

A Discourse Delivered in the Salt Lake Tabernacle, Sunday Afternoon, March 24, 1907. BY ELDER B. H. ROBERTS.

## Reported by F. W. Otterstrom.

Between the fore part of September and the closing days of the month of December of last year, it was my privilege to travel in all about 11,000 miles, chiefly within the contines of the United States. I crossed the state of Nevada twice, and zigzagged back and forth through the territory of Arizona, through parts of Texas and the northern part of Mexico, making and the closing days of the month of December of last year, it was my privilege to travel in all about 11,000 miles, chiefly within the confines of the United States. I crossed the state of Nevada twice, and zigzagged back and forth through the territory of Arizona, through parts of Texas and the northern part of Mexico, making ity says; in that journey something over 3,000

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miles, chiefly within what is known as the arid region of America; and really, during that time, I was almost ready to conclude that the whole of America must bes "arid" region, so vast it was. Shortly after

so vast it was. Shortly after this it was my privilege to go down the eastern slopes of the ltocky mountains en route for the Atlantic sea board, and of course came in con-tact with more "arid" region. In the eastern part of Colorado, however, and in central Nebraska we began to go thito a region of our country that is fertile, where field joins field, and where there is one perpetual succes-sion of counfields, meadows, pastures, gardens and orchards, with here and there prosperous railroad towns and farming villages. We rode a whole day through such a country; and when we retired to rest we knew that the day through such a country; and when we retired to rest we knew that the express train would all night long be plunging through just such fertile lands as we had looked upon during the day, and all the next day it would be the same—and then some. This fertile section of the country was so vast that we forgot the arid region, and were ready to declare that the whole of America must be fertile. Then in eastern Ohio we began enter-ing the manufacturing region of our country, and thence eastward through the whole extent of Pennsylvania, where we were seldom out of country, and then be eased in out of the whole extent of Pennsylvania, where we were seldom out of sight of the smoke stacks and furnaces of mnufacturing insti-tutions, and as we would cross the rivers or run parallel with them we could see acres and acres of coal barges and other craft of inland commerce, while the scream of the locomotives, the whistle of the factories, and ringing of bells were constantly in one's ears. So extensive was this manufacturing region that we began to think that the whole of America must be given up to manurica must be given up to manu ires. Everywhere we went there evidences of prosperity in the Our journey extended not only land. land. Our journey extended hot only through the central eastern states, but up in New England, up into Ver-mont, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Massachusetts, and thence down the Atlantic senboard as far as Flor-ida; thence northward and westward through the southern states; and, as I say, everywhere we found prosperity abounding. We people in the west-fly undeveloped resources, where life It undeveloped resources, where life is strenuous, and where the increase of wealth is so great—are apt to think that our section of the Union has a greater prosperity than other has a greater prosperity than other parts of it, but great as our own pros-perity in the west is, I assure you it is not greater than the prosperity to be found, in other parts of our country. I desire to call your attention to some of the features of a marvelous prosperity that now exists in the United States. Perhaps the truest cri-terion of the real prosperity of a na-

terion of the real prosperity of a na-tion such as ours, can best be ascer-ialmed by taking into account the prosperity of the agricultural inter-ests of the country. If in that industry our people are prosperous you may test assured that all other branches rest assured that all other branch a of industry are prosperous. From a very valuable collection of statistics published by Mr. Richard H. Ed-monds, the editor of "The Manufac-turers' Record." Baltimore, I quote In 1870 the

In 1870 the value of farm property within the United States amounted to 8,900 millions of dollars." Of course,

# AMAZING POPULATION.

# AMAZING POPULATION. "In area the United States covers 3,000,000 square miles, with an aver-age of less than 26 persons to the mile. Settled as densely as France, we could accommodate 570,000 000 people: as densely as Great Britain and Ireland, we would have over 1,000,000,000 people. Or compare our capabilities with the density of popu-lation in such states as Ohio, Penn-sylvania, or all New England. In Pennsylvania the average number of people to the square-mile in 1900 was 140. At this average for the whole country we should have a population of 429,000,000-certainly Pennsylvania is not overcrowded. Ohio has 102 peo-ple to the square mile, and New Eng-land an average of 90. On the basis of Ohio's average the United States would have over 300,000,000, and on the Now England average 270 eng and would have over 300,000,000, and or the New England average 270,000,004 the New England average 270,000,000 people. So great is the extent of our agricultural land that with the con-tinued improvement in farming meti-ods now going on, with the reclama-tion of our overflowed lands, and the extension of irrigation in regions for-merily regarded as forever doomed to the cactus and sage brush, with the development of scientific forever development of scientific forestry, too long neglected, but still capable of saving our timber reserves and pro-tecting the sources of our rivers, we can so build up our farming interests as to provide an ample food supply for as great a multitude as the fu lure seems sure to give us. With re-sources for the creation of industries sources for the creation of industries, the development of mining, the exten-sion of railroads, and the enlargement of trade and commerce at home and abroad, we are abundantly blessed. Nature has lavished her riches upon this country as upon no other, as far as human knowledge has yet discover-ed."

