

and through the administration of the gospel through the Holy Priesthood, or by means of the elders He has sent forth, and whose acts He sanctions by imparting the Holy Ghost on whom they lay their hands; and hence we are one, having been baptized into one baptism, and partaken of the same spirit, and hence, we have assurance, and are constituted as no other people are, under the heavens. We possess evidence and assurance which the world cannot give, neither can the world take it away; and hence, we go forth with a steady unerring aim with regard to the future. We know individually and collectively what we are doing, and if there be those among us who do not comprehend all things; yet, we do know that we have partaken of the Holy Ghost. We feel like the man that was born blind, who was healed by the Saviour. The Pharisees said to the healed man, "give God the praise, we know that this man is a sinner." He answered and said: whether he be a sinner or not, I know not; one thing I know, that, whereas, I was blind, now I see."

All the sons and daughters of God who are living their religion, and faithfully keeping the commandments of God, can render a reason for the hope that is within them, and can answer the whys, and the wherefores for the movements of the church and kingdom of God upon the earth. They may not know what is going to be the result of this, that and the other; but they do know that they have received the Holy Ghost, and that God lives—that they have received a principle, whereby they are enabled to say Abba Father—My Father. "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." Hence we have partaken of a portion of eternal lives, and have begun to live forever. It was upon this principle that Jesus spake to the woman of Samaria, when he asked her for a drink. Now there was a strong enmity existing between the Jews and the Samaritans, and she thought it singular when Jesus asked her for a drink of water. "Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith unto thee, give me to drink; thou wouldst have asked him, and he would have given thee living water." "Whosoever drinketh of this water, shall thirst again; but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him, shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him, shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

Did the world know who these elders are, that go forth among them bearing the precious seed of eternal life, could they comprehend, and realize it; they would ask of them, and they would give them water, which would be in them a well springing up to eternal life, for they are the representatives of God on the earth; going forth with authority from Him, to impart unto the world the Holy Ghost, and lead them into the paths of life. We have partaken of this Holy Spirit and, hence there is confidence manifested in all our movements and actions, as a people.

Who among the true saints of God, ever doubts, as to the destiny of this kingdom? Who that has the spirit of revelation—the spirit of truth—ever dreams that this kingdom will ever be overthrown. They quake in the north, and in the south, they wonder what the end will be; whether they will gain that victory, or lose that battle; whether we are going to be divided into two separate nations, be consolidated in one, or divided into a great many. These are matters that puzzle the wisest of our statesmen. If we have any wise men in the United States, and in the nations of Europe or the earth, let them manifest their wisdom, and put the world right.

The Latter-day Saints have no wonder what is going to become of them, it never enters into our minds that anything will transpire, that will overthrow the church and kingdom of God on the earth. What man that is a saint, and has in his possession the gift of the Holy Ghost, that does not know that the kingdom of God is onward? We know that we shall overcome every opposing power. No matter what transpires, what effect has it on us? none at all; it only affects the weak and vacillating, that have not lived their religion, and followed the light of the Holy Spirit in them, they may fear; but the men and women of God, those who live in the light of the countenance of the Lord, and cherish the Holy Spirit in their bosoms, having no other feeling, but the final triumph of the kingdom of God on the earth; they know nothing else.

What inspired the ancient prophets to know that the time would come

when the saints of God should take the kingdom, and the greatness of it under the whole heavens should be given to them and He whose right it is, should rule and reign, and have dominion. The same spirit that dwells in us proceeds from the same God, that inspired the prophets of old, developing the same truths, making manifest the same things, and unfolding the same principles. We have confidence in relation to these matters; and hence men that understand this, who live their religion, feel perfectly satisfied in regard to any, or all the events that shall transpire on the earth.

We were driven out of Missouri—we were driven from one place to another in Missouri, before we were driven out altogether; then we were driven from Illinois to this territory. But what of that. I know some men who thought the work was at an end. I remember a remark made by Sidney Rigdon, I suppose he did not live his religion—I do not think he did—His knees began to shake in Missouri, and on one occasion he said, "brethren, every one of you take your own way, for the work seems as though it had come to an end." Brigham Young encouraged the people, and Joseph Smith told them to be firm, and maintain their integrity, for God would be with his people and deliver them. I never saw a time that the saints enjoyed themselves better, than when they, apparently, were wading through the deepest troubles; I never saw them more full of the Holy Ghost, and take more joyfully the spoiling of their goods. Why was this? Because they had that spirit within them of which we are speaking, and they knew what would be the result of all these things: When we left Nauvoo, we sang joyfully:

"On the way to California,
In the spring we'll take our journey,
Far above Arkansas fountains
Pass between the Rocky Mountains."

