

out concerning this people. It is hard to understand how such ideas can obtain, unless upon the principle of the proverb that "a lie will travel many leagues while truth is getting its boots on." Many think, for instance, that the Saints do not believe in Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world. Some say that our religion is a mixture and medley of all religions, Judaism, Mohammedanism, Christianity and heathenism. We claim that ours is the oldest religion in existence. It did not originate with man, but came down from heaven, being rooted in eternity and bearing fruit through all the ages for the salvation of man. Mormonism is but a nickname for eternal truth. It is nothing more nor less than ancient Christianity restored, after an apostasy of many centuries, as Christianity itself was a restored religion. We can trace it back to Adam through the various dispensations. How false and narrow the idea that we Mormons think that God is only interested in the salvation of this little handful of people. No true Latter-day Saint holds such a view.

The word dispensation means giving forth. What we call dispensations of the Gospel are the givings forth of God's truth, His plan of salvation, from the very morning of time to this the evening of history. Joseph Smith has taught us that Mormonism, or to call it by another nickname, Christianity, was instituted in the heavens before the world was. Its truths were never created, for truth or intelligence is self-existent, but it can be couched and arranged into a system. God, in the beginning, surrounded by intelligences, devised means whereby they might advance to perfection. Hence they were permitted to come to the earth and be tried in various ways that they might develop and expand. He is interested in the salvation of all men and provides means for its accomplishment. Hence the various dispensations of the Gospel, from Adam to Christ and even down to our day. Whenever our Father had a chosen people on earth, it is not merely to save them, but through them to save all mankind. Abraham had a dispensation of the Gospel, and so had Adam, Enoch, Noah, Moses and others, and they taught it to their children and descendants, and portions of it have thus remained upon earth, mixed with the errors of men. The Book of Mormon gives us the history of a colony—the Jaredites—that came to this land from the Tower of Babel; They had the Gospel and spread and multiplied and flourished until they apostatized and were cut off for their crimes. Through Shem, Ham and Japheth, by whom the earth was re-peopled after the flood, traditions of the truth as preached by Noah were doubtless carried to every part of the globe. Hence, the multiplicity of religions, all containing some truth, which have existed from the earliest ages, even as pools of water left in the hollows of a rock or in depressions of the ground after a rain-storm or a flood. Many think that Mormonism is a plagiarism and a medley. The mistake is natural. Wherever truth exists, in Christendom or heathendom, Mormonism claims it for its own, holding that it was its origin.

As there is but one source of light—the sun—so there is but one source of truth—God—and but one perfect plan of salvation, call it what you will, Mormonism today, Christianity yesterday, or something else at some other time and place.

If all history were known here as it is known in heaven, it would be found that from the beginning God has been working out a grand plan for the salvation of our race; that human lives and human events have fitted into and impelled each other, like sections of machinery turned by the enginery of Omnipotence. God was with the Patriarchs and Prophets, from Adam to Christ; they were all among the noble and great ones chosen before they were born to play their parts in the great drama of Time. He was also with Confucius, the Chinese sage, with Socrates, the Greek philosopher, with Cicero, the Roman orator. He was also with Luther, with Calvin, Knox, Wycliffe and Wesley; those stars that lit the firmament after the sun went down in blood behind Judea's hills, lighting up the night until the sun should rise again. What we claim for Joseph Smith is that he was one of God's great spirits, sent to stand at the head of the last and greatest dispensation; to lift a standard for the gathering of Israel preparatory to the coming of the Son of God and the advent of the millennium. The speaker showed that the Book of Mormon foretold the discovery of America and the founding of the United States government, and illustrated the folly of accusing or suspecting the Saints of malicious designs against this government, which they believed was built upon principles divine and imperishable. Joseph Smith and Brigham Young both predicted that the Latter-day Saints would save the Constitution when its life would be hanging by a thread. God was with Columbus, with Washington and Grant, and He was with Grover Cleveland, and all who honestly labored for the welfare of mankind. For the Congress of the United States which would meet next month, the Saints could sincerely and earnestly pray. God bless them that they may legislate in wisdom and righteousness for the best good of all the citizens of this broad land.

This was the Mormonism that the speaker had been taught from his mother's knee. He was born a Mormon and he knew whereof he spoke. Judge ye whether such a religion be narrow and exclusive in its spirit and aims.

