

were called: "Wherefore a commandment I give unto them that they shall not give these things unto the Church, neither unto the world: nevertheless, inasmuch as they receive more than is needful for their necessities and their wants, it shall be given into my storehouse, and the benefit shall be consecrated unto the inhabitants of Zion, and unto their generations, inasmuch as they become heirs according to the laws of the kingdom."

"Behold this is what the Lord requires of every man in his stewardship, even as I the Lord have appointed, or shall hereafter appoint unto any man. And behold, none are exempt from this law who belong to the Church of the living God; yea, neither the bishop, neither the agent who keepeth the Lord's storehouse, neither he who is appointed in a stewardship over temporal things; he who is appointed to administer spiritual things, the same is worthy of his hire even as those who are appointed to a stewardship, to administer in temporal things."

In the next revelation it speaks of Sidney Gilbert, "And let my servant Sidney Gilbert stand in the office which I have appointed him, to receive monies, to be an agent unto the Church, to buy lands in all the regions round about, inasmuch as can be in righteousness and as wisdom shall direct."

"And let my servant Edward Partridge stand in the office which I have appointed him, to divide the Saints their inheritance, even as I have commanded; and also those whom he has appointed to assist him."

"And again, verily I say unto you let my servant Sidney Gilbert plant himself in this place," [that was Independence, Jackson County, Missouri,] "and establish a store that he may sell goods without fraud, that he may obtain money to buy land for the good of the Saints, and that he may obtain whatever things the disciples may need to plant them in their inheritances."

Sell goods without fraud! That is a point I wish our merchants to look at, if that does not hit them square in the face I am mistaken. Does the Lord talk about a merchant as though he was a mere trader who had gathered for the purpose of clutching all he possibly could without caring for anybody else?

Will the time ever come that we can commence and organize this people as a family? It will. Do we know how? Yes; what was lacking in these revelations from Joseph to enable us to do so was revealed to me. Do you think we will ever be one? When we get home to our Father and God will we not wish to be in the family? Will it not be our highest ambition and desire to be reckoned as the sons of the living God, as the daughters of the Almighty, with a right to the household, and the faith that belongs to the household, heirs of the Father, His goods, His wealth, His power, His excellency, His knowledge and wisdom? Ought it not to be our highest ambition to attain to this? How many families do you think there will be then? It is true that we read in the Bible with regard to the twelve tribes of Israel, that they will be gathered together tribe by tribe, and that when they are so gathered they will hear the sentence of the Ancient of Days.

They were commanded never to go out of their own family—the family of Abraham, to seek a partner for life. Did they keep that command? No; but they ran here and there, to the rebellious nations around and got their wives; and so they continued transgressing and rebelling until the days of Moses, when the gospel was offered to, and utterly rejected by them, and so the Lord gave them the law of Carnal Commandments, in which they were forbidden to marry, as you can read in the Bible. That was a yoke of bondage. And the whole religious world swallow this down as the revelations of the Lord Almighty to His people; they were to His people, but were given in consequence of their rebellion. A great many arguments might be adduced in favor of this, many more, I think, than could be adduced against it. Still we do not care anything about that; we look at facts just as they are. Abraham married his half sister according to the Bible; but there is a discrepancy in the record, for it is stated in his own writings that she was the daughter of his older brother, and he was the chosen of the Lord; and all can read for themselves and see whom Isaac and Jacob got for wives. Did not Jacob, when going to his uncle's house see Rachel at the well drawing water? Said he, "she is a pretty nice

looking girl, I guess I'll help her," and going to do so, he found she was the daughter of the very man to whose house the Lord had sent him; and he liked her well enough to work seven years for her for a wife, and then Leah was palmed on to him, so he worked seven years more for Rachel, and Jacob and his wives were own cousins. Jacob's mother and his wives' father were sister and brother; consequently his wives' grandfather and grandmother—Nehor and Milcah—were his grandfather and grandmother. Besides, Nehor was the brother of Abraham, Jacob's grandfather on his father's side—and Milcah was the sister of Sarah—his grandmother on his father's side. So it was with Israel, in the days of their obedience they were commanded to take partners in their own families; but Israel was finally divided up into twelve parts, and they will be brought up so. This, however, is something that I understand, and which the people may understand, perhaps, sometime. They will come up tribe by tribe, and the Ancient of Days; He who led Abraham, and talked to Noah, Enoch, Isaac and Jacob, that very Being will come and judge the twelve tribes of Israel. He will say, "you rebelled, and you have been left to the mercies of the wicked." See the tribe of Judah and the half tribe of Benjamin, that tarried in Palestine when the rest went into the north country, how they have been trampled down! they have not outgrown it to this day. Take them in England, or across on the Continent, or even in this country, no matter what you do to them, they will not resent it; they submit to it. But they will rise by-and-by and assert their rights and have them. They are the oldest nation in the world, and they have as bright talents as any other people in the world, and the time will come when they will obtain their rights and be restored to the land of their fathers, only be patient about it.

