

Joseph, the translator, after many years of careful study of the work, said that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and that a man would go nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book.

These testimonies should be sufficient to induce a *careful* perusal of the work, if only for historical information, and a *prayerful* perusal, if acquaintance is desired with its sacred and inspired teachings.

As to its prophetic character, it reaches to the end of time, and is marvelous in its predictions. The mantle of Him who presides over the destinies of man and his earthly home, with all its associated worlds, must have wrapt them in the visions of all eventful time and clothed them with the knowledge that surpasses all human understanding. A most leading and prominent trait of the book is that of prophecy. It is a prophet and more than a prophet—a seer and revelator of the very highest order, of all things that may not come into the immediate presence of God.

Prophecy that only relates to the elements, the changing of the times and the seasons, the destinies of individual man, or the fall of a nation or an empire, is enough to arouse the enthusiasm of the believer. But here we are told of the eternal purpose of the Creator with the created, the end that awaits the earth and all the inhabitants thereof that are or have been, as well as innumerable eventful incidents that must transpire to bring about the end. It tells how the children of men may escape from a state of misery to one of eternal happiness and unspeakable felicity.

As to the truth of its predictions, many of them have already been fulfilled. The manner in which the record from which the book was translated was to come forth, and many associated incidents connected with that translation, were fully predicted, and have been as fully realized.

The Prophet Moroni, who hid up the plates, foretold that when they should come forth they should be shown to three witnesses by the power of God, and they should know of a surety that the things contained therein were true. This prediction was fulfilled before the parties knew there was such a prophecy on record concerning them.

When Joseph had the plates delivered to him by the angel, he was told that his name would be had both for good and evil among all nations, and how significantly this was fulfilled!

As to the truth of its doctrines they are in perfect accord with those of the Bible, demanding of all men to repent and be baptized, and promising that such shall be saved; that gifts and blessings shall attend the believer and by enduring to the end that they shall have Eternal life.

There is no antagonism between the Bible and the Book of Mormon; and in view of this fact, it is marvelous how the professed Bible believer throughout all Christendom should be arrayed against it, and the Prophet Joseph's mission. Admitting facts of history this array can only be accepted as unanswerable testimony of the truth of both. When Jesus visited the earth as being sent of God, all the sects of the

day combined in one universal crusade of enmity against him until he was crucified. When Joseph Smith came as a Prophet of God, and leader of His great and last dispensation to man, which had been predicted by all holy men, every Christian sect united as one in the universal cry, "Away with him, he is an impostor, we have a Bible and want no more Bible," and enraged the multitude against him until he like his Master was put to death, and sealed his righteous testimony with his innocent blood.

This record evidence bears testimony that the mission of one was like that of the other. Both were too holy to be received by a prostituted religious world who knew not God, neither the voice of the true shepherds whom they have slain.

In view of man's free agency, responsibility necessarily attaches to his every act. The fact that the Book of Mormon has by command of God come to the knowledge of the human family, as containing His law and divine will for their guidance, must by them be received or rejected. Nearly all civilized countries have access to it in their own language, and ignorance of its contents and requirements can be no excuse for disregarding the law by it imposed upon man's conduct. This fact of responsibility leads to that of accountability and judgment, and the fact of judgment, to that of justice and rewards, determining that more remote if not ultimate fact, eternal happiness or misery to man.

There is no escape from this condition. Man must obey and live, or disobey and suffer the consequences of his wrong doing. To whom the law of God comes, no cloak can cover the sin of transgressing it. Hence the importance of all men investigating whatever may come to them claiming to be the word and law of God. Facts fully substantiate this claim for the Book of Mormon, and I would urge upon all men the importance of recognizing that claim.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Pope and Emperor.

ROME, Jan. 23.—The Pope has sent a long letter to Emperor William, thanking him in affectionate terms for lending his assistance in the *Kultur-Kampf*. The Pope says: "The religious sentiment affords the only means of solving the existing terrible social problems. Our mutual convictions of this fact are a bond between us, although divided by faith."

The Czar.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 20.—A well known Jewish banker named Baron Ginzburg last week waited on Durnoro, minister of the interior, and asked him to try to alleviate or postpone the carrying out of the edicts for the repression of the Jews. During the interview the Baron handed the minister an envelope containing a check for one million roubles, payable to the order of Durnoro and endorsed by the Mendelssohns of Berlin. Durnoro subsequently gave the Czar the check.

The Czar gave orders for the arrest of Baron Ginzburg. The Baron de-

clared the check was not given as a bribe, but as an ordinary banking transaction. Upon investigation the books proved that the order was received in the usual manner from Berlin. The Czar ordered the prisoner released and the check returned, but Ginzburg refused to take it. The Czar therefore ordered half of the money given to the Red Cross Society and the other half used for the relief of the poor.

The Slayer of Luet. Casey.

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—Lieutenant Chamberlain, who arrived today from Pine Ridge, says the slayer of Lieutenant Casey is a graduate of Carlisle, Pa., Indian school and son of a prominent Sioux (No Water). The murderer was about to be turned over to the soldiers for trial when news of the murder of the Indian Few Tails by whites was received. The Indians then said they would deliver Casey's murderer when the murderer of Few Tails was brought in and both hanged together. Casey's murderer is still being shielded.

Assistant Adjutant-General Corbin received a telegram from General Miles tonight stating he leaves tomorrow for Chicago with about thirty Indians, including Kicking Bear and Short Bull. They will be kept at Fort Sheridan, Chicago. This is not the delegation going to Washington.

The City's Mortality.

The report of Sexton Dunne for the year just ended sets forth the following facts: The number of deaths during the year were 1030, distributed over the various months as follow: January, 30; February, 62; March, 66; April, 64; May, 57; June, 57; July, 111; August, 97; September 106; October, 120; November, 96; December, 115. Of these 40 were stillborn; 623 of the entire number were males and 407 females. The ages were: Under one year, 287; one to five years, 179; five to ten years, 56; twenty to twenty-five years, 455. Seventy-one persons were brought from outside places for interment, making the total number of graves added to the city of the dead, 1101. There were interred in the city cemetery, 773; Mount Olivet, 227; Catholic cemetery, 34; Hebrew cemetery, 3; sent to distant places for interment, 64. There were 795 attended by regular physicians; 36 by midwives; in 231 cases there was no attendance reported. The deaths in public and other institutions were as follow: Hospital of the Holy Cross, 47; St. Mark's hospital, 14; Deseret hospital, 11; city jail, 2; day nursery, 1.

Death of Lucy D. Young.

Sister Lucy Decker Young, wife of the late President Brigham Young, died at 6 o'clock Saturday, January 24th, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Shemira Y. Rossiter. The immediate cause of death was an affection of the stomach, which impeded the process of digestion, producing inanition. Her illness extended over a period of several weeks and caused much suffering, which the deceased bore with the fortitude and patience for which she was noted.

Sister Young was born at Phelps Ontario County, New York, on May 17th, 1822, and was therefore, at the time of her demise, aged 68 years 8 months and 3 days. She embraced the