As for salvation, Mormonism taught that all men except an evil few—the sons of perdition, who sinned against too much light—would be saved. Many would be saved after passing through hell and being purged of their sins and moral filthiness. But all would be saved in different degrees of glory, upon just and righteous principles, every soul receiving its just deserts, and finding its proper place in the many mansions of the Father—a salvation as great as it could appreciate and was fitted to receive.

The choir sang the anthem:

God of Israel.

Benediction by Elder Abraham H. Cannon.

OBITUARY.

GIBBONS.—Thomas Gibbons, one of the oldest and most respected residents of Rockport, Summit county, Utah, died on June 12th while on a visit to his brother and friends in Shapeteles, N. Y. He enjoyed excellent health up to about four hours before his death. In the middle of the night he complained of not feeling well and his wife, who was with him, got up and got him a warm drink and sent for the doctor. Everything possible was done to relieve the sufferer but he died at 5:15 on the following morning of the 12th. His wife had the body embalmed and started with it for Rockport, where she arrived on the 18th. Her nephew, Wm. Gibbons came with her as far as Chicago.

The funeral was held on Sunday, the 19th, and was largely attended by Brother Gibbons' wide circle of friends, President Oluf of Coalville officiating. Deceased was born in Colborne, Wiltshire, England, on the 25th of December, 1822. He joined the Mormon Church when a young man and emigrated to the United States September 18th, 1853. He made his home in Wisconsin and Cincinnati, O., at first, but in 1857 came to Utah in Israel Evans' handcart company. He was ordained to the Fourth quorum of Seventies in 1858 and afterward a High Priest. He was for a number of years a member of the High Council of the Summit Stake of Zion, a position he filled up to the time of his death. He was widely known for his hospitality and uprightness of character. He leaves a wife and fifteen children and fifteen grandchildren to mourn his loss. He died as he lived a faithful Latter-day Saint.

DEATHS.

POWELL.—In Salt Lake City, July 1st, 1893, of general debility, Jessie Allen Archibald, wife of Abraham Powell, aged 72 years.

THURGOOD.—At 11:35 p.m. on the 28th inst., at East Bountiful, of heart disease, John Thurgood; born March 15th, 1842, in London, England.

BIRD.—In the Fifteenth ward, this city, June 28th 1893, of hemorrhage, Elizabeth A. daughter of George and Louisa Hales and wife of William Bird; aged 39 years, 8 months and

MADDON.—In this city, June 29, 1893, of neuralgia of the stomach, Catherine Maddon, mother of Louisa and Susan Davey; born October 6, 1806, in London, England.

WEAVER.—At Sugar House ward, Salt Lake county, July 1st, 1893, Elizabeth Emily, daughter of William and the late Mary Ann Weaver. Born at Hereford, England, March 29th, 1877. *Millennial Star*, please copy.

MALIN.—At Hoytsville, Summit county, Utah, Samuel Malin, June 3rd, 1893, of cancer; deceased was born June 29th, 1813, at Chester county, Pennsylvania, and emigrated to Salt Lake City in 1849.

NATTRESS.—John Marlborough Nattress, beloved son of Joseph and Rose Nattress; June 29th, 1893; born January 4th, 1803, in Oakland California. *Millennial Star*, please copy.

STEVENSON.—At Orangeville, Emery county, Utah, June 21st, 1893, Catherine Stevenson, wife of David Stevenson; born April 13th, 1859, at Argentine, Italy. She leaves a family of seven children and a husband to mourn her loss.

BROWN.—In Harrisville ward, Weber county, Utah, at 9:30 p.m. June 22nd, 1893, of old age and general debility, Richard Daniels Brown.

Deceased was born March 1, 1811, at Wigan, Lancashire, England, and was married September 11, 1830, to Margaret Parkenson, by whom he had seventeen children. Of these seven died in their infancy. Brother Brown was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Manchester branch in the winter of 1848, he being an earnest advocate of the same. He came to Utah in October, 1864, and settled in 1865 at Harrisville. His wife preceded him to the great beyond by sixteen years and ten days.

Funeral services were held at the Harrisville meeting house at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 25th, Bishop P. G. Taylor presiding. The deceased's ten living children were present with about two-thirds of their posterity, which numbers one hundred and forty souls. The speakers were J. M. Brown and John Pincock of Ogden, Bishop McIntyre and Joseph Taylor of Farr West, Bishop P. G. Taylor and his counselor, S. J. Taylor, of this place. A long line of vehicles followed the remains to Ogden city cemetery, where the body of the deceased was deposited beside his wife.