The many reports which have reached the United States as regards the sufferings of the inhabitants of these islands have not been at all exaggerated; notwithstanding there are no deaths on this island, in consequence of the relief which has been extended to them by the citizens of the United States; yet the many walking skeletons and objects of misery which continually present themselves to our view while on shore, but too plainly assuring us what recently has been the dreadful situation on the islands; on St. Antonia, from a population of 24, only 11,000 are remaining; on the small Island of Fogo 4,000 now remain from a population of 14, and several of the other Islands have suffered equally, and what is still more painful, their sufferings are by no means at an end. Another year they must exist, if they exist at all, from the charity of others; for these three years previous to the present, scarcely a drop of rain fell from the heavens; although they have had almost during the present year, has been so unreasonable as rather to be an injury than an advantage to cultivation. I have been astonished, however, while witnessing the misery of the inhabitants, to view the hills covered with cattle of various kinds, and have asked in vain for an explanation of the fact, that law could restrain starving thousands from supplying, partially at all events, their necessities. I have the honor to be most respectfully, your obedient servant, JAMES MCINTOSH, Lieut. Commanding. Hon. Levi Woodbury, Secretary of the Navy.

OCEAN PHENOMENA.

A naval friend, of high respectability and intelligence, who has seen a recent number of the Journal, an account of a singular ball of fire, which fell on board the ship Sir Edward Hamilton, has given us the annexed extract from the Journal of a passenger on board the ship Ptolemy, capt. Geo. Wilson, who sailed from Valparaiso to Marblehead, Massachusetts:

After a succession of heavy gales from Valparaiso, till we were nearly up with Cape Horn, in which we lost our boat, &c. &c., and while in the act of taking in a clear reefed forecastle having scurried her under that sail as long as a due regard for the safety of the ship would allow—at about 11 o'clock A. M. we were enveloped for a few seconds in almost total darkness by a large black cloud from which came wind and hail, either of which were sufficient to take a person off his feet, provided he had not, of this cloud came a ball of fire, about the size of a 32 lb. shot. It descended to within three or four feet of the long boat, where it was seen by every person on board, previous to its explosion which was several seconds after its first appearance. The report of this mighty hunter was as loud as that of four or five sharp muskets fired together. It had the effect to knock down nearly every man on deck—without, however, injuring any of them, if I except the injury received from the fright, which death was almost death. The air was sulphurous for some time after the bursting of the ball. The chief mate was the first who came to his senses and observing that the men were, from fear, unable to attend to the duty of the ship, he called out, 'Come on! its only a Cape Horn snow ball!'

I cannot describe the effect it had upon me, better than by writing it with this electric machine—to which it was very similar. Its effect upon the chief mate was, he said, as if an immense weight was pressing him down, and I think he remarked at the same time, that he had once been struck with lightning and that the scene and sensation had not been very unlike the electric machine. No person on board (and we had some old, very old 'salties,') had ever witnessed anything of the kind before. It left no trace of its having come on board, except upon our memories, and from mine I am certain it will never be erased.—Providence Journal.

FROM THE BOOK OF ETHER.

It is our intention to give extracts from the book of Mormon, occasionally for the benefit of the world, or such as have not this book in their possession. And it came to pass that Jared, and his brother, and their families, and also the friends of Jared, and his brother, and they came down into the valley which was northward, (and the name of the valley was Nimrod, being called after the mighty hunter,) with their flocks which they had gathered together, male and female, of every kind. And they did also lay snares and catch fowls of the air; and they did also prepare a vessel, in the which they did carry with them the fish of the waters; and they did also carry with them deseret, which by interpretation, is a honey bee; and thus they did carry with them swarms of bees, and all manner of that which was upon the land, seeds of every kind. And it came to pass, that when they had come down into the valley of Nimrod, the Lord came down and talked with the brother of Jared; and he was in a cloud, and the brother of Jared saw him not.

And it came to pass that the Lord commanded them that they should go forth into the wilderness, and build barges, in the which they did cross many waters, being directed continually by the hand of the Lord. And the Lord would not suffer that they should stop beyond the sea in the wilderness but he would that they should come forth upon the land of promise, where is that crown of choice above all other lands, which the Lord God had preserved for a righteous people; and he had sworn in his wrath unto the brother of Jared, that whose should possess this land of promise, from that time henceforth and forever, should serve him, the true and only God, or they should be swept off when the fulness of his wrath shall come upon them.

And now we can behold the decrees of God concerning this land, that it is a land of promise, and whatsoever nation shall possess it, shall possess it upon the fulness of the fulness of his wrath, and the fulness of his wrath.
eth upon them when they are ripened in iniquity: for behold, this is a land which is choice above all other lands; wherefore he that doth possess it shall serve God, or shall be swept off; for it is the everlasting decrees of God.

And it is not until the fulness of iniquity among the children of the land, that they are swept off. And this cometh unto you, O ye Gentiles, that ye may know the decrees of God, that ye may repent and not continue in your iniquities until the fulness be come, that ye may not bring down the fulness of the wrath of God upon you, as the inhabitants of this land did the wanderers which were swallowed up in the sea; for behold, this is a choice land, and whatsoever nation shall possess it, shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven, if they will but serve the God of the land, which is Jesus Christ, which hath been manifested by the things which we have written. And now I proceed with my record: for behold it came to pass that the Lord did bring Jared and his brethren forth even to that great sea which divideth the lands.

And as they came to the sea, they pitched their tents; and they called the name of the place Morinancumner; and they dwelt in tents; and they dwelt in tents upon the sea coast for the space of four years. And it came to pass at the end of the four years, that the Lord came again unto the brother of Jared, and stood in a cloud and talked with him. And for the space of three hours did the Lord talk with him; and for the depths of the sea for the winds have gone up and down in the depth of the sea.

And the brother of Jared did go to work and also his sabbath was published on the first page of the book of Mormon.

And as they did so according to the manner of barges which they have and partaking the sacrament they were not baptized save they took upon a dish and the length thereof was the length of a tree and the door thereof when they brought forth fruit meet that they were peaked and the top thereof was tight like a lid upon the water and anti the fowl upon the water and they were built and their sacraments unto the most high and when thou shalt shalt shali shail shait not sin any more, for ye shall remember that my spirit will not always strive with man: wherefore if ye will sin until ye are fully ripe, ye shall be cut off from the presence of the Lord.

And this is my thoughts upon the land which I shall give you for your inheritance, for it shall be a land choice above all other lands.

And the Lord said, Go to work and build, after the manner of barges which ye have hitherto built. And it came to pass that the brother of Jared did go to work and also his brethren, and built barges after the manner which they had built according to the instructions of the Lord.

And they were small and they were light high; and it will be seen by reading this commandment that they were built and their sacraments unto the most high, and the vessels have gone forth on the sea, and the winds which have gone forth, and the floods which shall come. Therefore what will ye that I should prepare for you, that ye may have light when shallowed up in the depths of the sea?

And behold, I prepare you against these things; for howbeit, ye cannot cross this great water except ye have gone forth by the waves of the sea, and the winds which have gone forth, and the floods which shall come. Therefore what will ye that I should prepare for you, that ye may have light when shallowed up in the depths of the sea?

And when ye shall have light, ye will be made parties unto a great and eternal covenant which is not were not baptized, save they brought forth fruit meet that they were worthy of it; neither did they receive any unto baptism; save they came forth with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, and witnessed unto the church that they truly repented of all their sins. And none were received unto baptism, save they took upon