

tor proves to be correct, a revolution is at hand which will do away with the noise, dirt, expense and other inconveniences of steam power for stationary and locomotive machinery, and the world will be one step nearer the millennium. We have frequently referred to electricity as the coming force as well as the future light, and Gary's discoveries confirms us in the views we have entertained and expressed. They are to be classed among the wonderful developments of the latter times.

### VOICES FROM BABYLON.

The prophecies of Daniel are among the most remarkable of the sacred writings of the Hebrews. The whole Book of Daniel is intensely interesting, whether studied as a portion of Jewish or Babylonian history, as containing evidences of divine interposition on behalf of His faithful servants, lessons of the benefits of trusting in God and the right, and of the ultimate triumph of justice, or as embodying wonderful predictions, many of which have been literally and perfectly fulfilled, while others remain to receive their accomplishment.

This book has provoked more comment and caused more discussion, perhaps, than any other in the Old or New Testament. The times and seasons therein referred to, have formed the basis of numerous conflicting calculations as to the exact date of the end of the world, and the "heads and horns" and "beasts" and "figures" have been the subject of endless contentions, and sermons and lectures enough to stock a national library.

But there are some figurative and symbolical predictions therein which have come to pass so exactly as described in their interpretation, that but little room is left for dispute concerning them. Prominent among these is Nebuchadnezzar's vision of the great image with Daniel's explanation, as given in the second chapter. The successive kingdoms that were to arise have been established exactly in the order given, and, with the exception of the "Stone Kingdom" to be established in the latter days, there is no conflict of opinion concerning the meaning of the text.

It is generally contended that the great and last kingdom which is to "break in pieces all others and to stand forever," was set up by Jesus Christ when he came on earth as the son of Mary. But the revelations of God to Joseph Smith, the seer of the nineteenth century, throw a definite light on this matter, and make it clear that the kingdom represented by the "stone cut out of the mountain without hands" is an organization of heavenly origin, to be built up on earth just previous to the "time of the end." That it was not to be brought forth until all the kingdoms of the world represented by the image were formed. That it would smite, break in pieces, and take the place of all those kingdoms. That it must therefore of necessity be something more than a spiritual influence in the hearts of the people.

The kingdoms represented by the lower limbs and the feet and toes of the image not being formed in the days of Jesus and his Apostles, the "kingdom of heaven," announced announced then to be "at hand," was not the stone that Daniel described, because the latter was to smite the image on the feet and toes, and these, it is conceded by all commentators, represented the modern kingdoms which have grown out of the Roman Empire since the time of Jesus and his Apostles. Then the kingdom represented by the stone was to continue and "stand for ever," and was "not to be left to another people;" but, the Saints of the early Church were "overcome," as foreshown in another part of the Book of Daniel, by a power which "made war upon them" and was to prevail until near the "time of the end."

All these things are familiar to the Latter-day Saints and have been explained to them for years. And they know that out of the Church which God has set up in these times will be formed the kingdom of "stone" which is to supercede all others, to fill the whole earth, and to remain for

ever and ever, the power and dominion and greatness of which "under the whole heaven" is to be given to the "people of the Saints of the Most High," over whom, and all the earth Jesus Christ will reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, at whose name, eventually, every knee shall bow.

But there are many things in the Book of Daniel, very important to the people of the present age, which are not generally understood. They relate to events now immediately impending. To understand them is in some degree to be prepared for them. And to comprehend the predictions which have received a plain and literal fulfillment, as may be proven from history, will open the way to an understanding of those things that are about to come to pass. To aid those who have not made any study of this wonderful book of prophecy, we can recommend the perusal of a work written by the author of "A Miracle in Stone," to which we have made previous reference. It is entitled "Voices from Babylon," and contains in the main correct ideas in regard to the Book of Daniel, the history of the times in which it was written, and the important events foreshadowed therein which have either been fulfilled or are about to take place. It has also a careful translation of the prophetic book. It is not to be expected that the author, without the light of modern revelation, would perceive the truth of the latter-day work and recognize the signs of the latter-day kingdom in the unpopular system called "Mormonism." But he has evidently investigated the prophecies of Daniel as well as other parts of the Hebrew scriptures, with a sincere desire to find out their truth, and, bringing to bear a cultured scholarship, an acute mind and a devotional spirit upon the subject before him, he has succeeded in uncovering many things not generally known, and presents them in a pleasing and striking manner, which recommends his book to all who have any interest in Biblical matters.

