

my wonder and astonishment are great, and as I grow older these feelings increase. When I contemplate how we have been led, how the revelations of God have rested upon his servant Brigham, and how he has been enabled to guide this people safely through the difficulties which laid in their path up to this time, I am filled with gratitude to God our Father for raising up prophets in this our day. Posterity will look with wonder upon the work which has been accomplished in this day—they will be lost in astonishment in contemplating the mighty work of God, and will be exceedingly surprised that it could be possible for this generation to witness such mighty works and not have respect to the testimony of the servants of God who led this people. We wonder now how it was possible for the Egyptians to reject the testimony of Moses and Aaron. But, to my mind, the great work in which we are engaged is far greater than the work that was performed by Moses. I reverence the work Moses performed, I look upon it as a great work. But this work of the last days is a far greater work—the gathering of the Saints together from the various nations, is a far more stupendous work, to my mind, than the gathering of Israel from Egypt to the land of Canaan. I would not be guilty of undervaluing the work Moses performed, or of attaching to it a light importance, for I value it highly; but with Moses it was different to what it has been with the Leaders of Israel in these days. The children of Israel had been taught by their fathers that God would raise up a prophet that should lead them from the land of bondage, and Joseph left a charge with his descendants that when God visited them they should take his bones with them to bury in the land of his fathers. They had been looking for this for some time; and when Moses came, he came in direct fulfillment of their traditions and the predictions of their fathers. He found the people almost in the condition of a single family—strangers in a strange land, looking upon their place of sojourn as a place of bondage, from which they would be gladly delivered. He had, therefore, only to raise the standard and declare that God had called him to be the deliverer—the messenger of which their fathers had spoken. This is all he had to do, and he led them forth. It was a great work. But how has it been with the work of God in the days in which we live? What traditions have we had handed down to prepare us for this work? What traditions have the people of America, England, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Italy or France had to prepare them for this great gathering which is being accomplished? All their traditions have tended to fasten them to the homes of their fathers, have bound them to the graves of their ancestors; and the gospel, which has been preached to them by the servants of God, has come in contact with all their prepossessed notions. Yet God has wrought mightily in the midst of the nations; He has poured out His Spirit upon the American, Englishman, Scotchman, Frenchman, German, Scandinavian, Italian and Swiss, and they have been led by that Spirit to leave the land of their fathers to gather with the people of God to the place God has appointed. Is it not, therefore, a greater work than that performed in the days of Moses? Does it not appear so? As I have said, it appears a far greater work than has ever been performed upon the face of the earth since the beginning until now. We may think light of it; we may think that we are an insignificant and small people, yet this movement of ours is one of the greatest events that has ever occurred since our race had a being on the earth. This is my view, and I do not begin to grasp its importance; I can only see glimpses of it as my mind is opened by the spirit of faith. Then I can see it, as it will be developed, grow and increase until it regenerates the earth and its inhabitants, and makes it a fit place for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. How thankful, then, we ought to be that God has again restored His holy priesthood, and sent prophets again upon the earth, and has given them unto us, as a people, to lead and guide us.

I look upon this present time as one of the most critical days that has ever dawned upon us, and hope that in the midst of the temptations which now surround us we will keep our eye upon the mark, that we will continually have before us the object God designed we should accomplish, that we will not allow ourselves to be diverted to the right or to the left, but that we will continually go forth, putting our trust in God, being determined with all the strength and knowledge of God to serve him to the end of our lives. Our pro-

