

While the citizens of Port-au-Prince were anxiously desirous of learning the fate of their friends, relatives, and neighbours in other parts of the island, intelligence was brought to them that Cape Hayti had entirely disappeared, and with it two-thirds of the population. Such families as were enabled to escape fled to Josette, where they were without clothing, asylum, or provision. Further accounts arrived subsequently which stated, that a fire broke out after the earthquake, which burned with great rapidity, till, on Monday, the 19th, it reached the powder magazine, which was destroyed, and with it the greater portion of the miserable remnant of the inhabitants. The latest accounts received at Port-au-Prince state, that during a repetition of the convulsion, the sea had risen and completely overwhelmed such of the inhabitants as were not already buried beneath the ruins, or as had escaped the fire. One person only a Mr. Dupuy, had, according to this account, escaped. The governor of Limbe, a place near the Cape, stated that, after the first shocks, he sent to the city for news. His aid-de-camp found the city in ruins covered by the sea, with the exception of a small portion, where were assembled the surviving inhabitants and authorities, most of whom were grievously wounded and mutilated.

All parts of the island from which intelligence has been received were scenes of devastation. Saint Marc and Gonaïves had suffered severely. In the former place many of the houses were so much shaken that they could no longer be inhabited with safety, and at Gonaïves many habitations were thrown down and all the buildings in the place more or less injured. The shock caused some lucifer matches in a druggist's shop to ignite, which set fire to the premises. The flames spread; and as not a drop of water could be obtained, an entire square was burned down. Most of the public buildings had been thrown down by the convulsions. The merchants had removed their goods from the stores and piled them in the squares, whence a vast quantity of property had been stolen.—Many of the population were killed and wounded. The survivors passed the ensuing nights in the open air.

The earthquake was felt at Ponce and at Porto Ricco, but little damage was done.

Greece.—Letters from Athens, of the 28th ult., state that several violent shocks of an earthquake were felt in various parts of the Peloponnesus. On the 18th, at Sparta, the shocks lasted from twenty-five to thirty seconds each. The inhabitants ran terrified out of their houses. On the same day, and in the course of the night, four or five other slighter shocks were experienced. Beyond the Eurotas an immense rock fell from Mount Menelas, near the village of Drouchas. An old tower, situate in the town of Magoules, was thrown to the ground. At Mistra the soil trembled with more violence than at Sparta, and a portion of the Hellenic College and several houses were destroyed. The water of the wells and springs became turbid, and an enormous rock, having detached itself from the summit of Mount Mistra, rolled with terrific noise into the town. At Calametes the first shock, felt at half-past nine o'clock, lasted between forty and fifty seconds, and there were ten others, from that hour until midnight, at intervals of three-quarters of an hour. Most of the houses were damaged, and several in the neighbourhood actually gave way. Upwards of fifty dwellings were thrown down at Areopolis, and fifteen towers crumbled at Cetylus. Many persons were buried under the ruins of the houses in the province of Maina. At Androusa several churches fell in. On the 25th ult., at about four o'clock, a.m., another shock was felt at Patras, which lasted about a minute and a half.

The *Courier Grec* announces that a red rain had fallen at Tripolitza and elsewhere, and that the Minister of the Interior had collected information respecting that phenomena, which would be submitted to the examination of the medical board.—*Liverpool Albion*.

The Millennial Star.

July 1, 1842.

WHEN we reflect on the great purposes of God in the salvation of man, which, indeed, is not only to effectuate good for him; but, through the efficacy of the atonement of Jesus, to redeem the world—to remove from it the curse of sin—and to bring the planet on which we dwell, back again into the presence of God, and

to make the intelligences which people it, fit recipients of his own glory, in order that they may become one with the Father and with the Son, even as they are one. We say, that, when we reflect on these sublime purposes, we cannot but feel astonished that the religious public can possibly for a moment suppose, that the present multifarious creeds and sects will be the agency by which the God of heaven shall effect his will.* His ways are not, indeed, as our ways, nor his thoughts as our thoughts; and, truly, "the heart of man is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked;" for while the professed followers of the meek and lowly Jesus condemn the Jews for their treatment of him, and look upon it as a display of the most diabolical conduct that ever degraded man, and justly so, yet we feel bold to ask the question—how would the present generation have acted in similar circumstances, with their present principles and feelings? Here was the Jewish religion, originally established by divine revelation, with its horde of priests and its splendid ritual; when, lo! an individual rises up from obscurity, of humble origin, a carpenter and the son of a carpenter, whose parents were known to many, whose brothers were James, and Joses, and Juda, and Simon, and whose sisters were there with them; and yet this individual comes forth to the public, declaring that he had had a previous existence—that he had come forth from the Father—that he was one with him, and

