

The work is divided into four parts. In the first the author deals with the establishment of the Church of Christ at the commencement of our era. He gives a brief biography of our Savior; His appearance to His people on both hemispheres; the history of the early Church. The second part treats exhaustively of the great apostasy, a subject to which few church historians pay any particular attention. The author mentions the various persecutions of the Church and the change in popular sentiment that occurred when the Emperor Constantine ostensibly accepted Christianity. Then the corruption of the doctrines and ordinances of the Church is considered, which ultimately led to the great apostasy predicted by the Apostles, as well as the prophets of the Jewish dispensation. The third part is devoted to the reformation, in which Luther appears as the great center figure. The fourth part is a well drawn outline of the restoration of the Gospel in our age through Joseph Smith. Such is the general plan of the work.

Each part is divided into sections at the end of which are found a valuable collection of notes containing statements of facts and views of recognized authorities on the subjects treated on. These are intended to lead the student on in his further research, and as such are of great value.

The "Outlines" is a book that should be found in every house of the Saints, and it is one that can be safely sent to friends, whom it may be desirable to aid in their inquiries concerning the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. At home and abroad there is a mission for the excellent little work to perform, this being indicated in its felicitously expressed dedication to the Seventies. The mechanical part has been admirably done; and altogether it is worthy to be welcomed and circulated as one of the more important contributions to the literature of the Church.

DISEASES AND THEIR ORIGIN.

The strides made in medical and theopneustical science of late years are in and of themselves simply wonderful; we are rapidly coming to a knowledge of what it is that causes disease in all its forms, this special development of animal analysis being known as bacteriology. So great in a scientific sense have been the achievements of men skilled in the practice and theory of the materia medica that they might properly be classed as wonderful but for two awkward and at the same time stubborn facts—contagions are as numerous, widespread and deadly as of yore, and the number of people who die this side the three score and ten limit is as great as it ever was.

We have it on the authority of the eminent Prof. O. Loew of Munich, Bavaria, that nine-tenths of all diseases of men and animals are known to be due to a species of bacteria, which enter the system through the mouth or nostrils, multiply in the blood and produce poisonous secretions. One of two conditions must inevitably follow—the patient or the parasite must die, the continued life of one being the

destruction of the other. The reaction which must take place in the body against the germs is described as a most wonderful process and is made more interesting by the fact that one who has passed through certain infectious diseases is rendered proof for a time against a second attack; it is called "artificial immunity," though by any other name it would be just as effective. This is used in contradistinction to natural immunity, as exhibited in the cases of dogs and some of the rodents which never have tuberculosis or the swine plague and the resistance to typhoid fever and Asiatic cholera which nearly all the lower animals enjoy. The discovery was made in 1886, so we are advised, that the blood of an animal which had acquired immunity would destroy bacteria and be a curative or preventive of the disease in any other animal. Both the conditions of immunity described are, as is claimed, traced to albuminous matter in the blood, but, unlike the albuminous venom of the rattlesnake, this does not affect the higher animals. The blood of a rabbit after it had recovered from the swine plague has yielded the desired substance in the form of a dry powder and possesses all the curative properties of the blood against swine plague. This is cited as a fact of immense importance, and let us hope that it is. As given out it is a little too abstruse in its derivation and somewhat too mysterious in its application to be of practical benefit to common folk, even if the doctors themselves are able to make anything more of it than a previously occult fact whose discovery is a delightful theory not susceptible of actual application. That cholera, yellow fever and diphtheria for instance are simply the manifestations of poisoned blood produced by bacteria or bacilli is not disputed; but of what avail is such knowledge to the common people unless the means of effectually destroying such fungi shall be pointed out in language which they can understand?

STRIVING FOR THE UNATTAINABLE

There are two things in life the attempted attainment of which has in every case been attended with failure and generally disaster—Polar exploration and aerial transportation. Failure, however, places no damper on the devotees of such schemes; on the contrary it seems but to make them more persistent and determined. We may with reasonable certainty look for at least one new expedition northward and one more contribution to the long list of "airships" every year, whether or not each shall share the common and apparently inevitable fate of all its predecessors. It was getting along somewhat further into 1893 than might have been expected without one or the other making its appearance; but just in the nick of time as it were we have the air vessel, the invention of a Hamburg gardener, Carl Theodor Geissler, whose new balloon is said to be attracting very favorable attention from experts. The case for gas is of the cigar-shaped variety, giving the least possible air-resistance. The car hangs by loops in the lower folds of the case, the ordinary netting being dis-

carded. A winged screw in front is driven by a petroleum motor of aluminum. A rudder is placed behind. The rise and fall can be regulated by a sliding weight, and by a ring which encircles the case and on which the air exerts variable pressure according to the horizontal or oblique pointing of the balloon.

It is pronounced "perfectly simple," but whether it is simply perfect or not is another matter. The chances are about ten to one that, like the Keely motor, it is only useful on dress parade and that we shall never hear of it again.

IN THE STARRY DOME.

Addressing ourselves now to those who without an intimate acquaintance with astronomy are still interested in any striking display that the starry heavens may have to make, we invite attention to two interesting exhibitions that are billed for the ensuing week. Jupiter and Mars, the one the greatest and the other the most familiar of our planetary neighbors, are now visible in the early evening as the two brightest stellar objects between the western horizon and the zenith. They may be distinguished from the fixed stars by the fact that they are not only brighter, but that they, like all the planets, emit a steady and not a twinkling light; and they are distinguishable from each other in that Jupiter is white while Mars is slightly red in the color of the light given forth. On the 25th inst., next Wednesday, between ten and twelve p.m., the two splendid planets will be in close proximity to each other—a circumstance well worth observing; there will be a fine opportunity for comparing the respective light of these splendid worlds. On the 23rd, next Monday, between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, the mighty Jupiter will again be in conjunction—this time with the moon, which is just then ready to enter her second quarter. In the belief that some readers will consider it worth while to turn their eyes skyward in view of the attractions, we trust the clouds on the occasions mentioned will kindly keep out of the way.

ROMANISM IN AMERICA.

The appointment by the Pope of a permanent apostolic delegate to the Roman church in the United States is an event in the history of this country, that deserves more than a passing notice.

Shortly after the conference of Catholic archbishops in New York last October, when the angel of peace seemed to touch the assembly with his olive branch, rumors of strife and contention became as loud as ever. Prominent ecclesiastical dignitaries were accused of "unlawful conspiracy" with a view to rendering nugatory papal decisions in matters pertaining to the church in this country, and more particularly to causing his holiness to recall Satoli, his legate to the United States. Documents were said to have been discovered implicat-