There is another class of individuals to whom I will briefly refer. Shall we call them Christians? They were Christians originally. We cannot be admitted into their social societies, into their places of gathering at certain times and on certain occasions because they are afraid of polygamy. I will give you their title that you may all know whom I am talking about—I refer to the Freemasons. They have refused our brethren membership in their lodge, because they were polygamists. Who was the founder of Freemasonry? They can go back as far as Solomon, and there they stop. There is the king who established this high and holy order. Now was he a polygamist, or was he not? If he did believe in monogamy he did not practice it a great deal, for he had seven hundred wives, and that is more than I have; and he had three hundred concubines, of which I have none that I know of. Yet the whole fraternity throughout Christendom will cry out against this order. "Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear." What is the matter? "I am in pain," they all cry out, "I am suffering at witnessing the wickedness there is in our land. Here is one of the 'relics of barbarism!'" Yes, one of the relics of Adam, of Enoch, of Noah, of Abraham, of Isaac, of Jacob, of Moses, David, Solomon, the Prophets, of Jesus and his Apostles. And the other relic, they have—you know whether they have used it up or not. Now what does our Bible tell us about this? Under this law of Carnal Commandments the Lord told Moses to command the people to release their manservants, and their maidservants and forgive their debts once in seven years, and to let their land rest one year in seven; and when seven times seven years had passed over they were commanded to rest seven years, and to release all their manservants and maidservants. How will it be in eternity? We will wait till we get there; for there is no use in telling you; you would not know anything about it. I reckon there will be servants there, and I do not think they will be released once in seven years either; if they are, they will have to be brought right in again, for they will not know how to get their bread, and will have to be taken care of.

A certain portion of the human family have to be looked after and taken care of. If you do not know it, just look through the world and see the very few heads and brains that do all the legislating, and even the obtaining of what the children eat; it is only just a few that do this, out of the inhabitants of the whole earth. We are trying to teach this people to use their brains,

that they may obtain knowledge and wisdom to sustain themselves and to dictate for others; that they may be worthy to be made kings and priests to God, which they never can be unless they learn here or somewhere else to govern, manage, legislate and sustain themselves, their families and friends, even to the making of nations, and nation after nation. If they cannot attain to this, they will have to be servants somewhere.

I say unto you that it is wisdom for us to apply ourselves to the revelations that the Lord has given us, and seek after Him that we may know His will concerning us, that we may be able to abide the day of His wrath, and be counted worthy through our obedience and faithfulness to enjoy the blessings that are prepared for the faithful.

We frequently talk about variety. My brother Joseph was talking about the variety in the feelings of this people. Can you see two faces alike in this congregation? If you cannot, you cannot find two spirits alike, you cannot find two who are the same in disposition. And if you search the world over, and all the works of God you will find that same eternal variety.

We are capable of talking, thinking and communicating; then we are capable of receiving, and we can receive a little here, and a little there, as the prophet has said, "Line upon line, and precept upon precept," until we come to understanding. This is our privilege; we are capable of doing this, and if we will go to work with our might, and apply ourselves to learning the things of God, you will find there will not be quite so much selfishness as there is now.