phets have predicted, that when the time should arrive for this people to be tried with prosperity, then they would be in great danger. I have heard this prediction uttered hundreds of times, until it has almost become like an old story with us. I heard the prophet Joseph say, when he was living, that the time would come that this people would be tried with abundance; but he warned them to be careful of these things. The Lord has told us, through the revelations which he gave to Joseph, that it must needs be that the riches of the earth were his to give to his people; "but," He said, "beware of pride, lest ye become as the Nephites of old." This was the warning God gave to us years ago, and it has been repeated in our ears from that time until the present, and still there is a great necessity that we should treasure it up in our hearts, and often reflect upon it. Now that the day of prosperity has dawned upon us, and that we are increasing in material wealth, we should be more and more faithful to our covenants, remembering the promises of the Lord to his people, and keeping humble and meek before him. We have been tried by difficulties; we have been tried by mobs; we have seen the day when we have been compelled to leave our homes; but that banded the saints together and caused them to be united, and their hearts to be strongly set to serve the Lord. How different it is to-day! Here we are, and the world are seeking to mingle with us, and they are becoming uncommonly gracious unto us, as a people; they can smile upon us and be kind unto us. They would have us believe that they welcome us warmly to their smiles and friendship. There is danger in this; this is the danger that the prophets have dreaded. It is an insidious danger that comes creeping like a snake through the grass, and pounces upon us before we are aware of its proximity. But stir us up, as a people, by persecution and abuse, and there is no power on earth we would not unitedly stand against. Through the help of God we have successfully resisted every power that has been arrayed against us. Let the enemy come out against us as an open antagonist, and he finds us an impenetrable phalanx that cannot be moved. Our danger is not in this; but it lies in our being found asleep, and off our watch tower, unsuspecting and unprepared for the enemies' most subtle attacks. It is in scenes like these that we are required to be the more watchful, and in times like these that we are required the more to have the power of God upon us and the revelations of Jesus Christ in our hearts, or we are sure to be overcome. Probably the danger of which I speak is more apparent to me, through being absent for some time; but there is danger, and there is a necessity for us to be up and have our eyes open to the signs of the times and the danger that menaces us to-day, and that threatens to ensnare our feet. I have no fears if we will only obey the counsel of God's servants, if we will only listen diligently to those things which they impart unto us, and honor their teachings and be attentive to our duties. But when I see saints indifferent about their meetings, passing their Sundays without caring whether they hear instructions or not, and their religion becomes a secondary consideration with them, then I am afraid of such individuals; because they are not in a position to resist the attacks of that tempter, who is continually watching to destroy us and the work of God from off the face of the earth. The Lord our God is working with us; he is trying us, probably with trials of a new sort that he may approve of us in every respect. If we have set out to obtain Celestial glory, the precious and inestimable gift of eternal lives, there is no trial necessary for our purification and perfection as Saints of God that we will not have to meet, contend with and overcome. Such trials will come in various shapes, on the right hand and on the left, whether they be in having everything move on prosperously, or in adversity, hardship and the laying down of our lives for the truth, until the design is fully accomplished and the dross of our natures is purified and these earthly tabernacles are redeemed from everything that is grovelling and low and brought into entire subjection to the mind and will of God.

The Lord has sent us here for a wise purpose. He has given us these glorious tabernacles, complete in all their parts, and given unto us laws which are necessary that we should obey to redeem these bodies and pass safely into His presence, to dwell there in the midst of eternal burnings. This is the mission He has given unto us to perform on the earth, and a more glorious mission could not be given to the sons

and daughters of God. The possession of prosperity, boundless wealth in gold and silver, fine raiment, magnificent dwellings, horses and carriages, and all these things attainable on the earth, are but secondary matters compared with it. They are merely auxiliaries to aid us in accomplishing our destiny and are not given unto us to set our hearts upon, or for us to consider our time well spent in looking after them and nothing else. We ought to value riches no more than we do the earth on which we tread, the air we breathe, or the water we drink. The man who seeks after the perishable things of this life and allows his mind to dwell upon them, to the exclusion of the things of God which pertain to his eternal salvation, has failed to comprehend the mission God has assigned him. Let us be taught on these points, and be wise in our day, seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, having our eyes on the mark, being determined that we will build up the kingdom of God and serve Him in spite of hell and every opposing obstacle. It is unnecessary to dwell upon the happiness men and women enjoy in doing the will of God. This the Saints understand. There was no happier people lived than the Saints when in the midst of poverty and destitution and persecution by their enemies; because they knew they were doing the will of God, and their songs of praise and thanksgiving ascended continually to God and the Lamb for the kindness God had manifested to them. My prayer is that we as a people may be obedient to the servants of God, honor and uphold the Priesthood under all circumstances, and cling to the rod of iron which leadeth to the tree of life, that, finally, we may be found at the right hand of our Father and God, and be counted worthy to sit down with Jesus, the holy prophets and apostles, having fought the good fight of faith and overcome. This is my prayer for you this morning and for all the people of God throughout the earth, in the name of Jesus Christ: Amen.

Miscellaneous.

THE Chinese are dexterous menders of broken iron vessels. Their method is described by Dr. Lockhart. The surface of the broken vessel is first scraped clean. A portion of cast iron is then melted in a crucible no bigger than a thimble, in a furnace as large as the lower half of a common tumbler. The iron when melted is dropped on a piece of felt covered with charcoal ashes. It is pressed inside the vessel against the hole to be filled up, and as it exudes on the other side it is struck and pressed with a small roll of felt covered with ashes. The new and old iron adhere, and the superfluous metal being removed, the vessel is as good as new.

