

uncalled for, as using a small character instead of the capital I, etc., as is used in Pitman's system. I would not approve of disturbing the general characteristics of our language.

Yours, etc., W. M. C.

Legislation.

SALT LAKE CITY,
January 9, 1880.

Editor's Deseret News:

In your excellent leader yesterday, headed "Frauds Exposed," you present us with facts and figures that will be found astoundingly interesting to the general public. These lottery land pirates and general advertisers in the leading and best newspapers of the day, have a large field in which they roam at large in transacting their nefarious "business."

Their fulsome agents by railways and their lying circulars by mails, find their way into every town and hamlet in the United States, but their cunningly worded advertisements in respectable journals are fraught with the most mischief in duping an unsuspecting citizen. The government has very prudently, being solicitous for the welfare of the people, suppressed their trading through the post office; will newspapers suppress their advertisements?

Without doubt the ill-gotten gold of these swindling "firms" finds its way west, where it is placed before the unwary eye to "loan" at "two" "three" and "five per cent. per month." The first operations in its evil tendencies are nothing to compare with its second, in the financial demoralization produced and ruin effected in ordinary society. The glittering bait takes. The victim ensnared becomes in nine cases out of ten, insolvent. The farm, the house and the corner lot on which it stands, silently and surely becomes the property of another, with still more "money to loan," and so the "fraud" continues to advance, rich and arrogant, while poor, despoiled honesty retires abashed, hiding its head in shame. "All for lack of wisdom." Not the least doubt of it, but was our neighbor properly warned of the depth of the pit into which he has unfortunately fallen?

There is a moral power emanating from legislation, good or bad. If law will not suppress crime, it will most assuredly intimidate the evil-doer, and often prevents him from the commission of sin. Give us good laws! "When the wicked rule, the people mourn." It is written, "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people."

"For the love of money is the root of all evil." A very high rate of interest will vitiate the money market. If the "legal rate of interest" is five per cent. per annum, the avaricious money lender will demand 10 or 15 per cent. per annum in "private arrangements." If the legal rate of interest is placed by law at 10 per cent. per annum, then the agent with "money to loan" will ask 20 or 30 per cent. per annum. Here we have brought to view the moral power of legislation. Such high rates of interest prevailing amongst any people, will paralyze the efforts of honest business men who wish to build up and improve property, and it will despoil or ruin nine-tenths of those who venture to give "good security" in order to obtain money with which to speculate, let the motive be ever so pure and the prospect ever so bright.

This practice has been a prolific source of trouble and discontent and suffering in our community. Much valuable property has changed hands, with great loss to the original owners, and the evil is increasing. Business in this line is transacted with the view of obtaining real estate and good buildings at a nominal price, for less than one-half its proper value, by those having "money to loan." Let us have a stable money market. Our Legislature will perhaps give this subject their attention. Would not a legal rate of interest of six or seven per cent. per annum be in legal keeping with the times?

Yours very truly,

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ST. GEORGE,
Jan. 3d, 1880.

Editor's Deseret News:

This winter is the coldest known for many years in this place. We have had fine rains, and now the

ground is covered with snow that has been lying for several days, something rather unusual for the "sunny south." This is encouraging to farmers, as we hear that the snow is very deep in the Pine Valley mountains, giving promise of plenty of water next summer.

Presidents Snow, McAllister, Jones, and Elders J. Gates, R. Bentley, and A. R. Whitehead, recently paid a visit to the river settlements, holding meetings in Toquero, Virgin City, Leeds, Rockville, Duncan's Retreat and Harrisburg. The meetings were well attended and the preaching was of a practical and encouraging character, and as far as your correspondent was able to judge, directed by the Spirit of the Lord.

Bishop Smith, of Rockville, buried his wife the day we arrived there, and the day following, (Sunday), President Snow delivered a discourse on death and the resurrection, one of the most instructive sermons I ever listened to.

A Mutual Improvement Association and Sunday School were organized at Duncan's Retreat, by Presidents McAllister, Jones and Assistant Stake Superintendent A. R. Whitehead, and taking the trip as a whole, I think much good was accomplished, and all returned home satisfied with the trip.

Most of the Sunday Schools in this State are doing well, a lively interest being taken in them by the young especially, and assisted by many of the older brethren.

The Mutual (Young Men's) Improvement Associations of the State are doing tolerably well, though there is great room for improvement. The Stake President of both Sunday Schools and Improvement Associations has a good, faithful, efficient help in assistant A. R. Whitehead, who is always on hand to fulfil his duties towards the associations.

A leap year ball was held in the Gardner's Club Hall, New Year's night, which passed off in a very agreeable manner. Among the guests we observed President Snow and Presidents McAllister and Eyring "skipping the light fantastic toe." And the "ladies fair" did not seem backward in leading the "eternal sex" to the enjoyment of the dance, and all passed off, in the language of our president, "gloriously!"