I do not know but some people would ask br. Brigham if he is ready to hand over what he has got? just as ready as the man who has only three dimes—just exactly, it is nothing to me. If we could live as one family, and could see that intelligence that is distributed among the minds of the people acted upon, we should see no idleness, slothfulness, wastefulness, covetousness, nor contention one with another, but every man and woman would be content with what was given them, and with all their souls would seek to obtain salvation, and would not be so eager after a little worldly honor or pleasure, and they would not feel "If I do not have my heaven here, I do not know that I shall ever have it." You cannot have it unless you enjoy the Spirit of the Lord, not one of you; you cannot find comfort, solace or bliss without the Spirit of the Lord. All else contaminates and mars, and is calculated to destroy. As I said to the brethren the other day in the Thirteenth Ward Schoolhouse with regard to worldly pleasure, comfort and enjoyment; you may take as much as you please of the Spirit of the Lord, and it will not make your stomach or head ache. You may drink nine cups of strong spiritual drink, and it will not hurt you; but if you drink nine cups of strong tea, see what it will do for you. Let a person that is very thirsty and warm satiate his appetite with cold water, and when he gets through he will perhaps have laid the foundation for death, and may go to an untimely grave, which is frequently done. Excessive eating, drinking or exercise all tend to the grave; but you may take as much of the Spirit of the Lord as you have a mind to, I do not care if you take a good hearty supper of it and then go right to bed, it will not hurt you in the least; if you take it early in the morning it will not spoil your breakfast. It will never hurt you, but will give life, joy, peace, satisfaction and contentment; it is light, intelligence, strength, power, glory, wisdom, and finally, it comprehends the kingdoms that are, that were, or that will be, and all that we can contemplate and desire, and will lead us to everlasting life. Only let us have the Spirit of the Lord and we can be happy; while the things of this world, that are so eagerly sought after, all point directly to the grave. Men and women who are trying to make themselves happy in the possession of wealth or power will miss it, for nothing short of the gospel of the Son of God can make the inhabitants of the earth happy, and prepare them to enjoy heaven here and hereafter.

May the Lord bless you.

SIGNIFICANT.—according to the recent census of New York city, there are 148,683 families in the city, 42,909 of which are without children.

[Special to the DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

St. Louis, 31.

The Lindell Hotel, the largest building of the kind on the Continent, if not in the world, was totally destroyed by fire last night; the total loss is scarcely less than \$1,600,000. The fire was seen a distance of 27 miles from the city.

New York, 31.

Vera Cruz correspondence, March 15, states that Bazaine and the rearguard of the French army left on the 13th.

Brussels, 31.

Placards hostile to Prussia and favoring an alliance with France have been posted up in the streets of Luxembourg.

Ottawa, C. W.

The inter-colonial bill has passed the House of Commons by a large majority; the confederation bill has also received the Royal assent.

New York, 31.

The Emperor of Russia has extended amnesty to all French exiles in Siberia for connection with the Polish revolution.

In the North German Parliament the amendment to the constitution, providing for freedom of the press and the right of public meeting, was rejected.

Rome, 30.

A proclamation has been issued at Friaseamore, offering a reward of 600 scudi for the capture of every brigand, dead or alive, and 1,200 scudi for the capture of every chief of a band.

New York, 1.

A dispatch has been received from Gov. Throckmorton, of Texas, to the effect that the State will immediately reorganize under the reconstruction Act.

New Orleans, 1.

The steamer Alabama, with 1,200 bales of cotton, was burned this morning five miles above here; the boat was valued at \$50,000.

London, 1.

Regret is generally expressed by the press and political circles at the proposed sale of the Russian possessions in America to the United States.

The figures of the budget, as laid before the House of Commons, show that the revenue of Great Britain for the last fiscal year exceeds the expenditures of the Government by £2,500,000.

Liverpool, 1.

The steamship Moravia, from the Clyde, bound to Boston, sunk at sea during the severe storm on the 20th of March.

Nashville, 1.

In the conservative convention to-day resolutions were adopted requesting the colored voters to hold meetings and appoint delegates to the state convention to be held here on the 16th, to nominate a candidate for Governor.

Washington, 1.

In the Senate the President's proclamation convening an executive session was read, and a committee of two appointed to wait on the President and inform him that a quorum of the Senate had assembled. It was ordered that the daily hour for meeting in executive session be 12:15 p.m.

N. G. Taylor to-day entered upon his duties as Indian Commissioner.

The Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau has received reports of the operations of the Bureau in Mississippi during January, from which it appears that labor was in good demand, and better wages were offered than last year. The Sub-Commissioner of the Natches district states that while there is some destitution among the freedmen, the most alarming destitution and suffering are staring the white people in the face. Of the two classes the former is better situated, being able to do that kind of work generally in demand, and their wants are few and their expenses light. Their schools are reported to be in a flourishing condition and well supported; the freedmen are doing much to support them. There is no opposition from the more intelligent classes to the education of the freedmen, on the contrary, many planters are willing to permit the necessary buildings for schools. The accounts of destitution and starvation, so far as they refer to Mississippi, are much exaggerated; during January no rations were issued to citizens, either black or white, except to those in the hospitals.

The National Lincoln Monument Association has organized with Senator Harlan for President, James M. Edmunds, Secretary, and John Conness Manager on the part of California.