"Voices from Babylon" is well worth reading and the Latter-day Saints who peruse it will be able to detect the points wherein the angelic hosts, light, white robes, as well as others, may obtain much information from its pages, which will confirm them in the faith received in the gospel, and help them to fuller understanding of the imagery, allusions, peculiar expressions and references to national and local affairs of the period when the prophet wrote, and uttered his voice out of Babylon for the benefit of future generations, down to the end of time. It is a good work, written in a good spirit.

### A TELEPHONIC MARVEL.

BELL's Telephone was regarded as a wonder when its capabilities were first disclosed and demonstrated. But the improvements which have been made upon the instrument have vastly exalted its claims to the marvelous, and greatly increased its usefulness. We have heard a great deal about the powers of the microphone, but until Friday last had never seen them exhibited.

Mr. L. E. Holden, the well known mining magnate of this city has a Telephone communicating with his elegant residence on South Temple Street, from his office over the Iseret National Bank. Mr. A. M. Musser, agent for the Bell telephone, having received some transmitters or microphone attachments, has fitted a pair to Mr. Holden's Telephones. The effect is astonishing. Standing twelve feet from the instrument fastened to the wall of his office, Mr. Holden speaking in an ordinary tone could be as distinctly heard at his house six blocks distant, as if he were conversing in the room. Whispers into the instrument at one place were also plainly heard at the other, the ticking of a watch sounded as loud as the ticking of a clock, and in the house on the corner of Fifth East Street the rumbling of wagons in Main Street could be heard when the window of the office was opened, as if they were just outside the dwelling house.

Provided enough subscribers can be obtained to insure the success of the enterprise, it is proposed to establish a Telephone system in this

city, which will put its patrons in instantaneous communication with each other, connecting varied business and social interests at a nominal average cost of \$3 per month. It is the intention to connect residences, offices, stores, hotels, livery stables, markets, lumber yards, wool and hide houses, doctors, lawyers, courts, drug stores, banks, assayers, smelters, gas works, factories, breweries, saloons, express offices, stage stations, Fort Douglas, railroad depots, wagon and machine houses, foundries, bath-house, hospitals, court houses, University, Penitentiary, City Hall, police and fire alarm, tanneries, undertakers, newspapers, furniture houses, street car and local depots, flouring mills, etc., etc., so that all may possess facilities for immediate reliable and strictly private communication with each other.

By a very simple device eavesdropping is prevented by cutting out all other Telephones except that used by the person spoken to, so that no subscriber can hear what is said on the line unless it is addressed to him.

When there is no Telephone connections, messages can be sent to the central office, conveniently located on Main Street, and promptly delivered by the messengers in waiting, who will do any desired errand.

Communication will be thus established with all parts of the city and suburbs—policemen may be called, fire alarms be made, goods, provisions, fuel, hacks, doctors, etc., can be ordered, fares and freights arranged for without quitting the room. Managers and superintendents can converse with their railroad, gas, and water depots, their smelters, assayers, banks, attorneys, merchants, etc., from their residences direct, or if away from home, they can say to their families, "A friend will dine with us at 2 o'clock;" or "I am going to Oden, will see James on my return." Lady and gentlemen friends at camp and in town may hold social conversations asking about train and mail arrivals, about the passengers or theatres, or order their supplies; and in a hundred directions utilize this ever ready medium of speedy and certain communication without leaving their premises.