I have hastened over the items I have hastened over the items, reading hurrledly, because I did not wish to weary you with details; but the author from whom I quote these statements suggests that we ought to remember that while we are justly proud of the progress made by the United States, yet in considering the future and in contemplating the al-most limitless potentialities of our own country, as compared with the mat country, as compared with the past. "We must remember that Mexico and South America, and Canada are run-ning rivgiry with us in the expansion of industry;" and I would add with resources second only, perhaps, to our own

resources second only, perhaps, to our own. By this time you are asking your-selves the question, I fancy, what in-terest have these considerations of the resources and the prosperity of Amer-ica for an audience assembled upon the Sabbath day to worship God and the hatrusted more especially in rethe Sabbath day to worship God and to be instructed more especially in re-lation to spiritual matters? I desire as best I may to show you what con-nection there is between what I have said and the purpose for which you have assembled on this occasion. We are here, as was suggested in the pray-er offered at the opening of our ser-vices, to have our faith in God's great latter-day work strengthened, and the chief desire I have in my heart, is to

latter-day work strengthened, and the chief desire I have in my heart, is to think and speak along lines that will tend to increase our faith. The journey through the land of America just referred to, resulted in my having a higher appreciation of the lagd of my adoption than I have ever before entertained. Her ma-gestic rivers, her magnificent moun-tain ranges, her fertile valleys, and even her desert wastes, seem dearer, to me than ever before

of the breasts and of the womb: the blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bounds of the ever-lasting hills: They shall be on the head Joseph, and on the crown of the head him that was separated from his prethren.

brethren." When Moses bestowed his blessings upon the tribes of Israel, he too, pro-nounced a special blessing upon the head of Joseph. Mark it: "Blessed of the Lord be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that croucheth beneath, and for the precious fruits brought forth by the moon, and for the shief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lastand for the precious things of the last-ing hills, and for the precious things of the earth, and the fulness thereof, and for the good will of him that dweit in the bush; let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, and upon the top of the head of him that was separated from his brethren. His glory is like the firstlings of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of the unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth; and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh."

TRIBES OF EPHRAIM AND MANAS-SEH.

I have said on other occasions, and I repeat it here, that the blessing pro-nonined upon Joseph by both Jacob and Moses, not only exceeds the blessing of any other one of the princes of Israel, but it is greater than all the other blessings wron the princes of Israel Moses. blessings upon the princes of Israel combined. In the first place a double portion is given to him in Israel, two tribes to represent him in instead of one. His-two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, were made the heads of tribes, Ephraim being given the greater prominence, and receiving the rights of the first born. When Joseph saw the intent of the patriarch to confer the greater biassion wone his younger son he firstborn son; and that subsequent prophets wer to represent God as saying. were "I am

to represent God as saying, I and a father to Israel and Ephraim is my first born." Let me tell you how that came about. Reuben, Jacob's eldest son, defied his father's wife Bilhah, and for that awful crime lost his station in Israel as the first born. And now the writer of First Chronicles: "Now the sons of Buthen the firstwriter of First Chronicles: "Now the sons of Reuben the first-born of Israel, (for he was the first-born: but, forasmuch as he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given

nation is been all of the source of Joseph, the source of Joseph, the source of Joseph, the source of Israel: and the genealogy is not to be reckoned after the birthright (L.e. after Reuben). For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the chief ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's) "Enprain received that birthhis brethren, and of him came the chief ruler; but the birthright was Jo-seph's)." Ephraim received that birth-right as already stated, and the bless-ings and rights thereof are his. New let us consider these great bless-ings pronounced upon the head of Jo-seph, and I pray you remember how particularly the extent and grandeur of the land of Joseph are described in these blessings.

rese blessings. The blessings of Jacob had "prevailed bove." (i. e. exceeded) the blessings

f his progenitors, "unto the utmost ounds of the everlasting hills;" and hese greater blessings the patriarch these greater blessings the pathatch declared should be "on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separated from his brethren." Joseph was to be as a fruit-ful hough whose branches run over the walk indicating a largeness and fruit-fulness that would exceed the other tubes in large. More is more availed fulness that would exceed the older tribes in Israel. Moses is more explicit as to the character of the land Joseph should possess: "Blessed of the Lord be bis land for the precious things of heaver"—is reference here made to the revelations of God that shall be given on the land of Joseph, does it contem-plate a knowledge of the graph of

on the land of Joseph, does it contem-plate a knowledge of the gospel of Christ that shall be had on the land in "the precious things of heaven" for which the land shall be noted? Again, "Blessed of the Lord be his land....... for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun...... for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the pre-cious things of the lasting hills, and for the precious things of the earth and the fulness thereof, and for the good will of

