

I was with him. He was obliged to employ lawyers, and devise ways and means to shield himself from oppression. He had to struggle through poverty and distress, being driven from pillar to post. I wondered, many a time, that he could endure what he did. The Lord gave him strength in all these afflictions.

I do not employ lawyers, unless they are my brethren; and I seldom have occasion for employing them. Lawyers would come to Joseph, professing to have been his friends, and palaver around him to get a fee. I could see through them and read their evil intentions.

The worst wish I have for such characters is that they had been obliged to tell Joseph Smith the truth, when they came to him. Then they would have said, "Joseph, we have been laying our plans to get you into a law suit, and we want you to employ us that we may receive a fat fee from you for defending your case." Or, "there is an election coming off, and we take this course to turn your vote." Bennet told the truth once when he said, "there is not much to be made in political traffic with the 'Mormons.'" It never did any of them any good. We are not to be bought nor sold.

I will now make a few more remarks upon belief and disbelief, understanding and not understanding. I am satisfied that persons are sometimes not so ignorant as they think they are. Faith is an eternal principle; belief is an admission of the fact. Faith, to us, is the gift of God; belief is inherent in the children of men, and is the foundation for the reception of faith. The principle of love within us is an attribute of the Deity, and it is placed within us to be dispensed independently according to our own will. Hatred is another attribute inherent in our organization. These and other inherent principles were planted in man when he was organized in the spirit, and when the spirit took the body they were not destroyed. Belief and unbelief are independent in man, the same as other attributes. Men can acknowledge or reject, turn to the right or to the left, rise up or remain seated; you can say that the Lord and his gospel are not worthy of your notice, or you can bow to them. When the Elders went into your neighborhoods to preach the gospel, you had the privilege of believing or disbelieving; you believed it, your neighbors disbelieve it. It is free and at your own option to dispose of at your pleasure. Could not your neighbors have believed the truth as well as you? Yes.

Now follow out this idea to the last days, in which we live, the time spoken of by the prophets, and by the Savior and his ancient apostles, when the unbelief and hardness of the hearts of the children of men would cause them to be overcome by the power of Satan, to yield themselves to be servants to that wicked one. God has borne and foreborne with them, until he has begun to send them strong delusions as he long foretold that he would, that they might believe a lie and be damned, for they have pleasure in unrighteousness, and have no pleasure in truthfulness nor in the salvation of the Lord Jesus. They have pleasure in rioting, fighting, warring, killing, contentions, and every crime that can be enumerated. What will become of their belief? Will it not perish? Yes. When you believe the principles of the gospel and attain unto faith, which is a gift of God, he adds more faith, adding faith to faith. He bestows faith upon his creature as a gift, but his creature inherently possesses the privilege of believing the gospel to be true or false. Is the belief they possess, to believe a lie expressly that they may be damned, faith? No. You may say it is a portion of faith; it is immaterial to me what you call it. It is the belief, the ability, the powers that God has organized in the organization of man, and which he can do with as he pleases. If he uses it to believe a lie that he may be damned, both himself and his belief will perish and fall to rise no more, while God will bestow faith on those who believe the truth.

Forsake the Spirit of the Lord, the Holy Ghost, the influence that comes from above, and partake of an earthy, dark, unbelieving influence or spirit, and your faith is gone, you have no faith. Is there a person who can possess faith without belief? No. Can men possess belief without faith? Yes, every son and daughter of Adam. Belief is an inherent principle in the organism of man to lay the foundation for faith.

I will sum it up again: Faith is an eternal principle, one of the attributes of the Deity by which the worlds are and were created; belief is the admission of either truth or falsehood.

It has been stated that I teach the doctrine that the Gods continue to increase in all their attributes to all eternity. Have you ever heard me teach such a doctrine? I have taught doctrine, but have I called in question any of the Gods? It has been stated that God our Father comprehends eternity, from eternity to eternity, all there is, all there was, all there ever can be about eternity, in and through it. When a person undertakes to establish such a doctrine, what does he do? He gives bounds to that eternity which he at the same time admits to be boundless. Admit such doctrine, and eternity flees away like the shadow of morning; and that is as much as I ever teach about it. Do I say that heavenly beings improve? I am not yet there; I do not know.

