

Ask, and it shall be given you, seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

THE BOOK OF ETHER.

The book of Mormon contains a short history of a race of people, which lived on this continent many generations before the children of Israel came to it. This brief account was written by a prophet of the Lord, named Ether; and his account, embracing a period from the confounding of the language at the building of Babel, to about 600 years before the birth of the Savior is supported by the Bible; for the Lord declares that he scattered them abroad from thence, upon the face of all the earth.— This nation, which in honor of one of the first families that came over, were called Jaredites, must have had the unmolested control and use of America, near 1500 years. No nation, since then, can boast of so long a national existence; and but few before the Adamites, or, at least, some Cainites, had the world to themselves about 1600 years before the flood. As to the Jaredites no more is known than is contained in the Book of Ether. Perhaps "Dighton writing Rock," in Massachusetts, may hold an unknown tale in relation to these pioneers of the land of liberty which can yet be revealed. God is great, and when we look abroad in the earth, & take a glimpse through the long avenue of departed years, we cannot only discover the traces in artificial curiosities, and common works, and small hills, mountain caves, and extensive prairies where the Jaredites filled the measure of their time, but as they were a very large race of men whenever we hear that very large bones have been dug up from the earth, we may conclude that was the skeleton of a Jaredite. The mystery of man in this world, has not been unfolded to all, yet; and may not be in full, till the Savior comes; but enough has come to light in these last days, to show that man was made to multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it, whether a few branches of christianity knew it or not. To this point a beautiful sketch of the book of Ether is handed down to us in the book of Mormon, by Moroni. We give an extract.

And it came to pass that the days of Ether were in the days of Coriantumr, and Coriantumr was king over all the land. And Ether was a prophet of the Lord; wherefore Ether came forth in the days of Coriantumr, and began to prophecy unto the people, for he could not be constrained because of the spirit of the Lord; which was in him for he did cry from the morning, even until the going down of the sun, exhorting the people to believe in God unto repentance, lest they should be destroyed, saying unto them, that by faith all things are fulfilled; wherefore, whose believeth might with surety hope for a better world; yea even a place at the right hand of God, which hope cometh of faith, maketh an anchor to the souls of men, which should make them sure and steadfast, always abounding unto good works, being led to glorify God. And it came to pass that Ether did prophecy great and marvellous things unto the people, which they did not believe because they saw them not.—And, now I, Moroni, would speak somewhat concerning these things. I would shew unto the world that faith is things which are hoped for and not seen; wherefore dispute not because ye see not, for ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith; for it was by faith that Christ shewed himself unto our father, after that he had risen from the dead; and he shewed not himself unto them, until after he had faith in him; wherefore it must needs be that some had faith in him, for he shewed himself unto the world. But because of the faith of men he has shewn himself unto the world, and glorified the name of the Father, and prepared a way that thereby others might be partakers of the heavenly gift, that they might hope for those things which they had not seen; wherefore ye may also have hope, and be partakers of the gift, if ye will but have faith. Behold, it was by faith that they of old were called a *ter* the order of God; wherefore by faith was the law of Moses given. But in the gift of his son hath God prepared a more excellent way; and it is by faith that it hath been fulfilled; for if there be no faith among the children of men, God can do no miracle among them; wherefore he shewed not himself, until after their faith; Behold it was the faith of Alma and Amulek that caused the prison to tumble to the earth. Behold, it was the faith of Nephi and Lehi that wrought the change upon the Lamanites, that they were baptized with fire and with the Holy Ghost; behold it was the faith of Ammon and his brethren, which wrought so great a miracle among the Lamanites

yea, and even all they which wrought miracles, wrought them by faith, even those which were before Christ, and also those which were after. And it was by faith that the three disciples obtained a promise that they should not taste of death; and they obtained not the promise until after their faith. And neither at any time hath any wrought miracles until after their faith. Wherefore they first believed in the son of God. And there were many whose faith was so exceeding strong even before Christ came, which could not be kept from within the veil, but truly saw with their eyes the things which they had beheld with an eye of faith, and they were glad. And, behold, we have seen in this record, that one of these was the brother of Jared; for so great was his faith in God, that when God put forth his finger he could not hide it from the sight of the brother of Jared, because of his word which he had spoken unto him, which he had obtained by faith. And after that the brother of Jared had beheld the finger of the Lord, because of the promise which the brother of Jared had obtained by faith, the Lord could not withhold any thing from his sight; therefore he shewed him all things, for he could no longer be kept without the veil.— And it is by faith that my fathers have obtained the promise that these things should come unto their brethren through the Gentiles; therefore the Lord hath commanded me, yea even Jesus Christ.— And I said unto him, Lord, the Gentiles will mock at these things, because of our weakness in writing; for Lord thou hast made us mighty in word by faith, whereunto thou hast not made us mighty in writing; for thou hast made all this people that they could speak much, because of the Holy Ghost which thou hast given them; and thou hast made us that we could write but little, because of the awkwardness of our hands. Behold thou hast not made us mighty in writing like unto the brother of Jared, for thou madest him that the things which he wrote, were mighty, even as thou art, unto the overpowering of man to read them. Thou hast also made our words powerful and great, even that we cannot write them; therefore, when we write we behold our weakness and stumble because of the placing of our words and I fear lest the Gentiles shall mock at our words. And when I said this, the Lord spake unto me saying, fools mock, but they shall mourn; and my grace is sufficient for the meek, that they shall take no advantage of thy weakness, and if men come unto me I will shew unto them their weakness. I give unto men weakness, that they may be humble; and my grace is sufficient for all men that humble themselves before me; or if they humble themselves before me, and have faith in me, then will I make weak things become strong unto them. Behold, I will shew unto the Gentiles their weakness; and I will shew unto them that faith, hope, and charity, bringeth unto me the foundation of all righteousness.