Ninevah and Tyre and Sidon. From Joseph's seed in America there came a race of statesmen, warriors, and proph-ets rivaling the statesmen and warriors and prophets of the old world contem-porary with them. Here the tribe of Joseph enjoyed not only the blessings of the earth, the boundless resources of his promised land, the continents of America, but here, too, his descendants received the fulness of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and were favored, after Messiah's resurrection, with a personal visitation from the Son of God Himself, who taught them the gospel, gave to

visitation from the Son of God Himself, who taught them the gospel, gave to them a church organization, deposited the revealed truth of God with it, and gave that Church commandment to teach the gospel, and perfect the lives of those who received it. Then followed the golden age of America, reference to which a frequently made in the native traditions. For 200 years a reign of rightcousness prevailed, during which time there was a rich harvest of souls unto God through the gospel of Jesus Christ. The land was blessed "with the precious things of heaven," truly. unto God through the gospel of Jesus Christ. The land was blessed 'with the precious things of heaven,' truly. Because of the things, then, that be-fell the descendants of Joseph in this promised land of America, which things are made known in our Book of Mor-mon, the Latter-day Saints, at least, know that the promises of the Lord to the house of Joseph have not failed-and a hundredth part of their fulfilment I have not been able even to indicate. And but for the partial fulfilment of God's promises to Joseph in the land of America, the world would be compelled to admit that the promises, the bless-ings pronounced upon the head of Jo-seph had failed; for surely nowhere else in the world have they been fulfilled. They were promises that could not have been fulfilled in a corner, they are too large for that. I call upon the Bible scholariship of the world to tell us where these great promises has not yet ar-rived-for the failure of them, since they were finding their fulfilment due-if not in America. And if it shall be contended that the time for Joseph have been kegi-so far as the wheels of time have brought their fulfilment due-if not in America. And if it shall be contended that the time for Joseph have been kegi-so far as the wheels of use have brought their fulfilment due-if not in America. And if it shall be contended that the time for Joseph to realize his promises has not yet ar-rived-for the failure of them, since they were given under Inspiration of God, is unthinkable-then where can they be fulfilled save in America? What land so well corresponds to that de-scribed both by Jacob and Moses as the inharitance of Joseph? And what events in history, what movements among the Inheritance of Joseph? And what events in history, what movements among the people of the earth, outside of those with which the Latter-day Saints connected, give promise of the fulfil-ment of Joseph's blessings?

#### BLESSINGS REALIZED ONLY IN PART.

The blessings of Joseph, however even with all that has been made known through the Book of Mormon, have been realized only in part. Much remains to be fulfilled. There is in store yet much more glory, much more hon-or, for this branch of the house of is-rael, this tribe which holds the right of the patriarchal office, the right to lead in the gathering, and in the salva-tion of Israel, in whom is lodged the right and the power to "push the people (Israel) together to the ends of the earth-and they are the ten thousand of Ephraim and the thousands of Ma Allow me to call your attention to

