

John responded by going to Samaria, and administering to the new converts, and laid their hands on them and "they received the Holy Ghost." This was the course that was undergone by people converted to Christianity in those apostolic times, and we know of no human authority that has a right to alter it.

There ought to be no dispute in relation to the fact that the Christianity of Christ and the Apostles required of the convert, faith in the atoning blood of the Savior and in His divine mission and doctrine, as exhibited in his own life and teachings and the preaching and practice of those He called and authorized to speak and act in His name.

Then followed, in consecutive order, repentance of sin, which is a natural principle as well as a divine requisition. It is a reformation of conduct, exhibited by conforming in word and deed to the commandments of God.

The next step was baptism, by immersion, for the remission of sins, administered by an authorized agent or servant of Jesus Christ. By compliance with this simple and indispensable ordinance the convert typified the death, burial and resurrection of the Savior, and as the Master came forth from the tomb with His body free from the taint of mortality the repentant sinner comes out of the watery grave free from the contamination of sin, to enter upon a Christian spiritual career. He has not signed a card embodying a resolution to lead a Christian life, but he has submitted to an act that is in beautiful harmony with the basic principle of the plan of salvation. He has, by this performance, entered into a contract with the Redeemer. In the compact each party to the act is present, the recipient convert in his own proper person and the Redeemer by the administrator or agent whom He has duly authorized to act for Him. Without the authority of the Master the ordinance could not be properly administered, except as a dead form without power and ineffectual in securing divine recognition.

The scriptures plainly show that the next step of the candidate for salvation who has exhibited faith in Christ, repented of his sins and been properly "buried with Christ by baptism" for the remission of sins, is to receive the Holy Ghost by the laying on of the hands of genuine agents of the Redeemer. This is an ordinance that no mere pretender or unauthorized person claiming to be a servant of God can perform without great danger of being detected in his fraudulent practice, for this reason: He might go through the form of laying on of hands for imparting the Holy Ghost, but the divine Spirit would not descend upon the person administered to. If the Holy Spirit did respond it would be proof of divine recognition. This is probably the reason why the Protestant churches have almost totally discarded this ordinance. The possession of the Holy Ghost causes true Christians to be different from and detested by the generality of the world. They belong to the spiritual kingdom of God, which is not worldly.

The doctrines and principles set forth herein are so clearly stated in the New Testament that it is difficult to understand how an intelligent person can

read the record and not be able to see that this is the case. The same principles and ordinances are also comprehended in the faith and practice of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, commonly, but erroneously, designated as the "Mormon" Church.

THE LABOR PROBLEM.

FOLLOWING is extracted from a correspondence of M. G. C. Edholm, an officer of the World's W. C. T. U.:

"The Carnegie troubles with the laboring men have brought the labor problem to the front. The only solution lies in the divinely given golden rule, 'As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also unto them.' This has been strikingly illustrated by the millionaire merchant prince and evangelist, Mr. Charles N. Crittenton, who has taken into partnership five of the heads of departments in his great wholesale house in New York, pronounced by the New York Times 'probably the largest in the world.' The New York press is full of praise for this notable deed. The New York Herald says: 'On its face the transaction was simply the re-organization of the house of Charles N. Crittenton as an incorporated company.'

"As a matter of fact it was a voluntary surrender by Mr. Crittenton of a considerable interest in his very prosperous business to five of his old employees. Many employers have adopted one means or another of making their employees sharers in the profits of their business and thereby securing their hearty co-operation; but the voluntary transfer by a man of large means of a large interest in his business to his employees without the payment of a penny is unique.

"Edward G. Wells, third vice-president of the company, says: 'It is capitalized at \$800,000, Mr. Crittenton having turned into it every dollar's worth of assets of the house of Charles H. Crittenton, of which he was the sole owner. The stock is all taken, being held by Mr. Crittenton, Messrs. Alfred B. Kennedy, William A. Denfarst, Franklin B. Waterman, Thomas E. Delano and myself. Mr. Crittenton is president of the company. All of the men who have been taken into the company are old employees, the youngest of the five in point of service being myself, with a record of thirteen years in Mr. Crittenton's employ. Mr. Kennedy, who is the buyer for the house, has served twenty-six years; Mr. Denfarst, the head of the retail department, twenty years; Mr. Delano, the general manager, twenty-eight years; and Mr. Waterman, who runs our advertising department, sixteen years. Others may be taken in. I presume that we were selected on account of our long service and thorough familiarity with every detail of the business of the house, but I should not be surprised if some other old employees were taken into the company later.'

THE CHINESE AND THE EXCLUSION LAW.

THE San Francisco Chronicle says that the Chinese on the Pacific Coast are paying no heed whatever to the requirements of the new exclusion law. General John M. Comb has been appointed to superintend the details of registration in the office of the California Revenue Collector. Registration, according to the provisions of the law, should have commenced on September 1st, but not one celestial presented himself for enrollment on

that day. The Chinese are awaiting instructions from their minister at Washington as to what they ought to do in the premises.

A disguised cigar factory is being fitted up in San Francisco as a registration bureau. It will be equipped with ample photographing apparatus, and some twenty clerks on hand to attend to all the work of registering, labeling and picture-taking. It is stated that after May 5th next, when Chinamen found without certificates can be deported, trouble will commence. A test case cannot be made until after that date, as the law provides for a period of registration extending from Sept. 1st to May 5th.

MARS.

E. M. CONVERSE has an instructive and interesting astronomical article in the Boston Herald of September 1st, from which is clipped the following in relation to Mars:

"When in 1909 Mars makes us a near visit, one-half of those who saw the marvellous spectacle presented by the ruddy planet at his recent opposition will have passed on. The question of the habitability of Mars may be decided before that time. If so, it will be in a way as little expected as the discovery of the constituents of the sun by means of the spectroscopic. The two greatest discoveries by far of the nineteenth century are the discovery of Neptune in 1846 and the discovery of the satellites of Mars in 1877. Who can tell what the twentieth century has in store, or what flight into futurity may be rewarded with a tangible prize? The question that most interests the human race is whether the worlds that, like the earth, revolve around the sun are like our world the seat of conscious life. The answer may be hidden in some huge meteor, that, falling to the earth, holds within its confines the key to the grand mystery, as tiny diamonds were found in a meteor that fell in Russia.

It is not impossible that telescopes may be made powerful enough to reveal the movement of some immense structure on Mars.

Langley says that if terrestrial astronomers were removed to the moon, taking their telescopes with them, they might possibly see a great steamship moving as a little black dot over the earth's surface, or an army like that of Napoleon moving over the Russian snow in the form of a black dot."

BRITISH FOREIGN TRADE DECLINING

BRITISH trade journals are not pleased with the statistics pertaining to imports and exports. For the seven months commencing January and ending July, 1891, the imports of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland were estimated at £245,000,000 sterling, or about \$1,225,000,000. For the same period in 1892 the figures were £246,000,000, or about \$1,230,000,000. Exports for the same period in 1891 aggregated £146,000,000, in 1892 £131,000,000, a decrease of £15,000,000, or \$75,000,000. Comparing the decrease in exports from the United Kingdom for the seven months mentioned in 1892 with the same period in 1891 a decrease of 10 per cent. is shown. Comparing the decrease for the same time between 1891 and 1890 a decrease of one per cent. is shown;