

Written for this Paper.

FULL SALVATION.

If there is one topic more inspiring than another, or one necessity, or one labor, it is that of being engaged in personal or in general salvation. The word is hackneyed, the conception limited, and work is often wasted; yet withal there is always a freshness and crispness about the subject, when wisely and broadly handled, which commands attention, leads to action and always sees some results.

The salvation needed for men as for communities is varied, depending on circumstances and conditions. The highest good of one time is valueless at another; the need of one day is satisfied to repetition with the setting sun of the next; and the moral tone, the social tone, the political and religious tone, is warm, cultivated, progressive, or downward and retrograde, just as good or evil may be presented or prevail from time to time, for intelligence or ignorance may preside, and "the worse may appear to be made the better reason."

The pioneer history of Utah tells when the salvation of bread was more to be desired than anything else. Afterward, shelter was most important; then clothing, then labor, then guns, then finance, then schools, then politics, then religion. All the time these phases of need required special intelligence for each, for as the revealer said, "no man can achieve salvation in ignorance."

Labor to be salvatory must be productive or creative; Indian must be conciliated or subdued; laws of finance must be investigated and obeyed; schools imply books, teachers and receptivity; politics means order and government, and religion must be the life-blood of the vigorous, healthy man, as of the best community. The modern method of salvation gives a tract to the hungry, offers religion to the man out of work; rouses the voter to change parties when the fires of the factory or foundry are put out; and government goes on collecting taxes and increasing indebtedness, fearing that inquiry into sad and general distress would imply paternal interest in the masses, which is assumed to be contrary to the genius of the most suggestive and illimitable, the most elastic of constitutions on the face of the earth, or it is nothing.

You could hardly persuade men fleeing from Missouri and Illinois that this was a land where equal rights prevailed, and the preservation of life was the duty of the state! You could not make men whose lands were confiscated and the homes thereon razed, believe that government could not protect the buyer or guarantee title to its domain after receiving the hard money of the settler! You could hardly credit that in a liberal country, (?) from one hundred to two hundred thousand people should be denied self-rule and statehood for twenty-five years, when the plutocrats have admitted others without a tithe of the numbers or stability, or the good qualities of Utonians. You would not expect that fifteen hundred men could be immured in prison for conscience sake, from months to years, with the consequential suffering of such penalty, when the fundamental

law said that "Congress shall pass no law in regard to an establishment of religion, or prevent the free exercise thereof!"

In all these cases "asking for bread there was given a stone;" asking for salvation there was denial and death; asking for liberty, and the manacles were shortened and riveted more infamously than heretofore and those who heroically suffered in silence were insolently taunted with the libel, that silence meant acquiescence as to the justice and the penalty in every case. It seems, too, as if in all history, whenever oppression has reached its limits or a savior was needed, there was either one provided or an inspirational wave affected the masses, or both were combined to secure the deliverance. Israel might have remained in Egypt had they been treated fairly, or been unable to extricate themselves but for Moses; Europe needed a Napoleon, England a Cromwell, America a Washington; and when half the world needed deliverance from cannibalism, superstition and its fearful rites, the mother country was inspired to exploration, to commerce, to exchange; and while she subdued finally by force of arms and trade genius, the world has been the richer and the better for it—her work was needed in the preparatory program of the pregnant latter days.

When the times were ripe by reason of the labors of Luther and Wesley and a host of others, Joseph Smith burst upon Christendom as the herald of a new and grander evangel than all the John the Baptists of the ages had pre-figured. Sectarianism under the asserted right of private judgment had multiplied beyond precedent, for sheer lack of an authoritative word, that word which he was privileged, appointed and foreordained to bring. He gathered the nucleus and for enlargement his associates became protagonists. Yet probably his and their labors would have been futile, had not there been an overflow of inspirational energy which in thousands of honest souls made them look for a deliverer and such a salvation as they were led to seek. President Woodruff's experience in religious England was but testimony to the word of the Lord in the far-off goodly land of promise. Nor probably can the auxiliary gathering of the forces of all nations here for "the great battle of Armageddon" be understood save from the standpoint of spirit force.

Of all cities of modern times or as part of a free government, has there ever been known the fundamental corruption as revealed by the Lexow investigation in New York? The incubus of political organization, and the tyranny of ward heelers and local bosses was well known; but until the better elements of society were transfused with the spirit of salvation, the defenses of the enemy seemed impregnable. But in the hour of need the armies of right began to move, and upon the shoulders of a few incorruptible business men the mantle of power has fallen. There is salvation in the very air, and such successful business men as "John Claffin, Wm. L. Strong, Cornelius N. Bliss and Charles Stewart Smith" are the heralds of a dispensation in which probity and intelligence

will most assuredly rule in that mammoth representative city.

On a small scale, this manifestation of the supply of need in this Territory has been abundantly seen. When Prest. Kimball prophesied in the days of extremity that clothing would be sold in this city cheaper than in the East, it was done. When an armed force was coming here with boasting words of extermination, spoliation and division, President Young advised the people to move south. A few suffered, but there was salvation in the move. When the railroad was on the way here and these valleys were looked upon as desirable for pirates, land sharks and speculators, the word was, "Combine to do your own business;" and in a little while Z. C. M. I. and local organization was made the basis of financial salvation. When water was needed for a rapid increase of colonization, the water came. When increased farms and stock needed feed, lucern was the savior—first brought to Utah by the wrier, *en passant*. When fuel was hard to get, coal was discovered. When gathering increased and greater supplies were in demand, the overland railroad did that which loaded wagons never could have done, and its creation voiced in fact the petition to Congress of the Pioneers.

Many a ram has been caught in the thicket when this mountain Isaac was bound and laid upon the altar. But then expatriation did not witness the sacrifice; nor did the calling of the Battalion, nor the introduction of the railroad, nor the denial of statehood, nor the missionary zeal of assumed superiority, nor did political chicanery or division on party lines. Father Abraham has always released his son—he has been unbound and led from the mount of sacrifice to the teeming valley of peace and plenty. If the annulling of charters, confiscation, imprisonment, misrepresentation and usurpation of power has not exasperated into resistance, if "in patience the Saints have possessed their souls," if cloud after cloud and storm after storm by virtue of faith and blessing have left the Church unscathed, "Divinity hath surely shaped its ends."

Temporarily Utah was never richer or happier than today. There is no cry for bread, at least; and if exchange were facilitated a little more, there need be none for clothing; and the few who find it difficult to pay old indebtedness or present taxes are learning that their is salvation in economy and restraint, and that hope perchance may soar with undue wing at times. The salvation which comes of home industries and manufactures should now claim the attention of every patriot and every man of influence. Every man who wants to help save Israel and bring again Zion, should be led in spirit to plan, conceive, advise, foster, sustain and establish that which will remunerate every waiting laborer; not only the sons and daughters of the settled, so to speak, but to take care of the new comer—those gathered by the sacrifices of missionary effort, that they may not faint by the way, and that there may be no poor in all our borders.

In Sheridan, Wyo., the business men are stirring up the question of putting in a telephone exchange there.