Allow me to call your attention to a singular circumstance. We believe that the gospel of Jesus Christ has been re-stored in our day, and is being preached in all the world; for its message is not confined to America; as was said in the Scripture that prophecies its restoration by an angel, in the hour of God's judg-ment—it is to be preached to every na-tion and kindred and tongue and near tion, and kindred, and tongue and peo-ple (Revelation xiv; 6, 7); to gentile and Jew, to bond and free-all are to have this gospel proclaimed to them in the due time of the Lord; but the dispensadue time of the Lord; but the dispensa-tion of the fulness of times is a period when the blessings of God shall espe-cially turn upon the house of Israel. So that while there is a message in the re-stored gospel for all mankind, there is something special in it for the house of Israel. It is the gathering dispensa-tion of the gospel, in which "all things will be gathered together in one." even in Christ. This gospel, then, is pro-claimed to all the nations of the earth, and what happens? Its message fell upon the ears of our fathers and moth-ers, some were in this nation, some in that. It was the case of taking one of a city, and two of a family to form a city, and two of a family to form a people. They were not convinced of the truth by eloquence or argument, on logic, but there was something in the very sound of the gospel congenial to the souls of our fathers as soon as they heard it, and they responded to its mes-sage; they laid hold of its principles by a spiritual power, and they loved them better than they loved the honors and applause of the world. They loved the gospel more than their station in so-clety, or the approval of their kindred, and hence they cast in their lot with a despised people. For the most part they remained true to that awakening which came to their souls through the preach ing of the gospel of Jesus Christ. They gathered out from the nations of the earth, and came to the land of Zion earth, and came to the land of Zion. And now something peculiar happens. The patriarchs of the Church place their hands upon the heads of these people, and under the inspiration of God, earnestly sought, these men-in the exercise of their holy office-pro-nounce those who are thus gathered to be, not only of the house of Israel, but, in the wain as between the set. be, for only of the house of israel, but in the main, as belonging to the tribe of Ephraim. There is something beau-tifully fitting in this circumstance something that goes a long way to-wards establishing its truth. Certainly the tribe to whom is given the right of the first born should be gathered first To the first born is given the work of 'o the first born is given the work of gathering the people from the nation of the earth; he holds the keys of an thority and power in the ordinances the gospel, especially as pertaining he patriarchial order, and hence he sathered first. Where? To the land Icseph, to the promised inheritance that patriarch and his seed, to the las of Zion, here to raise the standard of Israel, the ensign of peace to the world through the proclamation of the gospe of peace. Here in this chosen land Jo pies of his God, and calls all israel to come and participate in the blessings that are being restored to his father's house. In one of the revelations in our Doc-trine and Covenants, (sec. 123) we are ures unto the Children of Ephraim My ures unto the Children of Ephraim My north countries shall come in remem-brance before the Lord, "And their pro-phets shall hear His voice and shall no longer stay themselves. . . . And they shall bring forth their rich treas-urer unto the Children of Ephraim My servants. And the boundaries of the everlasting hills shall tremble at their presence. And there shall they fall down and be crowned with glory, even in Zion, by the hands of the servants of the Lord, even the children of Ephraim; in Zion, by the hands of the servants of the Lord, even the children of Ephraim; and they shall be filled with songs of everlasting Joy. Behold, this is the blessing of the Everlasting God upon the tribes of Israel, and the richer blessings upon the head of Ephraim and his fellows." his fellows." Thus the tribe, on which was be-stowed the birthright in Israel, is be-ing gathered to the land promised him of God, to the land, choice above all other lands in the earth. to the land of Joseph. And here stands Joseph in the midst of his temples in that promised land, waiting to bestow blessings upon the other tribes of Israel. Joseph's dreams of the sheaves of his brethren doing obeisance to his sheaf; and the sun and the moon and the eleven stars his fellows. or addition matter willes in Great Bitting to the produce and the set of a strate of the produce of the set of the strate of the set of the strate of the set of t

their blind jealousy of him mistook the meaning of his dreams. Those dreams while they were a phophecy of Joseph's prominence in Israel, also were a pro-phecy of saving and blessing unto Is-rael, not of tyrannical domination of usurpation of the rights of the other brothers or tribes; and as Joseph's mis-sion" in Egypt resulted in preserving brothers or tribes; and as Jeseph's mis-sion"in Exypt resulted in preserving Israel "a posterity in the earth." and of saving the lives of his father's house-hold. "by a great deliverance;" (Gen. 45: 5. 7), so his mission in the last days, in his own land of Zion, shall cul-minate. In a much larger way, in the salvation of Israel.

# THE GENTILES TO HAVE AN IN-HERITANCE IN AMERICA.

HERITANCE IN AMERICA. While there are especial blessings for the tribes of Joseph on the land of Zion, let us not lose sight of the fact that others, too, have rights and promises it relation to it. Let not the seed of Joseph cultivate any spirit of ex-clusiveness in respect of the land of Zion. He especially is in the world for the world's good. He must endure con-tast with the world, with the Gentile world as well as with Israel. He, in some way, seems to be the link be-tween the Gentiles and Israel. When the Lord made known unto Lehi that the Lord made known unto Lehi that this land of America should be his, as an inheritance, it being the land that had been promised by Jacob and Mo-ses unto Joseph and his seed, the Lord, after describing how He would make of the Gentiles nursing fathers and moth-ers unto larged and how the Gentiles the Gentiles nursing fathers and moth-ers unto Israel, and how the Gentiles would bless Israel upon this land, then he says: (referring to North and South America.) "This land, saith God, shall be a land of thine inheritance, and the Gentiles shall be blessed upon the land. And this land shall be a land of lib-erty unto the Gentiles, and there shall be no kings upon the land who shall rise up unto the Gentiles; and I will fortify this land against all other na-tions, and he that fighteth against Zi-on" (this whole land of America) "shall perish, saith God; and he tnat raiseth

perish, saith God; and he that raiseth up a king against me shall perish. . Wherefore I will consecrate this land unto thy (Lah's) seed and they (the Gentiles) who shall be numbered among thy seed forever, for the land of their inheritance; for it is a choice land, saith God, unto me, above all other lands, wherefore I will have all men that dwell thereon, that they shall worship me, saith God." The foregoing are the promises of the Lord unto the descendants of Joseph and unto the Gentiles who shall be united with them in the possession of the land of America

