

### "A MIRACLE IN STONE."

THE above is the title of a work by Dr. Joseph A. Seiss, to which we made some reference in our recent article on "Revelation and the Great Pyramid." Since writing on that subject we have received the book, and can cordially recommend it to all who desire further information concerning the history, construction, scientific significance and religious symbolism of the most wonderful stone structure on the globe.

This work summarizes the most important of the writings of those travelers and savants who have made a specialty of pyramidal investigations. It gives a chart or diagram of the Great Pyramid, showing its internal architecture, as well as its external proportions and relations to geometrical and astronomical figures and measurements, also its essential difference from the smaller pyramids, which were evidently copied from it, very imperfectly, by persons who knew nothing of its true design and significance.

The square base of the pyramid covers about 13 acres of ground. Its four equal sides slope inward to one point at the top, about 30 feet of which has disappeared. Its full original height was 5,822 of our inches. Each base corner is sunk into a socket, and the length of each of the sides, measured from the sockets, is a fraction over seven hundred and sixty-one and a half feet. It is the highest and vastest mountain of stone ever erected by human hands, so far as history records. It was originally covered with polished casing stones, but these were quarried off by invading Moslems, and either burned for lime or used to ornament the mosques and dwelling-houses in Cairo.

It was built from design, traces of which in experimental models have been discovered, cut into an adjacent hill, showing that it was not a series of works by succeeding kings, but the product of a plan marked out at its inception. According to Herodotus, ten years were spent in preparations for its erection, and 100,000 men in relays of every three months were employed on the building, which it is estimated was constructed in from 40 to 50 years.

The date of its erection is ascertained from astronomical calculation, guided by pyramidal measurements, to have been B. C. 2170. For 3,900 years its internal structure was unknown to the world. But Caliph Al Mamoun, believing it was a deposit for gold, jewels and other riches, set his armies to work to tunnel into the mass. They bored and blasted one hundred feet into the solid stone, and were about to abandon the work, when the sound of a falling stone in some open space startled them, and they renewed the work till they broke into the proper passage way. This is a tube of smoothly polished stone, opening high up on the north side of the pyramid, and sloping gradually down to an unfinished room in the solid rock, a hundred feet below the base of the pyramid, called "The Well." The passage is nearly four feet high and about three feet five inches wide. But just where Al Mamoun's hosts entered it, an upward passage of similar construction turns off from this entrance tube, forty-seven inches high, forty-one inches broad, and one hundred and ten feet long. Up this steep incline they crawled, in single file, till they came into what is called the Grand Gallery, lofty, and much wider than the passage, but, of course, dark as midnight. This led to a low doorway, when they burst into "The King's Chamber," built of polished red granite, and containing a singular empty, lidless stone coffer, but no gold or jewels, or treasures of any description but those of the symbolic measurements and priceless truths of science and religion, written by the hand of inspiration in the wonderful architecture, and of these they discovered nothing. They were searching for earthly riches, not heavenly knowledge.

We have not space to record the history of the researches made by travelers, by which a lower, room called the "Queen's Chamber" was discovered, nor of the measure-

ments by which the astonishing skill and scientific knowledge of the designing Mind of the Pyramid were brought to light. For these the reader must refer to the book.

But we will add a little in relation to the aim and purport of the building, also its origin as shown almost to a demonstration by the author of the book and those from whom he quotes. The Great Pyramid presents a practical solution of that deep problem which has puzzled and crazed so many ancient and modern brains—the squaring of the circle. A system of fives and another of nines are exhibited in its construction from which most singular and startling calculations have been made referring to the construction and density of the earth, and its distance from the sun which, by pyramidal mensuration, is 91,840,000 miles, or within a few miles of the latest computations of astronomers, each succeeding calculation of modern science coming nearer to that declared in the Great Pyramid. The principles of proportion stamped upon its perfectly arranged stones are those which have commanded the deepest attention of modern professors of the higher mathematics, and we may add—a point not shown in the book—that the proportions of this huge stone pyramid are exactly the same as those of the tiny crystals of *wulfenite*, which are truly pyramidal in shape, thus showing a correspondence in nature to the art exhibited in this wonderful structure, and suggesting the idea that the same designing Mind moved in the production of both.

The Pyramid furnishes standards of linear, weight and capacity measurement, superior to anything ever offered to the world. It is also a monument of meteorology. It shows that its designer had a knowledge of the globular construction of the earth, and the relation of the solar system to a central orb around which the sun and its planets with their satellites revolve. It is a great time measurer, symbolizing star and sun periods and great epochs of human history. It indicates some identity of design with that of the Mosaic Tabernacle in the wilderness, and bears the impress of a Master Architect familiar with the principles which underlie the mighty system of the physical universe.

But it goes further than this. The various dispensations of divine dealings with the human race are symbolized in its construction. Without endorsing all the deductions of Dr. Seiss, some of which are rather too hypothetical, but which, however, he does not pretend are demonstrated nor essential to the main points at issue, we consider the writer has made a most powerful argument for the divine character of the Pyramid of Gizeh, and has advanced irrefutable facts, showing that its architect knew vastly more of practical science than the most learned men of the time of its construction, and that modern savants of the highest attainments may learn something from the revelations of that wondrous monument.