And now, I, Moroni, proceed to finish my record concerning the destruction of the people of which I have been writing. For behold they rejected all the words of Ether; for he truly told them of all things: from the beginning of man; and how that after the waters had receded from off the face of this land, it became a choice land above all other lands, a chosen land of the Lord. Wherefore the Lord would have that all men should serve him, which dwelleth upon the face thereof; and that it was the place of the New Jerusalem, which should come down out of Heaven, and the holy sanctuary of the Lord. Behold Ether saw the days of Christ, and he spake concerning a new Jerusalem upon this land; and he spake also concerning the house of Israel, and the Jerusalem from whence Lehi should come; after that it should be destroyed, it should be built up again a holy city unto the Lord; wherefore it could not be a new Jerusalem, for it had been in a time of old, but it should be built up again, and become a holy city unto the Lord; and it should be built up unto the house of Israel; and that a new Jerusalem should be built up upon this land, unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph, for the which things there has been a type, for as Joseph brought his father down into the land of Egypt, even so he died there; wherefore the Lord brought a remnant of the seed of Joseph out of the land of Jerusalem, that he might be merciful unto the seed of Joseph, that they perish not, even as he was merciful unto the father of Joseph, that he should perish not, wherefore the remnant of the house of Joseph shall be built up on this land; and it shall be a land of their inheritance; and they shall build up a holy city unto the Lord, like unto the Jerusalem of old; and they shall no more be confounded, until the end come, when the earth shall pass away. And there shall be a new heaven and a new earth; and they shall be like unto the old, save the old have passed away, and all things have become new. And then cometh the New Jerusalem, and blessed are they which dwell therein, for it is they whose garments are made white

through the blood of the Lamb; and they are they which are numbered among the remnant of the seed of Joseph, which are of the house of Israel. And then also cometh the Jerusalem of old; and the inhabitants thereof, blessed are they, for they have been washed in the blood of the Lamb; and they are they which were scattered and gathered in from the four quarters of the earth, and from the north, countries, and are partakers of the fulfilling of the covenant which God made with their father Abraham. And when these things come, bringeth to pass the Scripture which saith, There are they which were first, which shall be last; and there are they which were last, which shall be first.

Let every one that queries about more Revelations from the Lord, take his bible and see if God ever acknowledged a church to be his, unless there was a prophet in it. This is one of the most important points relative to salvation, for, as it is written, not every one that says Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven.

¶ One of the commandments says, My servants who are abroad in the earth, shall send forth the account of their stewardships to the land of Zion, for Zion shall be a seat, and a place to receive, and to do all these things: Wherefore we would remind the elders at a distance, to send forth, to the Editor of the Star, post paid, all matters connected with their mission, embracing historical facts, the number of sheaves the faithful laborers are blessed with, and all else, that may be well-pleasing in the sight of him who said, What thou seest, write in a book.

¶ The prophet told the truth, when, prophesying of the last days, he said, The good is perished out of the earth; for so it is. Christ's disciples were nicknamed CHRISTIANS, in the meridian of time, and his disciples, are now called MORMONITES with-out authority or provocation, by the sectarian papers, as well as the political; not, however, with an intimation to follow the Savior's golden rule, or to teach mankind, to embrace Paul's more excellent way! Let brotherly love continue.

¶ The editor of this paper, husked, of this season's growth, ripe corn on the 25th July last; some of which has been planted for a second crop, and is coming on finely.

Worldly Matters.

Congress has appropriated, for internal improvements this year, more than 1,000,000. The president of the United States has put his veto to the bill re-chartering the U. S. bank. The remains of the celebrated French minister Casimir Perrier, as soon as he died with the cholera, were buried with great pomp at Paris, in a separate apartment.

According to a report recently made in Congress there have been in the United States 53 steamboat explosions—236 persons killed, and 104 persons wounded.