America. Jesus also, Jesus also, during His ministry among the Nephites, after His resurrection, made some remarkable prom-ises and predictions respecting the prosperity and freedom and power of the Gentiles in the land of America or condition of their righteousness, and their obedience to the "God of the land," who is declared to be Jesu: Jesus Christ. They equally with the house of Joseph on the conditions named, are promised an inheritance in the goodly land; and lot and part in the build ing of a holy city upon it, to be called Zion, a new Jerusalem, where the right-cousness of God shall abound, and from eousness of God shail abound, and from which light and truth shall emanate to bless the world. These things are testi-fied of at length in the twentieth and twenty-first chapters of the Third Ne-phi; also in the writings of Moroni in the Book of Ether, where a rather sol-emn warning is given to the Gentiles respecting the decrees of God concern-ing this land of Joseph-this land of promise unto the Gentiles as well as unto the descendants of Joseph. Moroni, in speaking of America, says: "This is a land which is choice above all other lands; wherefore he that pos-

all other lands; wherefore he that pos sesses it shall serve God, or he shall b sesses it shalls, wherefore he that pos-sesses it shall serve God, or he shall be swept off; for it is the evelasting de-cree of God. And it is not until the fulness of iniquity among the children of the land, that they are swept off. . . Behold, this is a choice land, and whatsoever nation shall possess it, shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven, if they will but serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ. . . And this cometh unto you O ye Gentiles, that ye may repent, and hot continue in your iniquities un-tit the fulness comes, that ye may not bring down the fulness of the wrath of God upon you, as the inhabitants of the land have hitherto done." WEBSTER'S CONCEPTION OF

# AMERICA.

Did our own great Webster catch something of this old Nephite inspira-tion when, speaking something like twenty-two years after the first pub-twenty-two years after the first pub-

of the prophet, and the saints in the eastern states were ' commanded to gather to this place. They did so, and lived there some three years when their examples one up are lost them and and lived there some three years when their enemies rose up against them and expelled them from the land under cir-cumstances of great cruelty and hard-ship. The saints, who had been driven from their homes, accounted them-selves exiles from Zion, and there was much disappointment in Israel because, apparently, the promises of God had failed them; for they looked forward to a perpetual inheritance upon this land, notwithstanding the word of the Lord to the contrary. Shortly after and, notwithstanding the word of the Lord to the confrary. Shortly after this, three years later, a still further removal was made into the counties of northern Missouri, and finally, as you know, the entire Church was expelled from the state of Missouri and had to take refuge in Illinois. The prophet with his usual activity began the es-tablishment of stakes of Zion in Illi-nois, especially at Nauvoo and vicini-ty. Meantime the saints were ques-tioning much concerning Zion, and the privilege of dwelling therein. At the April conference, preceding his martyr-dom, the prophet alluded to these dis-April conference, preceding his martyr-dom, the prophet alluded to these dis-appointments, and he spoke of Zion at considerable length. I want to read to you his words on that occasion. The saints had too narrow a conception of Zion, and of the purposes of God with reference to her; and hence the prophet, in the course of his remarks, said: "You know there has been a great

said: "You know there has been a great discussion in relation to Zion, where it is, and where the gathering of the dispensation is, which I am now going to tell you. The prophets have spoken and written upon it, but I will make a proclamation that will cover a bread-er ground. The whole of America is Zion itself, from north to south, and is described by the prophets who de-clared that it is Zion, where the moun-tain of the Lord shall be, and it shall be in the center of the land. I have received instructions from the Lord that from henceforth wherever the elders of Israel shall build up churches and branches unto the Lord, through-out the states" (having reference to the United States, of course) "there shall be a stake of Zion. In the great cities, as Boston, New York, etc., there shall be stakes. It is a glorious proclamation, and I peserved it to the last, and de-signed it to be understood that this work shall commence after the wash-ings and anointings, and endowments You know there has been a great ings and anointings, and endowments have been performed here (I. c., in Nau-

At the same conference Hyrum Smith.