When it was asked us, where are you going? Our reply would be: we hardly know, we are going somewhere, and God will protect us, and all is right and well in Zion, and all is peace, and all will be peace to those who will love God, and keep his commandments; because his kingdom is established upon the rock of ages, and it is God's business to take care of his saints, and all is well.

And when the nation with which we are associated is shaken to its centre and crumbles to pieces (it is pretty well shaken now, notwithstanding what our President seems to say about it, that everything is very prosperous, and that we have more men now than before the war) notwithstanding all this, it is crumbling and falling, and it will continue to fall and to crumble until it is no more, and by and bye there will be an end of it. Not so with the kingdom of God, it will stand, and continue to exist and spread, and go forth, and correct principles, principles of eternal truth and light and revelation from God will be unfolded, and intelligence that dwells with the gods will continue to be imparted to this people, and God will be their God and they will be His people, and He will continue to lead them on from strength to strength, and from knowledge to knowledge, until they understand all correct principles that can be known on the earth, until they are enabled to redeem themselves and their posterity, and then establish the kingdom of God on the earth until the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our God and His Christ and He shall reign forever and forever. And to this end God has imparted unto us the spirit of intelligence and wisdom that is unfaltering, unwavering and unchanging, and that will live and abide forever. Have we not cause to be grateful to God our heavenly Father? I think we have. We enjoy peace, we enjoy happiness, we enjoy the Holy Ghost, we enjoy communication with our heavenly Father, we enjoy an association with the Holy Priesthood, we have the revelation of God in us, and God has undertaken to lead His people on from strength to strength, from intelligence to intelligence, from knowledge to knowledge until they are able to see as they are seen and know as they are known. And He is going to establish a reign of righteousness and introduce a correct form of government, even the government of God, the laws of God, the revelations of God to guide and direct in all things, He will be our guide in philosophy, in politics, in agriculture, in science, in art, and in everything that is calculated to enlighten and impart intelligence, and give knowledge of the laws of nations, of the laws of nature, of matter, and of all laws that regulates all things pertaining to time and to eternity. He will continue to instruct and to make manifest and to put us in pos-

session of those principles that will exalt us, and prepare us to dwell with the Gods. We look on the future, we looked on it years ago, and we knew that the kingdom of God would roll on, and we know so to-day, only our faith and knowledge is becoming more stable, more established. We know that this kingdom will continue to spread and to increase. Who can deprive us of that knowledge? No earthly influence or power, or reasoning can do it, hence we are perfectly satisfied in relation to these things. And while we know this is taking place and that a reign of righteousness will be introduced that will be calculated to exalt and ennoble the human family, and make the earth a paradise, and to blossom as the rose, and make the wilderness and desolate places glad, and the government and kingdom of God exist from the rivers to the ends of the earth, whilst we are attending to these things we are also attending to other things, we are securing to ourselves an everlasting exaltation, we are learning God and His laws, and the whisperings of His Spirit, whereby we can be saved and exalted, and be brought to a closer union and connection with Him, by covenants and ordinances, and anointings, and endowments, and blessings, that He is revealing and unfolding. We are learning to build temples where we can receive instruction, and revelation, and ordinances to be performed both for the living and the dead, for ourselves, progenitors and posterity and bless the human family throughout, that we may be saviors on Mount Zion and the kingdom be the Lord's. We are learning to secure for ourselves mansions with our heavenly Father, that where He is we may be also. Jesus said "I go away, but if I go I will come and receive you to myself, that where I am there you may be also, etc." We are preparing ourselves for those mansions, and others are helping to prepare mansions for us who are behind the veil. We shall operate for those who are there and they for us, for they without us cannot be made perfect, nor we without them. We are forming an alliance, a union, a connection with those that are behind the veil, and they are forming a union and connection with us, and while we are living here we are preparing to live hereafter and laying a foundation for this in the celestial kingdom of God. Ought we not to call upon our souls, and upon all that is within us to bless the name of the God of Israel, and to forget not all His mercies? Ought we not to be seeking continually to glorify God in our bodies and spirits which are His? Ought we not to be seeking to have our passions and desires and appetites in obedience and subjection to the will of God? Ought we not to be seeking to control our will and desires, and have everything yielding obedience to that Spirit which emanates from our heavenly Father? Ought we not to be seeking to promote a union with every godlike principle, with everything that is lovely and amiable, and divest ourselves of all our evil passions and propensities, and follies and waywardness and seek to draw near unto God ourselves, and also to draw our families near unto Him, and seek to cultivate the Holy Ghost, that it may be in us a well of water springing up to everlasting life; that we may be worthy to be citizens of the kingdom of God; and that hereafter we may enjoy an immortality of happiness with our progenitors and our posterity, and with our God in the eternal world, even in this world when it shall be redeemed and sanctified and be made new.