THE friends of gun-cotton are pressing its advantages over gunpowder very actively. Its weight is only one-sixth of that of gunpowder. It produces no smoke; it does not foul; it does not heat. With but one-fourth the weight of a gunpowder charge, it gives equal initial velocity, and in shells one-third of the weight produces double the explosive force. Time, damp and exposure do not alter its qualities.

MR. TEGETMEIER, before the Entomological Society, maintained that bees have no hexagonal or geometrical instinct, as has been usually supposed, but the form of their cells is the consequence of the law or property of space, that of seven circles of equal radii, six will just surround the seventh. The cell of the bee is invariably hemispherical at its commencement, and the section of a cell not in contact with another always circular.

AN OFF-HAND JOKE.—A sturdy sergeant being obliged to submit to the amputation of his hand, the surgeon offered to administer chloroform as usual; but the veteran refused, saying, "if the cutting was to be done on him he wanted to see it," and laying his arm on the table, submitted to the operation without a sign of pain except a firmer setting of his teeth as the saw struck the marrow. The operator, as he finished, looked at his victim with admiration, and remarked:

"You ought to have been a surgeon my man."

"I was the next thing to one afore I enlisted," said the hero.

"What was that?" asked the doctor.

"A butcher!" responded the sergeant, with a grim smile, which, despite the surroundings, communicated itself to the bystanders.

HOW TO MAKE HENS LAY.—The fol-

lowing statement was communicated to the Boston Transcript:

For several years past I have spent a few weeks of the latter part of August on the Kennebec river in Maine. The lady with whom I stopped is a highly accomplished, and intelligent housewife. She supports "a hennery," and from her I derived my information in this matter. She told me that for many years she had been in the habit of administering to her hens with their common food at the rate of a teaspoonful of Cayenne pepper each alternate day to a dozen of her fowls. Last season when I was with her, each morning she brought in twelve or fourteen eggs, having but sixteen hens in all. She again and again experimented in the matter, by omitting to feed with the Cayenne for two or three days. The consequence invariably was, that her product of eggs fell off to five or six per day. The same effect of using Cayenne is produced in winter as well as in summer.

ABSENCE PROPER FOR HUSBANDS.—Miss Muloch says:

"A lady of my acquaintance gives it as her *sine qua non* of domestic felicity that the men of the family should be absent at least six hours in the day. And truly a mistress of a family, however strong her affection for the male members of it, cannot but acknowledge this as a great boon. A house where 'papa' or 'the boys' are always about, popping in and out at all hours, everlastingly wanting something, or finding fault with something else, is a considerable trial to feminine patience. And I beg to ask my sex generally—in confidence of course—if it is not the greatest comfort possible when, the masculine part of the family being cleared out for the day, the house settles down into regular work and quietness until evening? Also, it is good for them as well as for us to have all the inevitable petty domestic bothers got over in their absence; to effect which ought to be one of the principle aims of the mistress of a family. Let them if possible, return to a quiet, smiling home, with all its small annoyances brushed away like the dust and cinders from the grate, which, *en passant*, is one of the first requisites to make a fireside look comfortable. It might be as well, too, if the master could contrive to leave the worldly mud of the day at the scraper outside his door."

Varieties.

—The Indian names of some of our new war vessels are thus interpreted: Suwannee, buffalo soup; Shamokin, worn out pipe; Muscoota, musk rat; Winnepec, small pig; Ashuelot, burnt bones; Monocacy, sleeping baby; Mahongo, wounded boar.

—An Administration editor pretends to be a great economist. He says that even a straw is worth picking up. Exactly. He has been known to pick one up often at the sight of a liquor cask and to find it a great help.

—The profession of a clergyman is sooner learned than that of a doctor. It is much easier for most people to preach than to practice.

—Some of the prisoners confined in the Athenaeum at Wheeling, Va., conceived the idea of cooking rats for food, being curious to know how they would taste: The experiment was made to their (the prisoners,) satisfaction, and they represented that the vermin made a very palatable dish.

—When you bury animosity don't set a tombstone over its grave.

—John Milton's house in Barbican, London, which is being demolished, was occupied by a dyer named Heaven, who has placarded the premises thus—"Removal of Heaven, the premises being required for the Metropolitan Railway."

—Why is a flirting wife like a wheel? Because she goes around the fellows (fellows) as well as with the hub.

—A hack driver has been fined \$5 and costs, in Portland, for mutilating a shade tree by hitching his horse to it.

—A Philadelphia paper advises the people who prayed for rain to take warning by their rashness, as the consequence of the recent heavy showers has been to raise butter fifteen cents per pound.

—The best Gal.—A chap was asked what kind of a "gal" he preferred for a wife; one, he said, that wasn't prodi-gal, but fru-gal—a true gal, and suited to his conjugal taste.