Not much business going on at present. Some of our freighters are hauling ore at the Reef, at "bed-rock" prices, and this bad weather no doubt will be very bad for them.

The co-op. store recently declared a dividend of 10 per cent. for the last six months, which is very good considering the opposition stores in running order in this place at present.

The work in the Temple for the living and the dead still continues, and much credit is due many of the workers, some of whom have worked there from the time it first opened, without receiving any compensation whatever. Such persons are worthy of approbation, in this selfish age.

The health of the people is generally good.

President Snow will start for Salt Lake within a day or two, to represent his constituents in the Legislative Assembly.

AMRAM.

THE DIVINE AUTHENTICITY OF THE BOOK OF MORMON.

BY ELDER W. H. H. SHARP.

NO. XI.

The changes noted in the signs, symbols, and hieroglyphical arrangement by the discoverer, found upon the columns and tablets of stone connected with the seven pyramids in Arizona, partake of two features, singularly corroborative of the history of the Jaredites and Nephites, found recorded in the Book of Mormon. Elder John Taylor, when in Liverpool, April, 1851, in a letter to the editor of the *Millennial Star*, (F. D. Richards) in reference to the discovery of these pyramids in America, and commenting upon the changes in the signs and hieroglyphical writings, noted by the discoverers, uses the following language:

"I have no doubt but that some of the ruins of which he speaks are the ruins of a people called in the Book of Mormon the 'Jaredites.'"

Again, in regard to language; it is no more remarkable that language should change on the continent of America, than that there should be

alterations on the continent of Asia. In fact, the same thing is clearly shown in the Book of Mormon. The Jaredites came from the Tower of Babel. They of course brought their language with them. This, in the lapse of time, would be liable to change and alteration. Again, when the people arrived from Jerusalem, if they should add to those hieroglyphics, which is not at all improbable, the whole thing of which the gentleman speaks is unravelled, and his mystery revealed." (See *Millennial Star*, vol. 13, page 121.) From the fact that the Jaredites possessed the continent of America from a short period after the dispersion of mankind at the great tower, and until 585 years, B. C., and that the next nation, the Nephites, did not begin to settle North America until 57 years B. C., and that they greatly multiplied and became highly educated in the arts and sciences and mechanical skill, and the building of great cities; that upon discovering these great pyramids, they engraved upon tablets of stone a history of the times, and just previous to their leaving that section of the country to go to the land of Cumorah, (in the State of New York), they deposited their written tablets within the pyramid along with those already there—the history of the Jaredites; it is not surprising that the discoverer connected these histories reaching from an ancient time to the second century of the Christian era, a time so ancient, that from a remarkable peculiarity connected with one of these seven pyramids, the gentleman was led to believe it to have been of antediluvian date. This great father of all the known pyramids, which the histories of the world has so far revealed, stands the most wonderful and stupendous piece of man's labor of which we have any account.

Its supposed antediluvian date is somewhat confirmed by the deductions based upon the interpretations of some of the symbols, signs, and hieroglyphical engravings upon the tablets of stone, in a recess of one of the group of pyramids, when they were discovered. The washings of time had made the seams a foot wide between the joints of the massive stones of which this great pyramid is constructed, whilst the other pyramids show but little decay and wearing, in comparison. And again, the accumulation of vegetable matter, and earth, has clothed that mighty pyramid with a verdant green from base to dome, and the nearer it was approached when first discovered, the more like a mountain it appeared, clothed with an aged forest.

There seems to have been very little change in language during the time from Adam to the flood, and from the flood to the building of the great tower. The Book of Mormon informs us that Mahonri Moriancumer continued in the possession of the language that was confounded, and he and those who were with him were led by the Lord to America, and wrote their history in the language which they retained by the special commands of the Almighty. It is not unreasonable to suppose, then, that if this very aged and mighty pyramid, of this group of seven pyramids mentioned, is of antediluvian date, that the Jaredites, retaining the original language, and some time after their landing, discovering this ancient structure of man's labor, also selected this same aged spot, and erected their pyramidal monuments of greatness, that the succeeding nations, or generations, might know of their existence, and that their pyramids, notwithstanding the corroding wastings of time, would remain as mementoes, to prove their dwelling in the land, and pillars of truth, that will yet more clearly corroborate the history found recorded in the Book of Ether, in the Book of Mormon. It is written that the testimony of one nation confirms the testimony of another. The pyramid of Gizeh, erected 2,170 years B. C., and the most ancient of the 60 pyramids known to exist in Egypt, has stood for ages the wonder of the oriental world, the theme for Greek, Hebrew and modern writers and hagiographers, and of late a field of scientific investigation, notably of Smythe, Taylor and others, has been the subject of much speculation, and stands a scientific monitor, pointing down through the epochs of time, revealing things as they were, are, and to come. A monument of historical science, that will leave the scientific world without excuse. A

prophetic record on stone, that gives the date of the establishing of the government or church of God upon the earth, the ushering in of the dispensation of the fullness of times. This pyramid was erected about a century and a half after the Jaredites landed upon the shores of the promised land of America.