A London paper states that the Rev. C. C. Colton, author of Lacon, put a period to his existence on Saturday at Fontainebleau. The dread of undergoing a surgical operation, is the cause assigned for committing this melancholy act.

We learn that the amount of duties secured to be paid at the Custom House in New York for the quarter ending on the first day of April last, exceeds five millions seven hundred thousand dollars, a sum exceeding by nearly one million of dollars the amount ever before secured in the corresponding quarter of any previous year.

A workman in the employ of Mr. Stevens, one of the tavern keepers in Andover, dug up a root in the field, on Thursday last, and not understanding its nature, bit off and ate a piece of it. He died in consequence, in about one hour and a half. The root, we believe, is called the Sicuta Root.

American Nankens.—A sample of this article has been shown us, made of the nankeen colored cotton, raised in Georgia, on the estate of Senator Forsyth. It is sold at two dollars the piece, and is finer than the India nankeen ordinarily worn; still finer samples are intended to be manufactured. It differs advantageously from the India in the important particular of not fading from wear. On the contrary, a sample was shown us which had been in wear two years, & had grown of a darker & richer color. It is made at Patterson, N. J. and persons can see the article, or be supplied with it, by applying to Mr. N. F. Williams, Bowly's wharf, Baltimore.—[Baltimore Patriot.]

The N. Y. Observer contains a letter from Paris, dated April 30th, of which the following is an extract:—

"From all I can learn, although there have been many cases of cholera among the higher classes and those in easy circumstances, the great body of those who have fallen victims to it, are the wretched and the vicious. The drunkard, whether high or low, stands but little chance to escape; and among those wretched, truly wretched beings, the prostitutes of the city, the mortality has been frightful. In one house in which there were sixty of these women, not one escaped! and in a street, the Rue de la Mortellerie, in which there were computed to be 1300 of them, 1200 have fallen victims.

THE MINING COUNTRY.

The situation of this whole country called the lead mines in the state and territory, and the country adjoining the mining district, embracing an extent of about 300 miles long, and 60 or 70 broad, is at this time in a condition of distress, unparalleled in the history of our country.

Travel west, east, north, or south, we see nothing but waste, destruction and depopulation. Fields half plowed for sowing and planting; some just planted; gardens partly made; hogs, cattle, fowls, &c. running wild, houses vacated and left with all the furniture within them, and not an inhabitant within 60 miles, presents an aspect too gloomy for reflection.

Four years of the hardest kind of times for all who continued to reside in this country, have passed, leaving no other consolation, than the belief that they would, come to an end. This spring seemed to open prospects in the most flattering manner, and every man, woman and child seemed to gladden as spring approached. It was a common exclamation here, that our hard times were at an end. The farmers, the miners, the smelters, the mechanics, the merchants, all begun their business as if endowed with new life. Their prospects were flattering; they built their hopes on the result of their season's business.

How is the scene changed! Look at our condition now, and the question is solved. The whole country is vacated and the inhabitants driven by our barbarous neighbors, whom we have so long fostered and fed, into forts, blockades, &c. and none dare, without an escort of from 50 to 100 well armed men, go to visit their farms. Our allied enemy have nearly or quite surrounded us; they are now marching their large armies of incendiaries upon our borders. We have not force enough here to compete with them. The Illinois militia are disbanded and has left us to fight our own battles, defend our own country, or fall a sacrifice to the tomahawk and scalping knife.

The United States troops are too few to afford any protection to this part of the country. We cannot go out to wage an offensive war against our enemy, without hazarding the safety of women, children and property at our homes. Hence we can do but little towards concluding the destructive war, till we get some relief from other sources.

The people are all forced in different parts of the country, with but a few days provision, and nothing growing in the country. Should this war continue, famine without some relief from the lower country, must be the result. We are willing to fight our battles if our families can be protected.

Our mails are all stopped except some carried by express, and then generally interrupted or cut off by the Indians.

We have only given above a faint picture of the situation of this upper Mississippi region.—[Galenian of May.]

A Paris correspondent of the New York Courier & Enquirer, has the following TABLE OF POPULATION.

The fourth year of scarcity with which France is now threatened, gives an additional interest to the statistical table which I now subjoin. It contains a statement of the average price of corn in France and Prussia respectively for the 10 years from 1821 to 1830, both inclusive. The other columns indicate the number of deaths and births, and the excess of the births over the deaths, in each year, and it is not a little interesting to see how this excess is affected by the price of corn. The total population of Prussia is about thirteen millions, while that of France is fully 32, and yet the total excess of births over deaths during the whole ten years is in Prussia 1,000,004, while in France no more than 1,828,830, supposing the numbers to be the same for 1830 as for the previous year. The French prices are of course stated in francs and centimes per hectolitre, and the Prussian in thalers and decimal parts of a thaler per bushel—the value of a thaler in French money being 3 francs 71 centimes.