

ence of the affairs of the universe; His wisdom, power and goodness, and His final victory over evil were recognized as incontrovertible facts.

The age of the Reformation gave special attention to man in his relation to Deity. The reformers boldly broke from established doctrines, accepted creeds and declarations of councils, claiming that the Bible was the only authoritative source of information as to the religious duties of man. Faith was made the chief condition of salvation as it was thought to be the only means of justification. As previous ages were full of errors, so was this. It justly concluded that creeds of men and decrees of councils could never take place co-ordinate with the revealed word of the Almighty; but it failed in supposing that the records of past centuries contained all the revelations to be expected from God.

The present age has dealt, and is still largely dealing, with the relation of man to man. It is preparing for a complete revolution in social respects. Again attention is drawn to the Bible, but the sacred records are studied on scientific principles and not simply accepted without criticism, as by the reformers. When the results of this inquiry are fully understood, they will lead to the acceptance of direct revelation from God. For it will place mankind in the same position as were the first Christian churches. They, too, had ancient sacred records, but their mission was a new one, and they needed further guidance from above.

In the new theological development the Latter-day Saints have taken a leading part. The truths advanced by Joseph, the Prophet, correspond perfectly to the needs of the age. They were at first pronounced amid incredulity and contradiction, but they have been gaining ground all the time and continue to exercise an influence on the thought of the age. It is but a question of time till it will be a matter of wonder that those truths were ever unknown to the Christian world.

A GRAND BEGINNING.

It is with feelings of sincere pleasure, mingled indeed with pride, that we direct attention to the account appearing elsewhere in this issue of the Church University building and its equipment. It is gratifying to know that even in the midst of financial distress our people are alive to the progress in educational matters which is so characteristic of the age.

Our readers will remember the action in this matter taken by the Latter-day Saints in conference assembled April 5, 1892. At that time a resolution was offered by one of the congregation asking the general authorities of the Church to take early steps toward establishing a University, which should be the head of the Latter-day Saints Church school system. The resolution was sustained by unanimous vote of the vast body of worshippers, there constituted as the official assembly of the Church, and before the adjournment of the Conference the Presidency and Apostles announced their acceptance of the undertaking, and promised as early a compliance with the expressed wishes of the people as circumstances would warrant.

Soon after that Conference a board of trustees was created to take charge of the new institution which was to be called "The University of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," but to be commonly designated The Church University. The liberal nature of the institution is expressed in the following extract from the creative deed of trust: "The chief aims and objects of the institution shall be to make of its students and graduates worthy citizens and true followers of Jesus Christ by fitting them for some useful pursuit, by strengthening in their minds a pure attachment to the Constitution of the United States and to our republican institutions, by teaching them the lessons of purity, morality and upright conduct, and by giving them, as far as possible, an understanding of the significance of Christ's mission to the earth and of the plan of salvation taught by Him."

As it was not deemed wise to postpone the opening of University instruction till the extensive buildings really needed for the carrying on of the full line of work as designed were completed, an agreement was entered into with the Deseret Museum board to use a portion of the new building then being erected by the Museum, and to equip the rooms in the best possible manner for the giving of instruction in the higher grades of work. How well this preparatory labor has been done, one can judge from the description given by our reporter of his visit to the place.

We are officially informed that although the Church University authorities do not consider it practicable to establish immediately a great number of courses during the coming school year, full and thorough instruction will be given in chemistry and natural philosophy, which subjects form the basis of all work in experimental science. The laboratories, lecture rooms, balance rooms, apparatus rooms, photographic rooms, assaying rooms and accessory apartments are all constructed on the most approved plans, and are equipped in a manner wonderfully complete. Students entering the Church University for work in these courses will be supplied with all apparatus and material, thus saving them the expense and trouble of having to purchase a large stock of things when they are the least able to spare the means. All the students of the institution will be admitted to any classes of the Latter-day Saints' College free of charge, and thus the advantages of both college and university will be placed within the students' reach.

Aside from the regular courses of class instruction it is intended to provide an extensive series of high grade popular lectures, for which a large lecture room has been specially equipped. Announcement of the exact time of opening will be made by the University authorities, and we feel safe in predicting a hearty appreciation of the work and a liberal patronage of the institution. It is not established for any pecuniary profit; its objects are philanthropic; it is an institution of our people, founded by them and for them. Though it may have some storms to weather, we doubt not that its course will be ever onward.

GLADSTONE'S GREAT VICTORY.

Those triumphs which bring with them popular approval are the most grateful to the patriotic heart and most enduring to the nation in whose behalf they are wrought. In all the history of statecraft, ancient and modern, and not even for the present moment overlooking the achievements of Lysander, Richelieu or Jefferson, we fail to find an achievement outranking the home rule victory of William Ewart Gladstone. When are fully considered all the difficulties which lay before him in the way of national prejudice, hostile majorities and an enflaming fire of criticism from all over the world, coupled with the weight of more than a half-score years beyond the allotted three score and ten resting upon him when the task was begun, we feel free to go further and say that it has no equal. That the home rule bill may be defeated in the house of lords is most probable; but the foundation is laid and it cannot be destroyed. Perhaps the author may not live to see the edifice complete—it is unreasonable to think that he will; but he has accomplished what he set out for—a reformation in British sentiment toward Ireland and the Irish, attested by the action of the representative branch of the national parliament. A majority of thirty-four is not large considered by itself; but measuring it by the change of feeling which it represents, it amounts to a stupendous quantity. The Grand Old Man is happy now; well may he be!

POLITICAL DISCUSSION.

The News columns today contain two contributed articles on the same subject—the silver situation—from as many residents of this city, who, however, have different political inclinations. One is by Judge J. E. Cochran, formerly on the district bench in Nebraska, who is or was a Republican, though he now seems to incline to Populist doctrines; the other by Hon. Hadley D. Johnson, a gentleman who needs no introduction personally or politically. The former is for free coinage, as indeed the latter also is, but while the one makes that the paramount issue and would merge all partisanism into it, the other sounds a call unto the faithful in Democracy to remain in their tents until called forth by those who are authorized and qualified to do that business. Both gentlemen are experienced in the political field, both wield a trenchant quill, and we can well afford to let their writing be its own representative.

At this juncture we may take occasion again to say that the columns of this paper are ever open to the publication of properly expressed views at reasonable length upon any current topic of general interest. More than this, we are glad to receive such. But it does not follow that we always either endorse or condemn the arguments made or the conclusions reached by the writers. The policy of the News has not changed in this respect: that while free from the fetters of any political organization and yielding no support to either as such, we still recognize that a great many of