At the same complete, said: "The gathering will continue here (i. e. Nauvoo) until the temple is so far finished that the elders can get their endowments; and after that the gathering will be from the nations to North and South America, which is the land of Zion. The gathering from the old countries will always be to headquar-

Shortly after this President Brigham after the temple is done (completed), and the elders endowed, they could spread abroad and build up cities all

over the United States, but at present we are not to preach this doctrine; may, hold your tongue." The martyrdom of the prophet and The martyrdom of the prophet and the exodus to the mountains consequent upon that martyrdom made it impos-sible to carry out this policy of building up stakes of Zion in Boston. New York and other eastern cities. The Church, found that it had all it could do in es-tablishing itself in these valleys of the Rocky mountains, where it might ful-fil the predictions of the prophet of this dispensation, to the effect that the

dispensation, to the effect that the saints would become a great and power-ful people in the midst of the Rocky mountains. Sometimes, however, I have wondered if we have not too much set our hearts upon these valleys, upon this State of Utah and these surroundthis State of Utah and these surround-ing states; and if-like the saints in the earlier history of the Church, when in-habiting Jackson county, we have not limited our conceptions of Zion by lines that are altogether too narrow. Last fail, as I journeyed through the east-ern states, through New England, and in the south, and realizing that in the southern states there are more than 10.000 of our people, and in the Eastern States mission more than 3,000, and in the Northern States mission a still greater number-I wondered if it would not be possible to establish stakes of Zion in the eastern and southern states as well as in Canada, in Mexico, in Ore-gon in Arizona, or Colorado. Would



Would

City Will Show You How.



47 HIGHEST AWARDS IN EUROPE and AMERICA

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# Friends and Neighbors in Salt Lake

Shortly after this President brightan Foung, then of the twelve apostles, ad-dressing himself to Reuben Headlock, preisdent of the British mission, said: "A word with you privately. Brother Joseph said last conference that Zion included North and South America, and included North and South America, and



V00).

8,900 millions of dollars. Or course, all that those figures convey to your mind or to mine is simply the thought that it represents an exceedingly great value; for we have not yet learned to think in billions. In the year 1905 the 8,900 millions had increased to over 26,000 millions of value. The number of people engaged in agriculever 26,000 millions of value. The number of people engaged in agricul-ture in 1870 was 5,392,000; but in 1995 the number engaged in that in-dustry had increased to 11,500,000 people. The value of farm products in 1870 amounted to 1,955 millions; amounted to 1.958 millions; in 1906 it had increased to more 7,000 millions. The value of while while in 1966 it had increased to more than 7,000 millions. The value of agricultural products, per capita, of the entire population, will interest you, and aid you to appreciate the great increase of prosperity that has been made in this industry: In 1870 the value of agricultural products, per capita, was \$56, but in 1906 it had ad-

Value of agricultural products, per capita, was \$50, but in 1906 it had ad-vanced to \$82 per capita. In Louisiana and Texas alone there are over 600,000 acres of land that are annually give to rice culture with irrigation, resulting in this: that whereas these lands, now so fruitful, 25 years 250 were only worth from 25 to 50 cents per acre: their value is now from 350 to \$75 and even \$100 per acre. This wonderful transforma-tion in values has arisen through adopting a system of irriga-tion, chiefly by tapping underground streams and bringing them to the surface. Nor is this the only means of redeeming the land. In many parts of the south we found that large areas of swamp lands were being systemof swamp lands were being system-atically drained, and by this system of drainage the valuation of these lands is increased as much as the Tex-ns lands are by irrigation. Needless to say that this reclamation of lands has greatly i of the south. increased the prosperity

### AMERICA'S GREAT PROSPERITY.

There are other things that might be noted indicating the increasing prosperity of our country. Take for instance the item of railroads: In 1830 there were but 25 miles of rail-road in the United States. In the year 1905, however, there are-of main lines-more than 223,000 miles; and if you take into account the double and if you take into account the double tracking and spur lines the milenge is increased by \$9,000 miles, making the total milesge of railroads in the United States \$13,000 miles, construct-ed since 1830. In the matter of coal und iron the United States outstrips in world. Expert examination dis-closes the fact that the coal fields within the United States cover an area of 356,000 square miles in Great Britain; 2,500 square miles in Germany and

dearer to me than ever before; and this not alone on account of the evidences of her prosperity which could be seen on every hand; not on account alone of contemplating her free insti-tutions, or the patriotism of her people, and the general prevalence of peace and justice that obtain in the land-not alone for these things (though not infind our love for America increased. Part of that increased regard was oc-casioned by our reflections upon the destiny of America; upon the decreas of God respecting the land, and the re-lationship which the Latter-day Saints sustain to these western configurits sustain to these western continents, their mission upon them-this had something to do with increasing our rehad gard for America.

AMERICA THE LAND OF JOSEPH.