A most excellent feature of the Telephone is its simplicity. It requires no skill to operate it, children and adults can use it with ease.

Each patron will need a Telephone and Call Bell. These are fine and ornamental instruments, requiring not more than a cubic foot of room.

The following testimonials from gentlemen now using Bell Telephones in this city, speak for themselves:

To whom it may concern:

Since last April my family and I have been using 2 of Bell's Telephones between my residence in the 12th Ward, and office over the Deseret Bank, nearly a mile apart. We find them a very great convenience and cannot well be dispensed with where time and promptness are considerations.

An extension of telephonic facilities, by the establishment of a District Telephone System, as in many eastern cities, where they are appreciated, would be an excellent method of instantaneous communication between houses and citizens having business and social interests in different parts of the city, and that too at a nominal cost per month.

L. E. HOLDEN.

Salt Lake City,

February 23, 1878.

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Let it be known that, for the last 10 months we have had in use, between our office in the Deseret Bank Building and the U. C. R. R. depot, two of Professor Bell's Telephones, which we find indispensable in dispatching business. I take pleasure in recommending this system of immediate communication to all who may wish to economize time, labor and money in conducting their business and social interests not consummated under the same roof.

A. GOULD, Agent  
U. P. Coal Co.

One is led to think of the almighty power of the Creator when contemplating the developments of science. And the thought arises that if poor, finite man can bring forth such astonishing effects by a mere smattering of knowledge, why

should any doubts be entertained of the omniscience and omnipotence of the Eternal God, to whom all the secrets of nature are as an open book, who comprehends all the universe, and the laws by which they are governed, and who works in and by them, according to His good will and pleasure for His own glory and the elevation and blessing of His obedient children?

### "OPEN CONFESSION, ETC."

THE San Francisco Chronicle, referring to the petitions urging President Hayes to sign the Anti-Chinese bill, and his silence as to his intentions, says:

"It is possible that President Hayes may answer us in scriptural language—'Ye ask for a sign, but, verily, no sign shall be given.'"

"Open confession is good for the soul," and the Chronicle certainly has made a frank admission of the kind of generation to which it belongs. If it is in ignorance as to the character of those who are scripturally denounced for seeking after a sign, we refer it to Matthew xii, 39, with advice to "read, mark, learn and inwardly digest."

### STILL AT IT.

THE Rocky Mountain Christian (?) Advocate for February, with its usual untruthfulness says:

"There is no other city in this country, with an equal population, with school facilities so meagre as are those of Salt Lake."

There is probably no other city in the Union which is infested with so many deliberate falsifiers, wearing the garb and drawing the salary of sectarian ministers, who spend their time in maligning the people whom they are paid to convert, and in fabricating statements like the above, for the pious purpose of raising money from credulous persons in other places, for their own personal use and emolument. The illiterate editor-in-chief of the Advocate is now in the east with his perpetual subscription list, and such paragraphs as we have clipped are published to aid him in his Christian (?) cause.

### THE CALAMITIES IN BRAZIL.

THE following, which is taken from the bulletin of the public health, issued by the Surgeon General of the United States, for the week ending February 19th, corroborates the statements and figures of the famine and pestilence in Ceara, Brazil, given in our article on this subject which appeared in the daily of Feb. 20:

"The U. S. Consul at Pernambuco reports that in the interior of the province of Ceara a severe drought prevailed for two years and a half, no rain having fallen during that time, the excessive dryness caused the disappearance of the innumerable small streams which furnished the whole water supply of the country, the consequent death of nearly all the cattle and sheep, and the complete destruction of the usual means of subsistence of the population, which is wholly an agricultural one. The people have been reduced to subsistence on roots, cotton-pods, reptiles, and any living or dead thing that would sustain life, some resorting even to cannibalism. In the winter of 1875, small-pox appeared in epidemic form, and caused a frightful mortality among the starving people. A general flight of the people from the interior to the coast cities occurred.

