strange that scientific men do not realize that all they know is derived from Him; to suppose, or to foster the idea for one moment, that they are the originators of the wisdom they possess is folly in the highest! Such men do not know themselves. As for ignoring the principle of the existence of a Supreme Being, I would as soon ignore the idea that this house came into existence without the agency of intelligent beings.

Well, the Latter-day Saints are beginning to comprehend that true religion is a science; and their religion consists of principles, law and order, and they acknowledge God in all things; and the time will come when every knee will bow and every tongue confess to and acknowledge Him, and when they who have lived upon the earth and have spurned the idea of a Supreme Being and of revelations from Him, will fall with shamefacedness and humble themselves before Him, exclaiming, "There is a God! O God, we once rejected Thee and disbelieved Thy word and set at naught Thy counsels, but now we bow down in shame and we do acknowledge that there is a God, and that Jesus is the Christ." This time will come most assuredly. We have the faith of the gospel of the Lord Jesus. It is not a frenzied, frantic idea like the systems of religion invented by men. We have ceremonies, but there is life in those ceremonies; and our religion has organization, body and soul. The religious systems of men have a kind of organization, and seemingly they will build a body, but they have no soul, and some seem to have a soul without a body, but it is like their god, it cannot be found.

We reason with and try to convince the Latter-day Saints that they should live their religion so that God is in all their thoughts and reflections, and they should acknowledge Him in their daily walk and conversation and business transactions as well as in their prayers. Each of us should continually feel, and live so as to have it so, "God must be with me and I must have His Spirit with me under all circumstances." How many are there of our Elders who carry out their religion in all the affairs of life? Set them to merchandizing, for instance, and Brother John, William or Caleb will say, "You set me here at merchandizing, and my mind is altogether occupied with my business. I have to lay my plans, and do my best to make my business successful, and I have not time to pray and seek unto the Lord; I have not got the spirit of preaching, and do not call upon me to preach, I can not do it, I have to attend to this store." I say it is almost impossible to get it into the mind of a business man, that he needs God with him in carrying on his business. Says he, "I must do this by my natural ability; my business qualities must be brought into exercise, and that is all I want." To persons who feel thus I say, Stop and think! Hold on! Do you know how to buy goods? "Yes," Mr. Merchant says, "I think I understand goods as well as any man." Where did you get your knowledge, can you tell me? "Oh, I got that from practice. I have learned, as soon as I touch a piece of broadcloth, linen, or cotton cloth, to tell its quality without ever looking at the fabric; I can tell instantly by the touch of the finger. I have got this by practice." Very good, we will say you did. Did you plant that ability in your finger, and which gives sensibility to your nervous system from the crown of your head to the soles of your feet, which is the foundation of the knowledge you have acquired by practice? Acquired or practical knowledge is one thing but natural or internal knowledge is the foundation of practical or acquired knowledge, and without this in the soul no being could acquire it any more than this stand, not one particle more. Now, Mr. Merchant, that is the secret of your acquired knowledge or skill. Then acknowledge it, manly, honestly, uprightly, firmly and positively, and give God the praise and honor, for to Him they belong.

Do you need anything more than this innate ability to acquire knowledge to guide you and ensure success in your business? Yes, you do. They say when a person preaches experience, the facts are not easily got over. I am going to tell Mr. Merchant what he needs. You take a man who conducts his business on his own resources, and however well he may lay his plans his business frequently fails on his hands and he becomes bankrupt; for he cannot foresee what is going to transpire in the mar-

kets. "Well, how are you going to prevent such mishaps?" You need the spirit of the Lord to enable you to foresee. This is what is needed when you buy goods, where you trade and do business; you need the spirit of revelation to be with you. We frequently hear our merchants say they can not do business and then go into the pulpit to preach. I will say that there is not a merchant in this Territory who attends to as much of what is called worldly business, or temporal things, as I do, yet I can afford to preach several times each week, and say my prayers as long as I wish to. Now, if I preach experience, who can controvert it? If any one does not believe my statement, let him live with me and he will soon learn that a pressure of business that will take a merchant a week to think about, I know, the moment it is mentioned to me. I see and understand it from beginning to end, and I say, at once, "do thus and so," "go yonder," or take such and such a course; but I need the spirit of the Lord continually to guide and dictate me in business pertaining to farms, merchandising, mining, missions, buying, selling, etc., etc.; and the more I have to do the more revelation I need, and the more acute my spirit must become.

