

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

SALVATION FOR ALL.

In the Gospel according to John an incident is related, which gives the Savior occasion to proclaim the glorious doctrine that the plan of salvation embraces the whole human race. But although the doctrine was taught by Christ and further explained by His messenger to the world, it was gradually lost sight of by men, until the notion became very general that the greatest part of mankind was destined for eternal existence in flames never to be extinguished. Only through the teachings of the inspired Prophets of this age the truth in this respect has again been made known.

The Evangelist John tells us that certain Greeks, or rather "Hellenists" as Jews who lived outside of Palestine were called, had come to Jerusalem to worship. Having heard of the great Prophet of Nazareth they desired to become acquainted with him and secured an introduction by two of His disciples.

In this incident, trivial as it apparently is, the Lord sees the beginning of His triumph as the Savior of a world. The homage paid him by these strangers was but a type of that day when every tongue shall confess that He is the Lord. Anticipating this He exclaims: "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

Clear as this language seems to be, it has been strangely perverted. If it means anything at all, it is an unqualified promise that a time will come when Jesus is universally recognized as the Lord and master both in heaven and on earth. Through His death and exaltation this is to be accomplished.

The reason why so many Bible readers fail to see this important truth is because they do not recognize the work of the Lord for the salvation of man, after He has been "lifted up from the earth." They lay all stress on the saving virtue of His death, ignoring the fact that it is by virtue of His exaltation that salvation is possible. One consequence of this false conception is the unscriptural idea that salvation is limited to the living, while all the millions who died before hearing anything about a Redeemer are supposed to be eternally lost. God's power to save is thus limited to the brief span of time allotted a human being, and death is the termination of that mercy which is said to endure for ever. In fact, by this awful view, death and hell are stronger than the Almighty, if they consume the greater part of His children.

How different is the true Gospel sound! It teaches us that Christ lives; that salvation is offered to the dead, "that they may live according to God in the spirit;" that the work of redemption is carried out beyond the grave and will be continued until every erring son and daughter of God has an opportunity to hear the Father's loving invitation to return to the Father's house.

As yet this beautiful doctrine is but imperfectly, if at all, understood, outside the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. But like all truth

it is mighty and will prevail. It is the testimony of the messengers sent in these last days to the world from God, as it is the silent testimony of the majestic temples reared in these mountain valleys. For the answer to the often repeated question, why these structures are erected, is this: that through the faithful work of Saints even those beyond the veil shall be offered participation in that glory the fulness of which mortal tongue cannot describe. The work dependent on Christ's exaltation is committed to His Church in the most holy places. For here heaven and earth are united for the salvation of man.

HAPPILY ENDED.

With the decree of the Territorial Supreme court ordering the restoration of the personal property and money in the hands of the Receiver to the First Presidency of the Church, we apprehend there will be not one word of complaint from any source whatever. That the order was in great measure formal—the recent act of Congress and the mandate of the Supreme Court of the United States having made it so—does not in the least detract from the satisfaction with which the happy ending of the long litigation is regarded. The change in official and public sentiment which began, with reference to this confiscation business, about a couple of years ago, has worked its way step by step to the gratifying conclusion now recorded. It only needed time and gentle guidance into regular channels, not particularly hot, hard fighting, to make it effective. And while hereby thanking all those whose friendly words and attitude have helped it to this result, the NEWS as the organ of the Church feels that the objects of chief congratulation are the nation and its people, on the re-enthronement of their sense of justice, generosity and right. The "Mormon" Church could much better sustain the permanent loss of its property than the great American Republic could temporarily survive this loss of reputation. In the restoration of both in the manner now indicated, there is accordingly room for nothing but contentment and pleasure all round.

The phrasing of the decree is so plain as to need no additional elucidation. Of course the congressional proviso as to the uses to which the property may be applied is incorporated; the language on this point being as follows: "It is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed that the said receiver deliver said property and money to Wilford Woodruff, George Q. Cannon and Joseph F. Smith, the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to be applied under their direction and control and that of their successors in office to the charitable uses and purposes of said Church, that is to say, for the payment of the debts for which said Church is legally or equitably liable; for the relief of the poor and distressed members of said Church; for the education of the children of such members, and for the

building and repair of houses of worship for the use of said Church, but in which the rightfulness of the practice of polygamy shall not be inculcated."

As to other property belonging to the Church, and now under control of the Receiver, it is only consistent to hope that its restoration also will speedily follow. A memorial to Congress to this effect has been introduced into the Legislature and will probably pass both houses without delay and receive the Governor's approval. It applies to all the real estate, whereas the above decree refers to personal property only.

A QUESTION OF ECONOMICS.

An important addition to the tariff literature of the country is a little work by Prof. Shulze-Governitz, a German economist who has completed a series of exhaustive studies as to the relation of wages to the cost of labor. That his views are in accord with the arguments of leading tariff-reformers in the United States will perhaps be sufficient reason for their rejection by a large proportion of American economists; and yet, since his deductions directly assail the value of the comparisons of wage rates for the United States and other countries, so frequently seen in the arguments of high protectionists, it ought to be worth the while of the latter to give him some attention, if only for the purpose of demolishing him.

This is the gauntlet which he boldly throws down: "Where the cost of labor is lowest the conditions of labor are most favorable, the working day is shortest and the weekly wages of operatives are highest." This means, if it is true, that the comparisons of wage rates so approvingly quoted in favor of the American workman, is worthless as proof as to the cost of labor per unit of product. In other words, while the German statistician finds that wages in his country and Switzerland are lower than in England, and lower in England than in the United States, yet his calculations show him that in the weaving mills of the two first named countries the weekly product per worker is only 466 yards as compared with 706 yards in England and 1200 yards in the United States. Thus it would seem to come about that the higher wage rate accompanies or causes a lower cost of production—a result just the opposite of that claimed for the higher wage rate by the high-tariff people.

To these latter, who are generally amply able to take care of their side of a debate, these conclusions are commended as worthy of notice. The NEWS gives this much space and prominence to them because they strike us as casting an interesting and really important side-light on the great subject of present political contention.

A LIVE VOLCANO.

Our neighbors beyond the Rio Grande are having a real sensation, outside of their perennial revolutions and Indian outbreaks. This is neither more nor less than a fiery eruption of their matchless volcano mountain,