May God help us to keep His commandments, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

NEWS ITEMS.

THE Mobile Tribune says the valuable property belonging to Urah P. Levy, an officer in the Yankee navy, and known as the "Monticello estate," has been ordered by the Confederate States Court to be sequestered, and the receiver authorized to sell the same at public auction. This estate was once the residence of Thomas Jefferson.

At the agricultural competition of Vaucluse, France, lately held at Thor, the prize for plowing was carried off by a young woman, twenty years of age—the trial taking place with a plow drawn by four oxen. The competitors of the other sex were numerous.

A reduction has been made in the cost of telegrams in Paris. A message can now be sent to any part of Paris for fifty centimes (10 cents), and the administration guarantees that it shall be delivered within half an hour from the time it is dispatched.

A letter from the Gulf Squadron, off the coast of Texas, notices the ravages of the black vomit among the shipping and says: "The Gulf is the most sickly of all the squadrons, Eastern Africa excepted, there is not a more unhealthy district in the world than the coasts of Louisiana, Texas and Florida. I feel, sometimes, like subscribing to the remark of good Capt. Thompson, of the Crele: These swamps are not worth fighting for."

THREE Russian officers have lately been degraded for engaging in a duel, and one of them, who gave the provocation, has been deprived of his title of nobility.

THERE are upwards of thirty generals in the United States army who profess the Roman Catholic faith, among whom are Generals Meade, Rosecrans, Sickles, Sheridan, and Keyes.

The Lebanon (N. H.) Free Press says: Our farmers are getting enormous crops of potatoes this fall. Some get at the rate of five hundred bushels per acre, and no rotten ones at all, and single potatoes are often found weighing two and a half and three pounds. Such a crop has not been known for thirty years. The price will not be over thirty cents per bushel.

CITY railways on the American plan are now in the city of Copenhagen, and at the Hague. The latter city is connected with the watering-place Scheveningen, by a horse railroad passing through a tunnel of green trees.

A congress of the Sunday school teachers of Manchester and Salford is expected to be held before the close of the year, to consider why Sunday scholars, when they grow up, seldom attend church, and what measures should be adopted in consequence.

QUEEN Victoria has given a suite of rooms at Hampton Court Palace as a residence to Dr. Faraday, Professor of Astronomy at the Royal Institution, London.

IN Paris they are about to get up a "Theatre Religieux," where nothing but pieces taken from the Old Testament will be played.

A Chinese Jose House, or temple for heathen worship was dedicated in San Francisco on the 22d of August. It cost eighty thousand dollars. A band of tapestry, embroidered with feathers, and gold and silver thread, which adorns the place, cost one hundred and fifty dollars per yard, and the whole building blazes with gold leaf and tinsel. The priests shout, screech, yell, groan, spin around amid the racket of gongs, drums and fiddles, and smoke opium until they are quite drunk, when others relieve them. The finger nails of the chief priest are longer than his fingers, and are twisted like an auger.

MORE than 79,000 trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants were planted in New York Central Park last year. The carriage drive, now completed, is about eighty miles in length, and walks twenty miles.

PETROLEUM oil has been discovered about three miles northwest of Lockport, New York.

THE tobaccoists in Paris lend umbrellas out by the day. You are caught in a shower, you go into a cigar store, deposit the price of an umbrella, use it, return it, pay six cents a day for its use, and take up your deposit again.

A soldier in Sherman's army whose throat has been cut, is fed through his stomach. He says that he feels, but can't say he knows by taste what he gets to eat.

SIMBIRSK.—This place, situated on the Volga, in Russia, took fire on the 19th of August. The flames were discovered at so many points as to lead to the supposition that the torch had been applied by the Poles. The conflagration continued for nine days. Only about a hundred ordinary wooden buildings, on the outskirts, were left standing. The population, 30,500 souls, encamped in the fields and on the banks of the river, with the remnant of their goods. The Emperor immediately forwarded 10,000 rubles to Simbirsk, and offered whatever help was required to rebuild the town. Before severe weather, probably, houses will be erected for all the inhabitants.—[Boston Transcript.]

A young man attempted to lift a boy by his head, in Troy, N. Y., a day or two ago, and dislocated his neck so that he has remained insensible ever since. It is a matter of doubt whether he will recover.

[Lifting children by their heads is a very foolish and risky operation, endangering life without any benefit.]