It is a great mystery to many people, and especially to strangers, how I have preserved myself. My life depends upon the spirit of the Lord, although my body gets sometimes a little out of order, and it is very probable my stomach will ache pretty bad after this loud talking, for I am neither iron nor immortal. But a great many marvel at my preservation. I have revealed the secret a great many times, and can now—I never worry about anything. I try to live so as to know my business and understand my duty, and to do it at the moment without a long study. If ever I am in the least bothered with anything that comes before me it is in some frivolous case, trying to give counsel and advice to an individual without doing any mischief. If they want to do right, regardless of self or the world it is no trouble to tell them what to do. And I say to a farmer or merchant, if you want to live so as to prolong your days, never worry about anything; but have the spirit of the Lord so as to know what to do, and when you have done or counseled right never fret about the result. It is in the hands of the Lord, and He will work out the problem, and you need not be at all afraid of the matter. And this is true of all the acts of the children of men. The Lord has constituted us rational beings, and our volition is free to choose good or evil, just as we will; but when we have followed out our choice the Lord will overrule the result of our acts—it is in His hands and He will bring it out to suit Himself, and He will make the wrath of man praise Him. When men undertake, as we see them occasionally, to interrupt every movement of the kingdom of God, and lay their plans, and have the train well laid in their own minds, for the destruction of the kingdom, the first thing they know they are in the mud and the Saints are thrown up. We have seen this scores of times. It is just so in the world. Men may propose, but God will dispose according to His good will and pleasure.

I want to say to the Latter-day Saints, and to those who are not saints, we have faith in God, and we have a reason for it. Every character who has declared himself to be God, except the one we serve, has failed and been foiled in his calculations; he has come short in his plans and been put to shame. There is no question but foul spirits have declared themselves to be deities; we have history to this effect. But they have come off in shame. But the Lord is our God and it is He whom we serve; and we say to the whole world, that He is a tangible Being. We have a God with ears, eyes, nose, mouth; He can, and does speak. He has arms, hands, body, legs and feet; He talks and walks; and we are formed after His likeness. The good book—the Bible, tells us what kind of a character our Heavenly Father is. In the first Chapter of Genesis and the 17th verse, speaking of the Lord creating men, it reads as plain as it can read, that He created man in His own image and likeness; and if He created Adam and Eve in His own image, the whole human family are like Him. This same truth is borne out by the Savior. Said He, when talking to His disciples: "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father;" and: "I and my Father are one." The scripture says that He, the Lord, came walking in the temple, with His train; I do not know who they were, unless His wives and children; but at any rate they filled the temple, and how many there were who could not get into the temple I cannot say. This is the account given by Isaiah, whether he told the truth or not I leave every body to judge for himself.

The Bible also says the Lord talked with Moses; He talked with the rich and the poor, the noble and the ignoble. He sent His angels, and at last sent His son, who was in the express image of the Father.—His Only Begotten Son, according to the flesh, here on this earth. That is the God we serve and believe in. He is a God of system, order, law, science and art; a God of knowledge and of power. He says to the human family, "Do as you please, but I will overrule the results of your actions." He says to the wicked, "You may fight these Latter day Saints, but they are my people, I have called them, and commanded them to come out of Babylon and to gather themselves together. You, wicked world, may fight them; you may lay your plans and schemes, but with all your machina-

tions and wisdom I will show you that I am greater than you all, and I will put you to shame, and blast your expectations, and disappoint your calculations, and your attempts to injure my people will be foiled; for Zion shall arise, her glory shall be seen, and the Kings of the earth shall enquire of the wisdom of Zion; and God shall be great, and His name shall be terrible among the inhabitants of the earth; and He will bring forth His kingdom and establish His government, and Jesus will come and rule, King of nations as He does King of Saints." We have law, we have rule, we have regulations; and they are here, they are written and published to the world. They are in the Old and New Testament, Book of Mormon and the Book of Doctrine and Covenants; and we call upon all the earth, the rich and the poor, to hearken unto these things! Who will receive them? Not many rich, not many noble, not many great men of the earth; but the poor of this world the Lord has chosen, and He will make them rich, and they will be heirs of the earth. But they will be heirs with pure hearts, not with that covetousness we see manifested now. When we are prepared to receive the kingdom in its purity, and to honor its laws and principles in our lives, just so soon the Lord Almighty will bestow upon us strength, power, wisdom, glory, riches and honor, and all the good things that pertain to His kingdom; and the Lord will be great among the people, and they will reverence and acknowledge His name.

God bless you, brethren and sisters,  
Amen.

#### THE SOUTHERN TRANS-CONTINENTAL RAILWAY.

The following account of the organization of the Southern Trans-continental Railway Company has been forwarded by a gentleman in New York to President Young, and by the courtesy of the latter, we are enabled to lay it before our readers. This line is said to be eight hundred miles shorter than any yet projected from ocean to ocean.

The corporators elected by the Legislature of the State of Texas to organize the Southern Trans-continental Railway Company, in accordance with the provisions of the charter granted to them, met recently at the St. Nicholas Hotel, and effected a final organization of that great incorporation.

The delay preceding this important action resulted from the anxiety of persons to become interested in the movement. According to the provisions of the act of the Texas Legislature \$1,000,000 had to be subscribed before the election of directors; but when the books were opened so much more than the required amount was entered that it became necessary to reduce the sum set opposite to each name. The vast interests involved in this stupendous enterprise had early attracted the attention of statesmen and capitalists; its importance as the most direct and nearest route to the Pacific, and its intimate connection with the substantial reconstruction of the Southern country, aroused alike the men of money and the men of intellect.