* The Rev. J. ANGUS, secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, declared at the late meeting at Liverpool, that the greatest difficulty with which they had to contend was the hostile operations of the agents belonging to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, who were proclaiming aloud to the natives, and amongst the heathen, that none had a right to convert them but themselves—that they alone were the followers of Jesus and the representatives of the apostles; and, in consequence, all their (the Baptist) services, and all their ministers and ordinances were entirely in vain.—*Albion*.

It is also stated in the writings of the lamented missionary, Williams, that in the South Seas they were necessitated to make terms with the Wesleyans to labour in separate localities, lest the diversity of their teachings should become known to their converts, and produce disastrous results for their individual interests.

thought it not robbery to declare himself equal with God. Yes, we ask the question, how would the present generation of religionists have received him? would they not have denounced him as the greatest of impostors and blasphemers? There was nothing in his origin, conduct, or teaching, with which they could have sympathised. God chooses the weak things of the world to confound the mighty; but the dictates of modern wisdom would select the wise, the learned, the eloquent, and the accomplished for their purposes; for is not, indeed, every system of the present day upheld by the subtlety and skill of its advocates, and not by the irresistible principles of truth?

The authority which the Saviour claimed would have found no allegiance in them, his professed mission by divine revelation would not have been listened to by those, who, for ages, have had a *form* of godliness yet deny the *power*. And let us remember God will ever act like himself; and we again express our surprise at the infatuation of the religious world, in supposing that the great and consummating work of God is to be effected by agency, so unlike God in all things, so widely at variance with all history of his ways, and so destitute of power. Well may the prophet exclaim, "Stay yourselves and wonder: they are blind and make you blind: they are drunken, but not with wine: they stagger, but not with strong drink. For the Lord hath covered you with a spirit of slumber, and hath shut up your eyes: the prophets, and your chief seers hath he covered. And the vision of them all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed up, which they deliver to one that can read, saying—read this, I pray thee. Then shall he say—I cannot, for it is sealed. And the book is given to him that cannot read, saying—read this, I pray thee; and he shall say, I cannot read. Therefore the Lord said—because this people come near unto me with their mouth, and honour me with their lips,

but have removed their heart far from me, and *their fear toward me was taught by the precept of men*; therefore behold, I will again do a marvellous work and a wonder; for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.”* Indeed, this great event to which the prophet alludes, transpired some fourteen years ago; and how has it been received? He has, indeed, commenced to do a “marvellous work and a wonder,” by causing his servant JOSEPH, who was not learned, to be the instrument in bringing forth the record of the house of Joseph, and with it the Fulness of the Gospel. And what is the result? The religious public, with a morbid sensibility, denounce the Book of Mormon as a tissue of weakness and blasphemy, and the propagators of its simple and sublime principles as the greatest impostors that have ever arisen. Invention has been racked to put down the work of God; self-opinionated men, wise in their own conceits, vainly hoped that a little time would put a stop to the progress of the work; savage bigotry, with fiendish zeal, went forth shedding the blood of the Saints, despoiling their homes, and inflicting upon them every act of injustice. And has the work stayed in its progress? nay, but on the contrary; the truth is onward with unexampled success; the God of heaven is manifesting his purposes in gathering the honest in heart, who through obedience to the simple truth of the gospel, have entered into covenant with himself; and by revealing unto them continually more of his will, in order that they may do it, and live by every word that proceedeth out of his mouth. We congratulate the Saints of the Last Days on their inestimable privileges in having raised up unto them a servant of the Lord, like unto Moses, to guide his people and make known unto them the purposes of the Most High.