To the Latter-day Saint who has studied the Book of Abraham, this work will be of extraordinary interest, and will confirm him in the conviction that the illustrious patriarch and "father of the faithful" was the inspired master builder of this extraordinary pillar, set up as a memorial and a witness for the God of Israel in the latter times of skepticism and infidelity. And in the corroborations which it affords to the truth of the principles disclosed in the writings found in the mummies brought from Egypt and translated by Joseph Smith the Prophet of the Nineteenth Century, he will receive additional testimony of the inspiration of that martyred Seer, whom God raised up to usher in the dispensation of the fulness of times, and prepare the world for the things predicted in sacred scripture as well as the Great Pyramid, which truly stands forth before the world as a Miracle in Stone.

### CALMNESS, NOT CONSTERNATION.

THE Cincinnati *Times*, a very able paper, which has kept close track of "Mormon" affairs during the present controversy says: "Things have begun to get red-hot out in Salt Lake since the Reynolds de-

cision;" also, "That the decision has thrown the Mormon population into consternation is very plain;" and it adds, "They see the beginning of the end."

The *Times* is greatly mistaken, both as to the temperature of affairs here and the "Mormon" state of mind. All is peace and quietness, and there is no excitement on the questions at issue. A desperate attempt is being made by certain disreputable persons, by means of press dispatches, to stir up the country by whole cloth falsehoods about the attitude of the "Mormons" at the present juncture, but no one can detect any unusual stir among us, nor hear any remarkable declarations of intention.

As to the "beginning of the end," if the *Times* means that we discern in the attitude of Congress and the Courts the beginning of the end of that religious liberty which the Constitution was designed to keep sacred and inviolate, it is correct. The Prophet Joseph Smith declared that the time would come when the Latter-day Saints would be the only people on this land who would maintain that sacred instrument, and we can see the "beginning of the end" of its respect by the leading men of the nation.

But if the *Times* means the end of the religious system which we are called of God to establish and perpetuate, it is very much mistaken, for we are as sure as that the sun will rise again after the night has passed, that what is vulgarly called "Mormonism" will never come to an end, but will rise, grow brighter and prevail till its light shall shine to the uttermost parts of the earth. There is no consternation here, but only the calmness that springs from trust in the true and living God.

### MORAL AND SPIRITUAL CULTURE.

WE have had the pleasure of perusing a letter written by B. A. Ulrich, of Chicago, and addressed to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Illinois Department of Education and other public educators, urging the introduction of the parables and other sayings of Christ as part of the regular reading in public schools. He shows the purity, clearness, logic and elevating character of those gems of thought, and asks why the works of Homer, *Æsop*, Cicero, Euclid, and other writers of Greece and Rome should be permitted in the educational institutions of the country, while the teachings of Christ are discarded. He enquires, what is more illustrative than the parables of the sower, the prodigal, the ten virgins, the lost sheep, the hidden treasure, the goodly pearl and the net? What is more beautiful than the beautitudes and rules of conduct given for man in his relation to his fellow man in the 5th chapter of Matthew?

We cordially endorse the gentleman's remarks. The term education, as now generally used, merely conveys the idea of the cultivation of the intellect; or as some seem to entertain it, the exercise of the memory. The moral faculties and the spiritual nature are left untouched, or treated as considerations of little moment. This we regard as one of the chief reasons why crime increases in spite of the spread of what is called education.

As we have shown in former articles, by statistics, it is a mistake to think that book learning is a preventive of crime. The majority of the inmates of the jails and penitentiaries in this country are persons possessed of some education. A learned rascal is more dangerous to society than an ignorant rogue. Mathematics will not inculcate honesty. Grammar does not promote virtue. Geography cannot repress passion. The more extensive an education a wrong-minded man possesses, the greater villain he can become.

To prohibit the reading in public schools of such moral and spiritual lessons as are conveyed in the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth is, we think, a very mistaken policy on the part of public educators. There is no need of imparting to them a sectarian bias. They are good, ennobling and sufficiently plain of themselves, and we firmly

believe if there was more soul training, even at the expense of some mere intellectual culture, though the latter is not a necessary consequence of the former, it would be very beneficial to scholars and far better for society at large.

The Latter-day Saints should see to it that their children are not only taught the cold letter of learning, and the soulless rules of science, but that their moral and spiritual nature is cultivated and impressed with the living warmth of righteous principles and holy powers, that they may grow up to be, not only well versed in art, science and literature, but imbued with a sound morality and susceptible to the higher influences, that their whole being may be developed and they may shine out in the glorious image of the Eternal Father.

### MORE "POLITICAL CONSCIENCE."

THE *Idahoan* of January 29th contains the minority report, backed by affidavits, of the committee on elections of the Council, to whom was referred the contest between Messrs. High and Clemens, of Oneida County. From this it appears that the majority of the committee, who are Republicans, reported in favor of High, because their party needed him to give them a majority of one in the Council.