And now, by what, perhaps, you will consider indirect means, let me call your attention to some things which perhaps have not always been under-stood in their fulness even by the Lat-ter-day Saints, in respect of this great this choice land of America. You will this choice land of America. Fou will easily remember, when I refer to him, that great character of the Old Testa-ment Scriptures, Joseph, the son of Jacob, one of the noblest characters of either sacred or profane history. In his boyhood the Lord by inspired dreams indicated to him a prominence dreams indicated to him a prominence in Israel. One dream pictured himself and brethren in the harvest field, set-ting up sheaves, and as he set his sheaf on end the sheaves of his brethren bowed in obeisance to his sheaf. He told the dream to his brethren, and they said: "Shalt thou indeed reism over us?" And they were angry with him. us?" And they were angry with him Again the lad dreamed, and he say that the sun and the moon and 11 stars did obelsance to him, and he told the dream to his faither. "What," said the aged natriarch, "shall I and thy mother nd thy brethren indeed come to bow lown ourselves to thee to the earth?" Notwithstanding his evident vexation failed. the old pairiarch was wise enough to observe that there was inspiration in this dream of the lads. In course of time, as you know, Joseph was sold into time, as you know, doubt to Egypt, and there through a pathway of sorrow and trial the Lord led him to great em-inence in the nation of Egypt, made him indeed the savior of Egypt, for by inspired dreams he was forewarned of the families and was able to provide for inspired dreams he was forewarned of inspired dreams he was forewarned of the famine and was able to provide for it, so that while there was distress and famine in every other country, there was corn in Egypt. In due time his brothers came to purchase the corn and bowed down in the presence of Joseph, and doublies, in part, but only in part, the dream of his boyhood days was fai-filled. In time, too, his father came into Egypt and conferred upon him a father's blessing. Jacob also blessed the sons of Joseph, Manassch and Eph-ralm, conferring great and mightly blessings upon them and claiming them as his own. And when Jacob came to bless his soft. Joseph in connection with the rest of the tribes of Israel, he gave him a blessing that excells the

The pre-hous through of the carry and the fulness thereof, and for the good will of Him that dwelt in the bush," that is, for the good will of God who appeared unto Moses in the burning bush, this allusion is obvious; so that Joseph's land is to be under God's good will in addition to all the natural advantages it is to preserve Joseph too is to be it is to possess. Joseph, too, is to be the power that shall "push the people together to the ends of the earth;" declaration which, when considered in Connection with the many promises of God that he who scattered Israel will gather him again, and keeps him as a schepherd does his flock, for the Lord is "a Father to Israel and Ephrain, is my first born"—a declaration I say which is significant of prominence for Joseph in the work of the gathering of Israel with the dott n' the last days. And now I submit to you the ques-

tion: Where is the evidence of the ful-filment of these great promises of God to Joseph? The world seems to have lost sight of this chief prince in Israel, this man holding the birthright. When is that land of his described by Mose Where and Jacob, so far more extensive and richer in resources than old Canaan-to reach which perhaps Joseph's branches run over the wall? Where m the history of the world is the account of the fulfilment of the blessings pro-nounced upon Joseph by his father? REVELATION OF THE BOOK OF MORMON

All the tribes of Israel, save Judah only, are lost to the knowledge of the world, and Judah is known chiefly for the things that he has suffered, and not for the realization of those blessings that were pronounced upon him by his father. Can it be that those special blessings prohounced upon the head of Joseph by the Lord have failed? Have the promises of Jehovah gone for naught? Well, so far as any knowledge the world has to the contrary these he world has to the contrary these promises of God to this patriarch have called. But it happens that the Latter-day Sainty know that those prom-ises have not failed. They have been fulfilled in part, and what remains will be gloriously fulfilled. Your choir, this afternoon sang:

"An angel from on high The long, long silence broke Descending from the sky these Gracious words he spoke: Lo! in Cumorah's lonely hill A sacred record lies concealed.

"It speaks of Joseph's seed, And makes the remnant known Of nations long since dead Who once had dwelt alone. The fulness of the gospel, too, Its pages will reveal to view."

lication of the Book of Mormon (Feb 22, 1852, to be precise-and before the New York Historical society)-he said

in his own matchless eloquence: "Unborn ages and visions of glory crowd upon my soul, the realization of all which, however, is in the hands and good pleasure of Almighty God; but, under His divine blessing, it will be dependent on the character and the virtues of ourselves, and of our posterity. If classical history has been found to be, is now, and shall continu to be, the concomitant of free institu ity. beer tions, and of popular eloquence, what field is opening to us for another lerodotus, another Thucydides, and Herodotus, another Thucydides, and another Livy! "And let me say, gentlemen, that if