The original projectors of the road were present in force, strengthened by the President of the old El Pasco corporation, General John C. Fremont, and supported by such well-known capitalists as Marshall O. Roberts, Mr. Wm. R. Travers, John Jacob Astor, and Henry G. Stebbins, of New York; J. Don Cameron of Pennsylvania, and R. M. Bishop of Ohio.

The meeting at the St. Nicholas Hotel was very large, and the proceedings harmonious and interesting. General Fremont took the chair as first of the incorporators under the Texas bill. Col. S. W. Morton of Kentucky reported from a Committee previously appointed that the first million of stock had been duly subscribed, and then the Board of Incorporators adjourned *sine die*. The stock holders then proceeded to ballot for Directors of the Company, when the following gentlemen were chosen by a full and unanimous vote:

Marshall O. Roberts, N. Y.; John C. Fremont, N. Y.; E. B. Hart, N. Y.; H. W. Gray, N. Y.; Edward Weston, N. Y.; W. A. Stewart, N. Y.; Ames Van Wart, N. Y.; J. W. Forney, Pa.; J. B. Bowman, Ky.; George Maney, Tenn.; C. F. Holly, New Mexico; R. M. Bishop, Ohio; J. W. Throckmorton, Tex.; B. F. Grattan, Texas; G. H. Giddings, Texas; H. G. Stebbins, N. Y.; W. R. Travers, N. Y.; John J. Astor, N. Y.; Edwards Pierpont, N. Y.; N. P. Banks, Mass.; J. Don Cameron, Pa.; Z. F. Smith, Ky.; W. S. Serrod, Ala.; M. C. Hunter, Ind.; S. W. Morton, Ky.; W. M. Harrison, Texas; W. T. Clark, Texas; J. M. Peabets, Ark.; E. W. Rice, Iowa.

After the announcement of the election the Hon. E. B. Hart rose and

nominated General John C. Fremont, of New York, as permanent President of the Company, which motion was seconded by the Hon. John W. Forney, of Pennsylvania, who said: I rise to support the motion of my esteemed friend, Col. Hart, not simply to express my own feelings but those of my associates, alike the men appointed by the Legislature of Texas and those just chosen by a unanimous vote of the Directors. General Fremont has been identified with this great enterprise for a number of years. His name and his services have cheered its friends in the darkest hours, and have confounded its enemies; his gentle and conciliatory character has harmonized conflicting interests, and has gone to all sections as the symbol of peaceful and substantial reconstruction.

Looking forward to this great measure as the crowning event of his eventful life, he has labored for its success with an assiduity in signal accordance with his own remarkable history. Through the trials and difficulties of the last two months, he has maintained the equanimity of his nature, and has finally brought order out of the chaos of contending interests. The very delay in the organization has contributed to its final completeness. Men from different sections of this great country have, during nearly two months of deliberation and discussion, been brought to know each other better, and also to appreciate the incalculable importance of an undertaking which will not only bring the North and South together into relations of affection, but will vitalize and develop the great resources of every portion of our redeemed Republic. He had the honor, most cordially, to second the nomination of his friend, Colonel Hart.

Gen. Fremont responded with much feeling and said, that taken wholly by surprise, he could not sufficiently thank his friend, Col. Forney, for the manner he had alluded to him. He had supported this great enterprise with all his heart, and he was proud to see today that the foundations of its assured success were at last substantially laid. Its advantages were so numerous and manifest, that while increasing its friends with every hour it had also conquered its enemies.

In his own efforts he had been supported by the confidence of many of the ablest intellects North and South; it would be to him a labor of love to continue to work for this continental highway; but while thanking his friends for the compliment they had paid to him in asking him to preside over the permanent organization of this Company, he felt it not only as a duty, but as a pleasure, to ask them to confer the position of permanent President of the Southern Trans-continental Railway Company upon his friend, Marshall O. Roberts: he possessed the confidence of the whole country, especially of the financial world, and judging by his wonderful success in the past, he felt that under his auspices this great enterprise is destined to a wonderful success in the future. Gen. Fremont then put the question upon the nomination of Marshall O. Roberts as President of the new Company, and he was elected amidst great applause.

Mr. Roberts took the chair and pledged himself to stand by the enterprise to the last. One of the dreams of his life had been to bring the North and South together in friendship and in peace, and he believed that the Trans-continental Railroad was one of the surest means to that great end. The Directors, after the unanimous election of Mr. Roberts, then chose with equal unanimity, Col. Henry G. Stebbins, as Vice-President; Wm. R. Travers, Esq., as Treasurer; John D. Defrees, as Secretary; and R. N. Corwine, as Attorney.

#### Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 16, 1870.

Editor Deseret News:—Sir—Does there not seem to be a commotion in nearly every quarter of the Globe? Does it not seem as if that prophecy of Isaiah was being literally fulfilled, of the proposed controversy between God and the nations of the earth? Does it not seem, also, as though modern prophecies of cities on this continent and in Europe were working a fulfillment? It appears like the city where the apostle Parley tarried so long to warn them of judgments, etc., would have occasion to sing "this lamentation and warn them to flee;" as though the upheavings of popular sentiment were such as to make not only the throne of her who was warned of danger, because of treat-