

dle, to the brilliant over-whelming light of the noonday sun.

We speedily leave the grand and great old ocean behind in order, perhaps, to trudge on land our weary way, though the knowledge and experience gained at sea by a long tempestuous voyage is certain to be to those that has eyes to see and a heart to understand, a life-long lesson.

Now another, altogether different landscape greets the eye, and at first appears strange to those who come from other climes. In this clime at the fall of the year the foliage of the trees and all the other accessories seen in nature's wide domain are much more painted in gay colors than those in the clime from which they came, so that the mind of the stranger is impressed in viewing the lovely and charming beauty of fragrant flowers, before starting on the long and tedious journey across the prairies, which to the vision appear as vast and boundless as the mighty ocean, and lingering among the adorned trees to find that the gentle breeze of wind is now scattering the lovely, tinted leaves from off their branches to fall on the ground. 'Tis sad to learn that things of beauty are born to perish, but the course of nature is inexorable and every created thing is the subject of change.

Go back to the same place at early spring-time and you find that the trees are still unclothed, but go back again later on. Then you'll find that nature's alchemy has been at work. The nature or their spirit, after undergoing, no doubt, some simple process inwardly, now embraces and kisses the parent stem and speedily mounts and climbs up to the tiniest branches, which soon again appear in their beauteous garb. Light, heat and atmospherical changes finishes that portion of nature's ever-recurring course. In observing the several phases of nature's decay or change, we are led to see and know that decay or death is as natural as life, and when it is the time for the resurrection of mankind to be fully known, no doubt, but the principles therein will be revealed through him who created the heavens, the earth, the sea, and all that has been, or ever will be, therein.

The characteristics of acknowledged geniuses, according to my observation, has been that they are beings peculiarly self-willed and almost unfitted for the thing that insure success in this life, and indeed, their brilliant endowments are often to them a curse instead of a blessing. As the poet Burns say:

That such oft are creatures of prey, care and sorrow,  
When blest today, they're unmindful of to-morrow.

But in that respect, no doubt, there must be many exceptions. They are, however, mostly of a silent and wayward disposition and prove to combine spendthrift, justice and honesty together. Their inventive and preceptive faculty are generally so acute that their innate souls can readily comprehend and with dexterity sieze the many accidents that surround their art and turn them simply to every advantage. Everything produced by them bears their own stamp, and their works always breathe the charm of simplicity and truth. Genius maybe likened to the glory of the sun, moon and stars; some are great, some less, and many lesser. Those that are genius born must be rocked in the

cradle of repose. Therefore I fear that that influence of the hurry up mothers of the time will singularly fail in giving birth to sons of very great geniuses. Genius and something akin to it has shone brilliantly in some in all ages and in things quite different from in the arts aesthetic.

History informs us of the greatness of Alexander and Hannibal, Cryus and Napoleon, Wellington and Washington, excepting Washington their mighty genius or greatness was, alas, often clouded and often too much tintured with dire carnage and blood. The heaven-born power has no doubt in many instances been sorely misplaced and, perhaps, more so by the genius warrior than by any other that is to the manor born. True and great geniuses is ever sure to find the top in whatever walk in art which they may assume, and the only and best way to judge of true greatness is by the value of the work that has been performed. The greatest are those who have been inspired and endowed by the mastergenius and specially chosen to do His will in using their innate light or genius in leading mankind from error in order that they might bask in the sunshine of truth. The Hebrew Moses, humanity's great law giver's mighty and great genius sowed beyond the mere things of this mundane sphere and his great and lofty endowments appear somewhat akin to the master-genius of all, but the sepheric-fire has illuminated the genius of others whose sublime thoughts and actions are recorded in language that breathes the names of many that were endowed and gifted with the heaven-born spark of genius divinely inspired.

In this our own time I presume that the most of mankind throughout the world have heard, and many have known that there appeared a divinely inspired genius in the person of Joseph Smith, the Prophet, a young man and quite unlearned in the theological ignorance of the age and who achieved great renown in doing the will of the divine Master. Truly his work has been both a marvel and a wonder. He was just allowed to live long enough to herald the kingdom of God in these the latter-days on the earth, and after his martyrdom another inspired genius was found in Brigham Young, whose innate force, foresight and consummate wisdom fully enabled him to gather together and lead a people altogether and supremely different in religious ideas from the generality of mankind. The true Mormon, or Latter-day Saint in fact, is born, not made. Perhaps there is no people who lives in this age that seem to be governed for good by an overruling Providence and the Almighty favor vouchsafed toward them. How like in many respects they are to the Jews whose exceeding faith or patience has overwhelmed and sanctified to them their many and sore persecutions. Patience and perseverance is seemingly as much the badge of the Mormon as of the Jew. Notwithstanding the persecuting laws that have been enacted against them the principles of Mormonism being of eternal duration are bound to shine more and more brilliantly and are thereby calculated to outlive all the frothy enactments of shortsighted politicians who are supremely ignorant of the power that they foolishly contend against.

No doubt the succeeding leaders of the Mormon people who are yet des-

tinued to become both great and mighty, are invested with the required inspiration to fit and enable them to govern and lead those that follow them in building up on the earth the kingdom of the Master in these the latter days.

There have appeared in this dispensation, some whose greatness fitted according to the ideal of many, that should be classed akin to inspired genius, and as far as inventive power and wondrous might is shown their efforts had the effect in impressing and changing the minds of many regarding the religion and traditions, that had for ages formed their character. Still the greater portion of mankind affirm that the efforts of the great reformers were both zealously and ignorantly misplaced. But no doubt, some of the reformers were both earnest and honest in their desire in exposing the errors and the despotic attitude of the mother church. Luther must have been endowed with extraordinary strength of character, extreme firmness and powerful conviction in order to enable him to assail and attack the doctrines that were promulgated in his own church. John Wesley, subsequently showed the like spirit and achieved the power more or less successfully in his warfare against the church of Luther's. English daughter, who had been weaned with others from mother Rome centuries before. John Calvin, though branded as being red handed, is nevertheless the author of some fearful strange though, scriptural ideals, which, the Scottish anti-papal fiber and John Knox, turned too and tuned the iron bound creed of Calvin in order to catch the ears and form the minds of his countrymen which, to some extent, has entailed the gloomy, self-righteous and severe trait of character that's to be found in many of the Scottish people to this day. I feel somewhat embittered that one of Scotland's sons was unfortunately endowed with the power to achieve such a lasting calamity.

The creed of Calvin, is calculated to produce fear, fanaticism and hypocrisy. The doctrine that it teaches is beyond the comprehension of mere men and it is therefore fatal and dangerous to spiritual progression, its promulgation may have had some of the power to hand the hangman's whip, of Robert Burns, though it has completely failed in lashing its wretched thinking ones to order. It is only those who breathe the spirit of actual revelation that have the power to know and understand in part, such doctrines as the free will decrees, election and purposes of God, but according to Calvin, the whole revealed will of God to man is contained within the boards of the book. Calvin has perhaps steeped more souls in deism and infidelity than all the isms put together.

The creeds which the reformer's efforts gave birth to have singularly failed, the errors of the mother church, nearly remain the same—even the efforts and the up and ready methods of the Salvation Army seem to achieve more moral and spiritual influence with the masses of humanity than the influence of men, steeped in the theological knowledge of the several creeds.

The work of the reformers, as times speed on, is ever being more divided and sub divided and every opinionated blast of the windy and learned shepherds who may see fit to alter some little of hell paving orthodoxy. Frequently some of the learned blind show a glimmer of