The normal population of 25,000 in Fortaleza, the capital, was quickly raised to 100,000, the squares of the city being filled with thousands of unsheltered people, dying of disease and starvation. One-half of the original population of the city have died of small-pox. In the new cemetery of Lagoa Funda, opened in the middle of last year, there were 60,000 interments up to January 1st. The number of burials from small-pox alone between Nov. 1st and Jan. 1st, in this cemetery, were 24,470; the total interments in the city for the two months being 31,571. At Parahyba, 12,000 refugees out of 15,000 who had fled to the port died, and similar distressing accounts are given of the other coast cities. The consul estimates

the usual population at 900,000, of whom 500,000 have died of disease and starvation. The Brazilian government have expended \$10,000,000 for the relief of the sufferers. At last advices slight rains have fallen in the interior, and it is believed that the worst period of the scourge has been passed.

JNO. M. WOODWORTH,  
Surgeon General U. S. Marine  
Hospital Service.

### Correspondence.

KOOSHAREM, Feb. 11th, 1879.

Editors Deseret News: I have sometimes thought somebody might like to see a few lines from this place. Here are three settlements, viz: Koosharem, Burrville and Greenwich, and some ranches, together constituting Grass Valley Ward, under the presidency of Bishop Joseph H. Wright. Although being almost outside of the civilization (I am tempted to call it corruption) of the world, a number of warm hearted Latter-day Saints live here, trying to live their religion to the best of their knowledge. We have started a co-operative store and some stock has been taken in a co-operative tannery, also in a dairy and co-operative herd, and a co-operative saw mill is under erection.

I have often heard opposers ask where is the signs that should follow the Church? I would like to make more widely known an incident that happened here some three or four weeks ago, if you will offer a place for it in the DESERET NEWS. The bishop and myself being at Burrville on Church business, we, together with Brother Beek, bishop's counselor, and five other brethren, were called upon to go to a certain brother's house to administer to the sick. When we came there he told us that seven of his family were down with the sickness; he had administered to some of them without effect. His daughter, perhaps eight or ten years old, had a dream last night, in which she saw her father trying to lift a heavy cloud hanging over the house, but not being stout enough, he went and got some of the brethren to help him, and they lifted it; so he had called in help to rebuke the sickness. We administered to seven in his house and four in his neighbors', and all of them were up and about next morning.

Your brother in the gospel,  
L. G. DE LANGE.

NORTH OGDEN, Weber County,  
Monday, Feb. 24, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

A Sunday-school jubilee was held here yesterday, which went off very pleasantly.

The exercises occupied the morning and afternoon, and consisted of recitations, duets, songs, questions from the Articles of Faith and Restoration of the Gospel, as contained on the cards issued by the Sunday School Union. The whole of the exercises were performed in a very creditable manner, and gave ample proof of the proficiency of the school. Brothers Richard Ballantyne, our County Superintendent, and L. F. Monch, his assistant, were present and made suitable addresses. The musical exercises, under the able management of our choir master, Brother Frederick W. Ellis, were excellent. One piece, entitled "Ella's Grave," rendered by the choir, being executed in fine style. Our bishop, Amos Maycock, and a full attendance of the local priesthood and parents who were present to witness the day's proceedings, expressed themselves highly gratified with the display of talent among their children.

The health of our people is good. Mud drying up fast. Spring plowing has commenced in real earnest.

Wishing the NEWS every success,  
Yours, A SUBSCRIBER.

### NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a meeting of the land owners of the Leamington Irrigation District will be held in the house of Joseph Anderson, on the 15th of March, 1879, at 1 p. m., for the purpose of electing the officers of the Leamington Irrigation Company, and to vote the tax for the present year.

P. D. LYMAN,  
T. TALEOT,  
THOMAS MORGAN,  
JOSEPH A. LYMAN,  
Secretaries