We have much pleasure this month in

* Old translation.

being able to give an illustration and extract from the BOOK OF ABRAHAM; a book of higher antiquity than any portion of the bible. Singular is the providence by which this ancient record fell into the hands of the servant of the Lord, JOSEPH SMITH. A gentleman, travelling in Egypt, made a selection of several mummies, of the best kind of embalming, and of course in the best state of preservation; on his way to England he died, bequeathing them to a gentleman of the name of CHANDLER. They arrived in the Thames, but it was found the gentleman was in America, they were then forwarded to New York and advertised, when Mr. CHANDLER came forward and claimed them. One of the mummies, on being unrolled, had underneath the cloths in which it was wrapped, lying upon the breast, a roll of papyrus, in an excellent state of preservation, written in Egyptian character, and illustrated in the manner of our engraving, which is a copy from a portion of it. The mummies, together with the record, have been exhibited, generally, through the States, previous to their falling into our hands. Mr. CHANDLER was, of course, anxious to find some one who could interpret or translate this valuable relic of antiquity, and, we believe, on one occasion, met with an individual who was enabled to decipher a small portion, or, at least, to give an opinion of what he supposed its meaning to be. He every where heard mention of JOSEPH SMITH and the Book of Mormon, but so generally associated with something slanderous, that he could scarcely think seriously of applying to him. But at length, however, he called upon Mr. SMITH, to inquire if he had a power by which he could translate the ancient Egyptian. Mr. SMITH replied that he had, when Mr. CHANDLER presented the fragment which had been partially interpreted. Mr. SMITH retired into his translating room, and presently returned with a written translation in English, of

the fragment, confirming the supposed meaning ascribed to it by the gentleman to whom it had been previously presented. An event, of a nature so extraordinary, was of course soon noised abroad, when a number of gentlemen in the neighbourhood, not connected with the Saints, united together, and, purchasing the record together with some or all of the mummies, made Mr. SMITH a present of them. The record is now in course of translation by the means of the Urim and Thummim, and proves to be a record written partly by the father of the faithful, Abraham, and finished by Joseph when in Egypt. After his death, it is supposed they were preserved in the family of the Pharaohs and afterwards hid up with the embalmed body of the female with whom they were found. Thus it is, indeed, true, that the ways of the Lord are not as man's ways, nor his thoughts as our thoughts. Here, then, is another subject for the Gentile world to stumble at, and for which to persecute the Saints, not knowing that there is nothing hidden but what shall be brought to light, and nothing secret but what shall be discovered. Let us have no revelations is the popular cry of the day; any one's creed but God's. How true were the word's of Jesus, "because I come unto you in my father's name ye will not receive me; if another should come in his own name, him ye will receive."

The language of the present generation is, we can believe in the marvellous works of God in former ages, but not now; how will they be confounded as the mighty purposes of Jehovah roll on unfolding mystery after mystery to his people, while his judgments are pouring out upon the ungodly and the unbelieving.

Let the Saints be faithful and watchful, and be ready to receive all things that God shall be pleased to communicate for their well-being in these the last days; bearing in mind that his great and

finishing work, his gathering of the Saints together into one, in order to establish his kingdom, the dominion of which shall be universal, and all powers become subject unto it, will require revelations peculiar to itself, such as were never communicated at any former period of time. Now is the day of the trial of our faith, the day of warfare and of strife against the powers of darkness; but anon shall be the day of triumph, blessed shall they be who endure unto the end, and overcome, and swell the song of victory, for they shall have power over the nations to rule them with a rod of iron, and they shall have given unto them the morning star.

Items of News.

We rejoice to say, that in the midst of all the slander and calumny that the powers of evil combined can possibly heap upon the cause of God, the work is still rolling on very satisfactorily. In Liverpool, the weekly addition averages from eight to ten, with an increasing and attentive congregation.

From elder Cuerden of Bradford, we have received intelligence that the number of members had increased to fifty-four, with the expectation of confirming some fifteen more the following week. Indeed, in every neighbourhood from which we have received intelligence, the work is steadily onward, and we trust that the additions that are made in these days of trial and persecution, may be mostly permanent; for they must be determined and faithful men that steadily count the cost, and confess not only that Jesus has come in the flesh, but that he has renewed his covenant, and that his religion is a religion of revelation; not ushering his followers into eternity, with "shadows, clouds, and darkness resting upon it," but bringing "life and immortality to light," for which the gospel was originally designed, and opening a glorious vista into the future, by which the people of God can attain unto the knowledge of things to come.

Let the Saints rejoice in their high and holy privileges, for "God hath spoken good concerning Israel, and the time to favour Zion, yea, the set time, is come."