

From these extracts it will readily be seen, we presume, that the author of this "Gospel" cannot be, as it claims, the Apostle Peter. When he, for instance, tells us that the friends of Jesus received of Herod the permission to bury the body, he is evidently ignorant of the fact that the Herod of that time was the tetrarch whose jurisdiction did not extend beyond Galilee. He was a visitor to the capital at the time and had previous to the crucifixion refused to interfere in any way with the prisoner. To suddenly place Herod at the head of proceedings which properly came under the jurisdiction of Pilate is an inconsistency in the narrative of which Peter never was guilty.

Again, when the author expressly states that Christ had no sufferings, he simply contradicts the holy Scriptures, which represent our Savior as "stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted." It is evident throughout that this "Gospel" was written in later ages in the interest of the heretics known as the Docetæ, who taught that Christ was so entirely divine in His nature that all His human acts were mere appearances.

The only genuine Gospel of Peter known is that which has been handed down to us as the Gospel according to Mark. This evangelist was the son of a pious woman in Jerusalem who received the Apostle Peter in her house after the miraculous deliverance from prison. He was a nephew of Barnabas and accompanied Paul on one of his missions as far as Perga in Pamphylia. He also attended Peter on his journeys and according to the testimony of early Christian writers, wrote his Gospel under the immediate direction of this Apostle, a fact perhaps alluded to in 2 Pet. 1. 15, 16. This view is sustained by the strongest internal evidence, the Gospel of Mark containing, notwithstanding its brevity, many minute details of the history of Peter, which hardly anybody but the Apostle himself could have communicated to the writer.

On these grounds rests the supposition that the genuine Gospel of Peter has been extant and in circulation since it was penned by Mark as his amanuensis, and any claim to the discovery of another Gospel by the eminent Apostle must until very strong proofs are given be regarded with suspicion.

### WE WANT NO BOOM.

Three years ago Salt Lake City was floating on the high tide of a real estate boom. Property was being bought and sold at a rate and for figures that made the business atmosphere feverish. Anything could be sold today at a good price and sold again tomorrow for a higher one. Speculation far and wide, involving large and small amounts, was rife and everybody, or nearly so, was in the pool at various depths ranging from the neck down to the shoetops. Money was abundant and correspondingly active, and those who had none were the "ne'er-do-wells" who are ever impecunious no matter how advantageously surrounded. It was a great time, a giddy, whirling, bustling, high-pressure sort of time.

All at once the music ceased and

the dance came to an end almost without warning. There was no more boom visible; it had sought the impalpable air and had gone to stay. In vain were the calls for it to come back; it was as certainly no more as if it had never been. Like the late comet, it was with us just about long enough to make all hands interested to some extent, then it split into fragments and faded from the view forevermore.

What kind of condition did it leave us in and what were the general results? A few only had quit at the right time and had more or less money in excess of what they began with; the great majority had gone on to the end and found themselves at the collapse with property on hand which they had either secured through posting a forfeit—known as an "option"—or had paid for it outright; in the former case the amount advanced was permitted to go without further consideration, thus causing a much lighter loss to the speculator as a general thing than in the other case, because when the flurry was all over nobody would buy at any price. All these lost heavily; the total losses to them amounted to very much more than the gains of the others, as a natural consequence, since in every transaction of the kind some portion of the money is absorbed in fees and what not for deeds, recording and one thing or another. We had had our boom and had it tolerably bad.

The foregoing represents meagerly the financial result, but there were other consequences. The growing confidence which was reposed in our city prior to that time was impaired in some quarters and utterly destroyed in others, hence today we have difficulty in raising by subscription \$100,000 for a great enterprise which promises lasting benefits, when we have as much money in our midst as we ever had and but for the changed feeling spoken of might have raised five times as much with comparative ease. Confidence is a plant of slow growth; it requires careful treatment and incessant watching; it flourishes in the midst of good faith, legitimate enterprise and that sterling quality defined by homely western parlance as "square dealing." The first breath of suspicion suspends its growth; when enterprise becomes reckless and merged into a form of gambling, it droops its head; and when one part of a community have profited without consideration on another part and stagnation takes the place of riotous traffic, then confidence dies beyond the hope of an early resurrection.

The story is not all told yet. Loss of confidence, with its train of evils and loss of money, are but two phases of the damage done. A booming city is like an intoxicated man. All things visible take on a lurid hue, and the judgment that should be more than ever a guide is either completely overthrown or so seriously impaired as to be no longer an assistant. The victim sees forms that others cannot see and hear voices that others cannot hear. Rationality is suspended until the delirium is gone and as nearly the normal condition as is possible returns, but it is not possible for complete restoration to occur all at once. As wine leaves the excessive drinker degraded, enervated and for-

lorn, so does the boom leave the city upon which it operates successfully for any length of time. The people have been easily led from the path of steady-going and strictly legitimate enterprise into the devious ways of the speculator. If not the gambler because of the greater gains promised with less consideration or no consideration at all. If they have emerged as honest as they went in they are grandly fortunate; but whether so or not, they have been singed if not seared while passing through the flames—have learned some of the tricks of sharpers and the expressions of stock jobbers; they have, in fine, seen a new light and a wholly bad one.

Salt Lake is now struggling upward from the prostrate condition in which the boom left it and in which it has remained with more or less fluctuation of a limited degree ever since. The mislaid gains are probably now entirely destroyed and she can proceed to build herself up again on a natural and healthful foundation. We want more prosperity, more business activity, more useful enterprises, more money in circulation, but we want no more booms. Whatever that is of benefit and promises to enhance our temporal or spiritual welfare is welcome, but a flurry for a brief season in which a form of widespread gambling is given the outward seeming of bustling trade, we should avoid as we would the deadly breath of the slum.

### THE CHOLERA SCARE.

The cholera scare is as much before the world now as it was last year, notwithstanding that then it was a possession and now but a dread. It is believed in many quarters that with the return of warm weather and bright sunshine there will be a revival of the Asiatic scourge. The European winter has been a severe one, but while this has doubtless curtailed the germs somewhat, they are not entirely disposed of and will assert themselves disastrously again about the time named.

In a thoughtful article on this subject, the *Chicago News Record* says that the reports of cholera cases at Marseilles, St. Petersburg and Hamburg should awaken neither surprise nor any great degree of apprehension. With the solemn warning given by the epidemic of last year the authorities of Europe are very well equipped to meet the disease. The winter has given an opportunity for the disinfection of places where cholera was known to have existed, and any outbreak that may come will be instantly met with vigorous resistance.

No place under the sun has reason to be more apprehensive regarding the scourge than Chicago. It behooves all classes there not only to remove every cause for the origin or spread of the disease, but to see to it that the government's quarantine regulations are rigidly enforced.

If JUDGE GRESHAM has read all the accounts and seen all the "portraits" of him in the newspapers, his mind must be in a wonderfully tangled condition by this time.