Understand eternity! There is not and never was a man in finite flesh who understands it. Enoch has been referred to in this matter. How many of the Gods and kingdoms he saw, when the vision of his mind was opened matters not. If he had seen more than he could have enumerated throughout his long life, and more than all the men on earth could multiply from the time his vision opened until now, he

would not have attained to the comprehension of eternity. How much Enoch saw, how many worlds he saw, has nothing to do with the case. This is a matter that wise men know nothing about. I do not know, though I know as much about it as any man in this house, or in this generation. I can comprehend, by the words of eternal life, that there is an eternity before me. Has it bounds? Whether it has or not, neither we nor any other finite beings can comprehend it.

I will leave this subject, because I am not capable of understanding it. You leave it, and do not contend about things that are beyond our reach—that are too great for you to know at present. And when you go into the spirit world you will not understand it; and when you have lived in the spirit world until you again receive your bodies, you still cannot understand it; but you can continue to learn more and more about it, in the same manner as we learn here. I can teach many things about the future existence of man, but it is more directly our business to pay attention to those duties that more immediately concern us while we are here.

Br. Spencer says that we can tell a little about God, the Father, by his handy work. It is very little. What does the world know?—A wicked man may pray from this time to all eternity, and he will not be able to discern the print of his footsteps. It takes a spiritually minded, wise man to discern the hand of God in all things, and to be ready to acknowledge it—to discern that he rules among the armies of heaven, and that he is dictating, ruling, managing, and turning the hearts of the people on the earth to the right and to the left.—He grants this and takes away that at his pleasure, but the people do not know it; they cannot discern it. One may here say—"What am I to do? If God dictates and guides the hearts of the people, they cease then to be responsible." He gives to all men their agency to act, reserving to himself the right to control the results of their acts. The Lord does not dictate to do wrong, but when men are disposed to do wrong, he brings out the results in accordance with his own pleasure. You may plant and water; but can you make a kernel of grain or a spear of grass? This is not in the power of man to do, but God in his providences produces this. Let the Lord send an angel through this valley to cause certain properties in the air and water to depart, and your grain crops fall, or your fruit is cut off. He says to you—"Go and do a piece of work." You do it, and by means of this he causes your enemies to stumble. Say that you are tilling the soil, and the Lord says to an angel do thus and so, what do you receive for your labor? Perhaps fifty, sixty or a hundred bushels of wheat to an acre, when another year, perhaps in the same place and with like labor, you do not receive more than five, ten or fifteen bushels. Do you know the cause of this? No. No man can know, unless he enjoys the revelations of the Almighty.—I make these remarks that you may understand that our Father controls the results of our acts at his own pleasure, and we cannot prevent it. Man can produce and control his own acts, but he has no control over their results. God causes even the wrath of man to praise him, to resound to his glory and the salvation of his children.

Israel were slaves in Egypt four hundred years; they were treated harshly and cruelly, and their children were slain. Then the Lord took them out from Egypt to wander in the wilderness forty years, traveling about as far as from here to Navoo, a distance that we can travel and back again in a season. This was to produce a result. They could not understand why they wandered thus in the wilderness, but God knew. They could not understand why he said to Jacob that they should wander in a strange land four hundred years, but the result was for the salvation of the children of men. God had promised to save that seed, but their wickedness would not let him save them without giving them the punishment they received. God took them into the spirit world and raised up their children to do a better work. If the Lord has promised to save a son of a man or woman that is full of faith, has promised that he shall come into his kingdom, though that son be froward and disposed to be wicked, yet he will receive his punishment in the flesh. Now, on the other hand, do not become universalists and say that every man and woman receives punishment only in this world, for that is not true.

There are a number of other things that I might speak about, but I have spoken long enough.

God bless you: Amen.

WEIGHED AND PASSED OUT.—A [renowned] clergyman of New York lately preached rather a long sermon from the text, "Thou art weighed in a balance and found wanting." After the congregation had listened about an hour, some began to get weary and went out; others soon followed, greatly to the annoyance of the minister. Another person started, whereupon the parson stopped in his sermon, and said, "That's right, gentlemen; as fast as you are weighed, pass out."—He continued his sermon at some length after, but no one disturbed him by leaving.

—President Buchanan has appointed Judge Breese, Ex-Senator in Congress, Marshal of the Northern District of Illinois. The appointment is viewed by the Judge's friends as an insult.

