

God. That being the case, His authority or Priesthood can only command obedience thereto in matters that relate to earthly government. Obedience to the Priesthood in this regard is the highest type of patriotism, for the reason that it is recognizing as the Divine will the giving of patriotic support to the Constitution and laws in support thereof. There can be no suggestion that those holding the Priesthood might usurp the functions of the civil official, for that would be in itself a violation of the law to which obedience is commanded. Hence the doctrine of obedience to the Priesthood in such matters is in perfect harmony with the "genius of the government of the United States,"—which is the result of the inspiration of Him who gave that Priesthood—and with the Church doctrines; it is honoring every man in his station—"rulers and magistrates as such," up to God Himself. There is not the slightest excuse for misunderstanding the Mormon position on this point of upholding the Constitution and laws in harmony therewith. In the Doctrine and Covenants of the Church it is said:

Let no man break the laws of the land, for he that keepeth the laws of God hath no need to break the laws of the land; wherefore, be subject to the powers that be, until He reigns whose right it is to reign, and subdues all enemies under His feet.

And now, verily I say unto you concerning the laws of the land, it is my will that my people should observe to do all things whatsoever I command them; and that law of the land which is constitutional, supporting that principle of freedom in maintaining rights and privileges, belongs to all mankind, and is justifiable before me; therefore, I, the Lord, justify you, and your brethren of my Church, in befriending that law which is the constitutional law of the land; and as pertaining to law of man, whatsoever is more or less than these cometh of evil.

There have been issues raised by the people here as to the constitutionality of certain laws; similar issues have been raised on other laws in other parts of the country, and not through lack of patriotism either. And when the constitutionality of those laws was finally determined, the Mormons accepted the result. There are no people in this land who have sacrificed so much to prove the depth and sincerity of their patriotism in this respect as have the Mormons, and it ill-becomes those who have made no such sacrifice to taunt others with lack of patriotism. Such tenets and accusations are themselves unpatriotic and un-American.

With the Latter-day Saints their patriotism is deep as their religion, which is part of their life. They have been taught it from the earliest inception of the Church. They look upon it as their destiny to be chief among those who will, in the hour of peril, uphold the national Constitution, inspired of heaven for the greatest and best government on the earth. And that Church member who, in such an hour, would disobey the Priesthood in its teachings to uphold the Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof, would have to violate the most sacred obligation of citizenship to do so. Patriotism is a cardinal doctrine of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; its author-

ity or Priesthood commands it, from the Highest Source. And according to the Church belief expressed in section 134 of the Doctrine and Covenants and numerous other places, man is as responsible for his display of that quality to his Maker as in respect to any other Church doctrine.

W. W. BLAIR'S DEATH.

The issue of the Saints' Herald, organ of the Reorganized church, which came to hand by this morning's mail, tells of the death of W. W. Blair, first counselor in the presidency of that church, which took place on Saturday morning, April 18, near Chariton, Iowa, on the train that left Chicago at 10:30 the previous night. The Herald says the circumstances attending his death were as follows:

He had contracted a severe cold at Cleveland, Ohio, while en route to Kirland. However, he was able to attend the sessions of the Sunday school convention and general conference until about the fourth or fifth day of the latter, when he became so ill that he was confined to his bed with cold, which seemingly developed into neuralgia of the stomach, and which caused severe paroxysms of pain. Toward the end of the session he improved somewhat, though relapsing at times. However, he felt sufficiently improved to start home. He became worse during the journey, suffering severely at times. Physicians were telegraphed for to Ottumwa, but none were obtainable, and he continued to grow worse, until just before reaching Chariton, Iowa, when he passed away.

Mr. Blair has been long connected with the Reorganized church in an official capacity. His association with the organization dates almost from its inception, more than a third of a century since, and he has taken a prominent part in its councils, from which his presence will be missed. The death of an earnest worker in any cause is always a source of grief to its supporters; and upon this sad occasion we extend our sympathy to the bereaved family and associates of the deceased. The funeral took place at Lamoni, Iowa, on the 20th instant.

BARON HIRSCH.

With the sudden death of Baron Hirsch, one of the richest men in the world and a great philanthropist has been removed from this sphere of action. His departure will be a source of regret to the thousands of his own people who have been accustomed to look up to him as their special providence, and also to numerous impoverished individuals in the highest circles of society, whose empty purses he used to fill with a generous hand.

Baron Hirsch was a native of Bavaria, the son of a wealthy cattle dealer whom the king admitted into the ranks of the nobility for services rendered. The younger Hirsch made his wealth chiefly by railroad construction in eastern Europe. He secured contracts for most of the roads in the Balkan states and displayed the greatest diplomatic skill in securing these concessions.

As an illustration of his mode of

operation the following story of how the sultan of Turkey was taken in, is told: The baron was to build a railroad from Bazardjek to Constantinople. It was agreed that he was to be paid so much per mile for constructing the road, a good round sum in consideration of mountains to be pierced and marshes to be filled up, and it was further agreed that he was to select the route himself. The baron did so, and the consequence is that the road has scarcely a straight rail in it from end to end. Like Tennyson's brook, it curves in and out, avoiding every mountain and billock, dodging every swamp, fighting shy of woodland where the timber would be hard to cut, and even on the open plain it zigzags about in the most amazing fashion. The baron was to be paid so much a mile, and the crooks made the distance considerably longer.

But Baron Hirsch believed in letting part of his money circulate. Lately he is said to have spent \$15,000,000 a year in various charitable enterprises. Jews all over the world have been remembered by him, and he never refused a contribution to any worthy object. Some years ago he offered the czar \$2,000,000 to endow the schools in Russia, on the condition that they should be open to all, irrespective of race. The offer was declined. Since then he has taken a prominent part in the movement for the emigration of Jews from Russia. He spent large sums in order to secure concessions from the Turkish government for the establishment of Jewish colonies in Palestine. In 1891 he donated \$2,400,000 to be used for the education of Russian Hebrew immigrants to America. His efforts to establish Hebrew colonies in South America are well known to the public.

Unless the baroness will make provisions for the continuation of his princely distribution of charities, the death of the baron will be keenly felt as an immense loss in every part of the world where the Hebrew race has found a shelter from oppression, as a result of the efforts of just such men as Baron Hirsch. He was only about sixty-four years of age, and his demise was not looked for by his friends.

DISCUSSING IRRIGATION.

The question of irrigation has become a topic of such interest in California that a special session of the state board of trade was held on Tuesday to discuss the matter, with particular reference to the advisability of irrigating in those parts of the state where the artificial application of moisture is not generally known.

In the discussion some interesting facts were brought out. One of these was a test of non-irrigated sections in California where the fruit trees were shown to have grown vigorously and yielded well-developed fruit for three or four years, and then began to fail. As they grew older the rootlets which had previously absorbed all the moisture in the soil, multiplied to such an extent that to feed them required more moisture than the ground contained. Irrigation was decided upon as the remedy to apply, and in speaking on this one of the directors,