

and in the bringing to pass of those purposes we read:

Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:

So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

There are doubtless men alive today who were living in the day when the angel came from heaven and with a loud voice proclaimed the fact that the gospel was restored to the earth, and "this generation shall not pass till all these things be fulfilled." We look back sixty years to the inception of this work, to the calling of the prophet of God, to the establishment of the gospel upon the earth; we follow it in all its wanderings and in all its locations, and every movement that it has made has been a testimony to the nations of the earth of the fulfillment of these things. The elders have gone forth and warned the people, and after their warnings have come tribulation and sorrow, and the hearts of men have failed them for fear of the things coming upon them. But it has not been the fault of the elders that these things have come to pass; they have been but instruments in the hands of the Father to warn the children of men in regard to the tribulations that should come upon them unless they repented. When Jesus looked upon Jerusalem, saw its homes, its beautiful buildings, and its great temple, His heart wept within him, and said He:

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wing, and ye would not!

Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

In their blindness and in their stiff-neckedness they pulled down the pillars of the temple which sheltered and protected them in their religious and civil liberties, and became a hiss and a byword in the mouths of the children of men. So in this our day. Blind to the results that must inevitably follow their course, unable even to read the signs of God therein, the nations of the earth are madly rushing to their own destruction. But in the midst of this the Latter-day Saints are raising their voices in warning, are calling the attention of those who will listen to the fact that God has established His work upon the earth, and that He has a nucleus of people around which can be gathered those forces and powers that in the end will be unified for the purpose of the redemption of the earth and the bringing of it back to its pristine beauty and glory. One thing alone should convince men in regard to their own blindness, and that may be found in the affairs in which they deal with one another, as witness this great conflict that now exists between capital and labor. In most of the nations of the earth, as well as in our own, there is a spirit of unrest in the midst of the working classes because of their condition. Antagonisms are springing up in their hearts toward those who are possessed of the wealth of the world; and today there is a class distinction existing that bodes no good to the welfare of the human race. It would seem as though it would be a

wise thing for men possessed of means to employ a little conciliation and to endeavor to make the condition of the human family better and more bearable. Instead of this, however, the lines seem to be drawing tighter and tighter. There are strikes upon the right hand and strikes upon the left hand, and this conflict is as a mighty battle upon the earth, and we can realize to a certain extent that saying of the Apostle James.

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you."

They have brought this upon themselves to a certain extent; but both classes are at fault, because of a lack of intelligence and of a proper understanding of correct principles. It was doubtless a lack of knowledge that caused men to say in the days of the Savior, "Crucify him!" For upon the cross the Lord said, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." So it is in these days, notwithstanding this warning voice, and this work which is as a city set upon a hill, to be seen of all the nations of the earth, they comprehend it not. No doubt other evidences will be brought to bear upon their minds which will enable them to comprehend more fully His designs.

It behoves the Latter-day Saints to endeavor to live the law of God; to hold themselves in quietness and in peace in the midst of these distressing circumstances which surround the human family today, and doubtless will in the future, that they may be indeed the saviors of the human family, in more ways than one, saving them temporally as well as spiritually; endeavoring to so labor from day to day that their good works may be seen of men and that God may be glorified thereby. I recognize the fact that the minds of the children of men as a rule are unprepared to receive the principles of the Gospel. It may be to a certain extent because of the circumstances by which they are surrounded. I also recognize the fact that our Father in Heaven is the Father of all the children of men, of whatever sect or nation they may be, or wherever they dwell upon the earth, and that He has a fatherly care for them, and desires their salvation. The hearts of the Latter-day Saints should be imbued with the idea that it is their calling and their destiny to be in the end the saviors of the whole human family, by preaching the principles of the Gospel to them here and afterwards behind the veil; continuing the proclamation of the truth until every son and daughter of Adam shall confess that Jesus is the Christ and Joseph Smith is a prophet of God. That time will come. At some time all men will acknowledge that this is God's work, and that His purposes have been fulfilled in this work.

This is the preparatory work established before the second coming of the Son of Man, for the regeneration of the human family from the degraded position into which they have placed themselves. The conditions by which men are surrounded shall be changed, and they shall be brought forth out of those surroundings that today bind them hand and foot, and shall stand upright in the majesty of the Deity, as sons of God. That time shall come upon the earth, and these Latter-day Saints gathered together shall be instrumental in the hands of God in bringing it to pass. They shall receive their reward in God's own due time,—when men shall be re-

warded for the deeds done in the body. The heavenly hosts around the throne of our Father, and the prophets and servants of God that have lived in days gone by, are united with you in this great work. Our Father has His eye upon it and our elder brother, Jesus, stands at the head of it, aiding you who are engaged in this work upon the earth through the inspiration of His Spirit, leading and guiding you, and protecting you from the assaults of the enemy of all righteousness. If the world but understood this work they would swing the pendulum of prejudice to the other extreme; and instead of the word "Mormon" being a term of reproach, he who bore that name would be respected and honored in the midst of the children of men. The feelings of the whole human family would turn towards you in kindness and respect, if they understood but one labor that you are engaged in—the salvation of the living and of the dead, by which the unnumbered millions of the human family that have died without hearing the sound of the Gospel, or that there was a Savior born and crucified, shall hear the proclamation of the truth, a vicarious work be done for them, and they, too, be placed among the saved and the redeemed of our Father in Heaven. This plan of salvation which the Latter-day Saints have embraced takes within its scope all the human family, and not only that, but all that dwells upon the earth, as well as the earth itself, comes within its scope. The earth shall be saved and brought to that condition it is entitled to by keeping the commandments of God. Baptized in water and with fire, it shall in the end know its place in the celestial kingdom of our God, and they that abide the celestial law shall have an inheritance upon it. It shall be a celestial kingdom to which their shall be no end, and it shall go on in one eternal round of increase until the finite mind is lost in contemplation of it. Let it not be supposed that we have an idea that the men in the earth—the kings, the emperors, the presidents and potentates, and the men in high places—are wilfully fighting against God. We do not believe that. Thousands of them are good and honorable men, desiring to be a benefit and a blessing in their day and generation. But what I have said are facts. God has set His hand to do a marvelous work. The world may reject it, but His designs and purposes will be fulfilled, and ultimately men will acknowledge His hand in it. Amen.

Written for this Paper.

SOME VIEWS ON STATEHOOD.

By your permission I would like to make some suggestions to the people of Utah. Having occasionally heretofore had access to your columns, I hope to be allowed some space in the present instance.

The subject upon which I now wish to write is one of paramount importance at present to the inhabitants of the prospective state of Utah. It is the question of suffrage, and at the outset perhaps it is best that I should avow myself to be an advocate of that franchise being enjoyed by all citizens of the United States possessing the requisite qualifications, and that remark is intended to include women as such citizens. The Declaration of Independ-