Interesting Facts for the Farmer.

We take from a long article by a correspondent the New England Farmer, the following extract, which we are sure will be perused with interest, by our agricultural readers:

Every practical, observing tiller of the soil, well understands that no guano, super-phosphate or other nitrogenous or highly concentrated manures can restore to the soil the lost carbon, which has supplied a succession of crops, with the essential materials which enter into the 14 elements of grain, fruit and grass.

The true principle of agricultural science introduces another system—natural, plain and altogether dissimilar. The forest must give up her store of carbon, (and she manufactures a large surplus annually) so nicely elaborated by nature's laws as to fix its ammonia, and yet fitted for a powerful absorbent of liquid manures, with power to resist decomposition until brought in contact with the roots of plants.

The swamps must yield up their store of vegetable wealth, the rich inorganic materials of surrounding hills and forests, to reunite with the mineral salts too firmly fixed in the soil to be washed away by the annual rains. The organic laws of the universe established by the Creator, for the government of all the changes and formal conditions of properties of matter, whether in a crude mineral, organized or detached condition, are as uniform and unerring as the physical laws that govern the rising and setting of the sun.

As the demand for carbon to form fat, muscle, cellular tissue, bone, brain, hair and other portions of the human body, and at the same time keep up an animal heat of 98° night and day, is very great, we readily see why starch is so abundant in all plants used as food for man or beast. Starch contains a large amount of carbon, and the forests and swamps of the old States are holding the great bulk of carbon in store, to-day. We must increase the productiveness of rural labor by introducing into the present mode of farming more system in the science of vegetable physiology.

Every one knows that new land—land never subjected to cultivation, will produce, in abundance, all the crop which that country or district is susceptible of producing. Hence we are advised that the forests and swamps of any hilly country hold its vegetable wealth. Science now comes to our aid, and teaches us how to change a cold subsoil into a warm, pliable, productive, surface soil.

Practical experience has taught us that a good soil which produces 100 pounds of ripe wheat plants, loses but 15 pounds of its weight and substance by the operation, 85 pounds coming from the atmosphere.

Science reveals to us why it is that in combustion, respiration and decomposition, an immense amount of organized matter is dissipated through the air—infused into the plants by atmospheric pressure, or gathered up by the falling dews, rains and snows, returned to the earth and the roots of plants, and thence by capillary attraction drawn into the kernel, and elaborated as food for man and beast.

It also gives the agriculturist power over heat, light, electricity, (positive and negative) chemical action, air, earth and water, and enables him to grapple with repulsive elements—cold, subsoil water, (corrected by drainage) malaria, and other negative influences which have baffled the unskilful farmer for years past. Now that the soil, in the old States, has lost its natural productiveness, a thorough knowledge of vegetable science is indisputably necessary to enable the tiller of the soil to compete with those who till the rich fields of the virgin West.

LOVELINESS.—What constitutes true loveliness? Not the polished brow, the gaudy dress, nor the show and parade of fashionable life. A woman may have all the outward marks of beauty, and yet not possess a lovely temperament. It is the benevolent disposition, the kind acts, and the Christian deportment. It is in the heart, where meekness, truth, affection and humility are found, where we look for loveliness; nor do we look in vain. The woman that can soothe the aching heart, smooth the wrinkled brow, alleviate the anguish of the mind, and pour the balm of consolation in the wounded breast, possesses, in an eminent degree, true loveliness of character. She is the real companion of man, and does the work of an angel. It is such a character that blesses with warmth and sunshine, and maketh earth to resemble the paradise of God.

SACRILIGIOUS.—Some time ago a number of handkerchiefs were brought, or rather smuggled, into Mogadore, having printed upon them passages from the Koran. One of them got into the hands of the Emperor, who, thinking the Christians were ridiculing the sacred book, ordered instantly all the cities of the coast to be searched to discover the offender who introduced them. Happily for the merchant he was not found out. His Highness commanded that all the handkerchiefs which were collected should be destroyed. When Dr. Davidson was at Morocco, he prescribed some seidlitz water for the use of the Sultan, and placed on the sides of two bottles, containing the beverage, Arabic verses from the Koran. The Sultan was exceedingly exasperated at this compliment to his religion, and had it privately intimated to Mr. Davidson not to desecrate the holy book in that abominable manner.