"And let me say, gentlemen, that if we and our posterity shall be true to the Christian religion—if we and they shall live always in the fear of God, and shall respect His commandments— if we and they shall maintain just, moral sentiments, and such conscient-lous convictions of duty as shall conlous convictions of duty as shall control the heart and life—we may have the highest hopes of the future for-tunes of our country; and if we main-tain those institutions of government tain those institutions of government and that political union, exceeding all praise as much as it exceeds all former examples of political associations, we may be sure of one thing-that, while our country furnishing materials for a thousand masters of the historic art, it will afford no topic for a Gibbon. It will have no Decline and Fall. It will so on prospering and to prosper

go on prospering and to prosper. "But, if we and our posterity reject religious instruction and authority, vireligious instruction and authority, vi-olate the rules of eternal justice, triffe with the injunctions of morality, and recklessly destroy the political con-stitution which holds us together, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us, that shall bury all our glory in profound obscurity. Should that catastrophe happen, let it have no history! Let the horrible nar-rative never be written! Let lis fate be like that of the lost books of Livy, which no human eye shall ever read; which no human eye shall ever read; or the missing pleiad, of which no man can ever know more, than that it is lost, and lost forever!"

And now, I invite your attention to the remarks I made in the commence-ment of this discourse-to the prosperi-ty of the land, embracing both North grandeur of it.and I ask you, does it no fulfil better than any other part of the earth, better than any other continent or continents--does it not better answer the description of Moses and of Ja-cob, when they described the land that should be the inheritance of the great Patriarch Joseph, than any other land does? Most assuredly, VIEWS OF THE PROPHET JOSEPH

ON ZION.

When the Book of Mormon was re-vealed and it became known that the Americas wave precious lands of prom-ise, and that God had such a high des-tiny for the two continents as is de-scribed in the Book of Mormon, that among other things America was the place where the Zion of God should be built in the last days, the brethren in those early days very nat-urally became anxious to know where the city would be located. After much striving for the knowledge, the place of Zion was at last revealed to them. The Lord indicated the place for the commencement of the building of Zion, and the place for the temple upon When the Book of Mormon was and the place for the building of 2001, which the glory of God should rest by day and by night. This place was declared to be near Independence, Jackson county, Missouri, The site for the temple and the land around about was dedicated under the supervision

lish stakes of Zion in South Carolina, in Florida, in Vermont or New York, as it is to establish stakes of Zion in these

is to establish stakes of Zion in these other places I have named? The whole land of America, the two great conti-nents is Zion, the land of Joseph; and I believe that the elements are forming, that God is so tempering the minds of men, so making them receptive of the truth, that by a strong, intelligent proc-lamation of the gospel, that God has en-trusted to His Church, it may become possible for stakes of Zion to be estab-lished all over this land. I feel the truth of that. I believe the time has come, not only for an industrial expan-sion in America, a mighty increase in material prosperity, but a correspondmaterial prosperity, but a correspond-ing increase in spiritual life. In other words an era has dawned upon us fa-yorable to the establishment of Zion. vorable to the establishment of Zion. Let us not, I pray you, confine our feri-ings and views respecting Zion to limits that are too narrow for the genius of this great work of God. If anyone has supposed that the prosperity and suc-cess of this work called Mormonism depends upon the Latter-day Saints re-taining political control of Sait Lake or any other city; of this state of Utah or any other city; of this state of Utah or any other state, or group of states, his views do not rise to meet the gran-deur of God's great Latter-day work

cents. States.

Our work is to preach the gospel; and to so preach it that its principles will leaven the whole mass of modern re-ligious and philosophical thought: to so preach it that it shall influence the lives of men in all the world. No petty, political scheme can be said to be any part of the great Latter-day work which God has established in the earth.

part of the great Latter-day work which God has established in the orth. That work is broad as eternit deep as the love of God, and contra-the salvation of all the children of men. Our religion is in the earth to benefit and bless and uplift mankind. Our Church is not the Church of Jesus Christ for the United States, or for America. It is truly the catholic-d. e., the universal church, the church of the whole world: but, as I have already urged throughout this discourse, the Latter-day Saints hold a peculiar rela-tionship to America, being mainly of the seed of Joseph, through the loins of Ephraim, and having a special mission as to this land, and to the other tribes of Israel. And now if only we would lift our eyes from the ground, and look northward and southward and eastward and westward and realize that these two continents of America, by the promise of God, are the inheritance of Joseph, the sons of Joseph, the children of Ephraim, should be, and would be, so imbued with the spirit of their great ancestor that they would take posses-sion of their inheritance in the name of ancestor that they would take posses-sion of their inheritance in the name of God, by the proclamation of their principles. They would make a conque the land of Zion. Amen.

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