Theory has in part entered into the prognostications which the Pyramid of Gizeh develops; and without inspiration from the Almighty, a "mysterious something" pervades the atmosphere which surrounds that mighty monument. The supposed typified events and epochs, marked by a series of passages, chambers, galleries and engraved lines, indicate times of very conspicuous and important transactions, which history has in a measure portrayed, and in some respects given dates of, agreeing with the revelations which the pyramid's measurements foretell.

These measurements are in conformity with the rules that govern "Pyramidal Symbolism," and are at the ratio of one pyramid inch to a year. I shall refer to only one important measurement, denoting an important event which is immediately connected with the coming forth of the Book of Mormon in the year 1830 of the Christian era. The Pyramid of Gizeh—forming so closely to a prophetic portraiture of events, centuries before their transpiring, has led many to believe that its erection to have been dictated by the "Master Mason," who in his wisdom and foreknowledge of the future, might have a standing monument confirmatory of his divine goodness, and as it was erected through and by the spirit of inspiration, so also should inspiration correct what the skill and science of man failed to develop, or in other words, the Giver of all wisdom suffered that the scientific mind of man in his investigations should go so far and no farther, in bringing to light the hidden mysteries contained in the symbolical writings of the Pyramid of Gizeh. Hence we find that the great scientific light which God intended for mankind was reserved for these last days, the meridian of the nineteenth century, that the same might be a confirmatory evidence of the Book of Mormon, and the setting up of his church and kingdom upon the earth.

According to Professor Smythe, Astronomer Royal of Scotland, the length of the grand gallery of the Pyramid of Gizeh, from its place of beginning to the base of the grand step, measures 1,812 9-12 inches, or 1812 years and nine months. Some have connected this measure or symbolism, with the extraordinary stride the so-called Christianity of the nineteenth century attained to, commencing about 1812 and continued until 1835. During this period, the Christian Church, throughout the world, formed its greatest organization for the dissemination of the Holy Scriptures, and the preaching of the so-called gospel in heathen lands, establishing of missionaries, schools, and the support of their respective ministers, in heathen countries. This general revival and aggressive missionary zeal has been remarked by many who have referred to this time, in connection with the symbolism of the Pyramid of Gizeh, as being the greatest and most general since the days of the Apostles. It was from this connection that I was led to believe some three years ago that it could not be possible for the symbolism of the Pyramid of Gizeh to pass by so important a time as that in which "the fullness of the everlasting gospel" was about to be proclaimed, and in its ancient purity again restored to the earth.

Recent developments have clearly demonstrated that the Pyramid of Gizeh confirms the belief, and establishes the all important truth that the year 1820 and 1830 of the Christian era are symbolized in the measurement of the grand gallery, as also in the measurement of the grand step. The measurement of this step from its frontal upper edge to the solid wall of granite, is 61 inches or years.

Professor Orson Pratt has demonstrated that the substitution of the English common inch, which Professor Smythe introduced in the measurement of this step, has been done without any apparent reason, and that by continuing the measurement of the grand gallery and grand step, by the pyramidal unit inch, the symbolism of that perfect monument, the

"Pyramid of Gizeh," confirms the date of the organization of the true Church of God, upon the earth, and the near coming of the Son of God to set up his throne and reign a thousand years, king of nations as he is king of Saints.

This pyramidal measurement, therefore, corrected by inspiration, but conforms with the general outlook of the symbolism of the whole structure.

The 6th day of April, 1830, is the pyramidal time of Gizeh, astronomical and symbolical. Perverted Christianity has mistaken her place in the symbolism of the Pyramid of Gizeh, but when the prophetic mind, illuminated by the Spirit of God, is worked upon to declare her place in the symbolism of that speaking mountain of stone, the "Pyramid of Gizeh," her place conforms to her crumbling, present wasting away, and the grand step which extends across the grand gallery of the Pyramid of Gizeh, marks her early demolition.

Astronomers, men of science, theologians, priests and ministers of different religions, kings and potentates of all nationalities, are looking forward to some speedy and momentous change in church and State. The portentous omens of the times are the fulfilling of the predictions of the prophets, of both the Bible and the Book of Mormon, and of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The Book of Mormon (the stick of Joseph in the hands of Ephraim), the sealed record of the ancient inhabitants of America, speaks from the dust; the "Pyramid of Gizeh" and the pyramidal monument, the works of the Jaredites and Nephites cry aloud to confirm its divinity, and establish its claim to prophetic lineage, the fullness of the gospel to Gentile and to Jew, and finally to the remnants of the land, "their lost and buried record," a history of their ancient fathers.

(Concluded in our next.)

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