THE HEAD OF CROMWELL.—Accounts have been received from various persons traveling in Europe to the effect that the head of the renowned "Great Protector" is in the possession of the Hon. Mr. Wilkinson, residing at Bromley, Kent county, near London, England.

It will be remembered that after the death of Oliver Cromwell, his body was carefully embalmed, and interred with great pomp. When the Stuarts again gained possession of the throne, Cromwell's body was dragged from its mausoleum, hung at Tyburn, the head severed from the trunk and with a spike run through the neck, it was placed on Westminster Hall. It remained there for twenty years, when it was blown into the parapet of the hall and picked up by a sentinel, who concealed it until his death, when his widow inherited it. She gave it to the Cambridgeshire Russell family, one of whom sold it to the grandfather of the present Wilkinson.

The reasons given for believing it to be the head of Cromwell, who existed two centuries ago, are as follows:

Its present appearance being the skull of one who had been embalmed—the wart on the right eyebrow, the beard, the shape of the chin, its similarity to his bust, with the exception of its smallness from the shrinking and drying up of the flesh, leaving but little else than the skin covering the bone; the opinion of the family, founded upon printed and manuscript documents and oral testimony of its being the identical head, as well as that of many who have seen it, all go to prove its identity.

LARGE LIBRARIES.—The largest library in the world is that of the British Museum, and contains forty miles of shelves. The imperial library of St. Petersburg stands next in size and contains about 580,000 volumes. The imperial library of Vienna probably contains somewhat under 400,000 volumes, including MSS. The royal library of Berlin, about half a million; Munich somewhat fewer; Copenhagen about 400,000; Breslau, 350,000; Dresden, 300,000; the University library at Göttingen 360,000. The famous library of the Vatican is less remarkable for the number of its volumes, than for the value of its MSS., and the inaccessibility of its treasures. The number of printed books is variously estimated at between 300,000 and 500,000! The former, however, is considered nearer the truth. The value of the manuscript collection, believed to number about 25,000, cannot be over estimated. The books are kept in closed cases, and there is no catalogue—two great causes of the mystery which surrounds the collection. The principal gallery of the library is about a thousand feet in length.

Preserving Eggs.—A lady correspondent of the Country Gentleman gives another mode of preserving eggs, which seems at once simple and effectual:

"This day, March 26, we had on our dinner table the 'Yankee dish' of fried ham and eggs, and excellent it was too. The eggs were pronounced by my husband and the rest of my family to be *fresh-laid eggs*. But I knew to the contrary that they were not fresh, but were more than eight months old, preserved by the simple method which I have practised for three years past with perfect success. I think I can safely assure your readers that, if they choose, they may without the least trouble preserve eggs perfectly fresh for any reasonable or necessary length of time, if they will manage them as I do—which is simply this:—Procure shallow baskets which are rather coarse or open, (they should hold about 8 or 10 dozen eggs,) hang them on nails or hooks driven into the beams of the cellar. The lighter and more airy the cellar, the longer the eggs will keep good."

Best Bull in the U. S.—The Chicago Democrat gives the size of what is considered the best bull in the United States, owned by Col. Alexander, of Woodford county, Ky., who is one of the best cattle breeders in this country. The measurement of this celebrated bull, called the Duke of Airdrie, was as follows:

Length (from poll)	7 7
Throat latch	4 2
Ribcage	8 9 1-2
Girth	7 11
Girth of crops	8 1
Girth of flank	8 1 1-4
Depth of flank	3 1
Width across hip	2 0
Length of rump to point of hip	2 7 1-2
Size of arm	2 4
Fore shank or shin	0 10
Hind shank	0 10 1-2
Stifle	3 0
Length of body to centre hip	2 10
Length of rump	2 2
Hip to hock	3 6 1-2

At the last annual exhibition of stock in St. Louis, to this bull was awarded the prize of one thousand dollars.

—Judge John Richardson, Circuit Judge of Lahaina, (Sandwich Islands) hung himself on the 7th of January.

—A student of the University of Virginia, writing from that institution, states that the marble slab that formerly marked the resting place of Jefferson, has entirely disappeared. The visitors to his tomb, by chipping off fragments to be carried away as mementoes, have completely demolished it and an uncouth granite pedestal, greatly disfigured, is all that remains to mark the grave of the author of the Declaration of Independence.