In order to do this they had to refuse evidence of forgeries and perjuries submitted by the contestant, showing that thirteen votes, all for Mr. High, at Raft River precinct, were multiplied into seventy-one votes by the Board of Commissioners at Malad, and that even those thirteen votes were polled contrary to law, none of the legal regulations for elections being complied with.

They also had to close their eyes to the proof offered that Marsh Valley and Ross Fork precincts at which High received a number of votes, are both on the Fort Hall reservation, and that therefore those votes could not properly be counted.

The minority report, besides exhibiting the villainy of the county authorities at Malad, proves that,

An examination of the election returns shows that in Oneida County J. N. High received 637 votes altogether; that Wm. Clemens received 510 votes altogether; that at Marsh Valley precinct, on said Indian reservation, said J. N. High received 66 votes and Wm. Clemens received 88 votes; that at Ross Fork precinct, on said Indian reservation, said J. N. High received 167 votes, and said Wm. Clemens, none. That, aside from the question of fraudulent votes at Raft River and discarding and rejecting the votes cast at said reservation, Wm. Clemens has 422 legal votes in Oneida County for member of this Council, and J. N. High has 404 legal votes.

The *Idahoan* accuses this member, accepted by the Council in spite of the evidence of his fraudulent return, of trying to bribe Democratic members of the House to get the two fraudulent Representatives from Oneida County admitted. The people may well be indignant at the action of the Council Committee, but they must remember the illustrious example set by those Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States who sat with the Arbitration Board to declare who had been elected President of the United States, and who decided, not according to equity, evidence and the facts, guided, not by impartial justice, but as Collector Hollister puts it, according to their "political conscience." We presume that the Idaho Council Committee on Elections can make a similar plea in their case, to the delight of the devil but the disgust of all honorable men.

### A PARALLEL CASE.

THE Cincinnati *Times* says:

"The last utterance of the DESERET EVENING NEWS, the official organ of the Mormons is this.

"But all the powers of earth are in the hands of the Mighty One, and He will overrule everything for good to them who fear and obey Him."

It is believed this sentiment will not meet any opposition this way. So probably thought the Midianites

whom the Lord delivered into the hand of Gideon. And the Midianites "fled to Beth-Shittah in Zere-rath, and to the border of Abel-Meholah, unto Tabbath."

There seems to be as much misunderstanding of Scripture as of "Mormonism," among the editors of leading papers. Indeed, ignorance of one implies ignorance of the other. Now the Midianites did not put their trust in the Lord, while the armies of Gideon did. And the allusion is most unfortunate for the position of the *Times* editor. For Gideon's band were a little handful compared with the hosts of Midian and Amalek, who were "like grasshoppers for multitude." Then Gideon, the chosen of God, who conversed with angels, was one of those terrible polygamists, for it is written that "Gideon had three score and ten sons of his body begotten, for he had many wives (Judges viii. 30.) Now the Midianites who came up against Israel, were routed by three hundred men led by a polygamist, whose trust was not in numbers or human weapons but in the Mighty One. And if the legitimate inference from the argument is, that the hosts who fight against the little band of modern polygamists will eventually be overwhelmingly routed, we must not be blamed for the inference, for we did not draw the parallel. We commend the matter to the careful consideration of the *Times* and all who jeer the "Mormons" for putting their trust in the Lord.

### SOLDIERS' WIDOWS, ETC.

A BILL was introduced in the House of Representatives, January 20th, by Mr. Cutler, to repeal section forty-seven hundred and eight of the United States Revised Statutes, and give pensions to the widows, dependent mothers and sisters of soldiers who are remarried or may remarry. As it may be of interest to some of the citizens of Utah we publish its provisions, minus the formalities.

"That all pensions now paid to widows, dependent mothers, or dependent sisters shall continue to be paid upon their remarriage; and any widow, dependent mother, or sister of a deceased soldier entitled to a pension if unmarried shall be entitled to the same whether they are remarried or not. And all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this law are hereby repealed."

Arizona Items.—From a letter by Elder David P. Kimball, written at Hackberry, Mohave County, Arizona, to a lady in this city, we learn some interesting items of the southern country.

Salt River Valley, where a large number had located, was larger than Salt Lake, Utah and Cache valleys, all together, though not so naturally fruitful.

The climate was beautiful nine months in the year, the thermometer ranging in the summer from 80 to 112 in the shade.

Sweet potatoes, peas, figs, peaches, grapes, sugar cane, and all kinds of fruit necessary to the comfort of the settlers, were raised, and a good quality of brown sugar and syrup manufactured, much superior to the Utah sorghum.

The Salt River was plentifully stocked with fish. Flour, corn meal, etc., as good as could be made anywhere, was furnished in abundance.

The brethren of Masa City had accomplished a good work in getting water from a source nine miles away, to facilitate their labors, and Masa was situated in a place which predicted its future importance as a city, though Phoenix, surrounded as it was by the farming and mining interests, would undoubtedly take the lead.

Those who go to Arizona should do so after the summer months are over, as they will then find better natural accommodations on the route.

"Don't tell me that times are getting better," growled an old lady at the post-office yesterday. "Here they are asking just as much for stamps to send a letter to my son in Virginia as they did during the war." The clerk explained that the price was not raised when anything else went up, which seemed to soothe her.