

our friends and patrons to read it, at some of their leisure hours. And if they will, and pay strict attention to it, we are inclined to think that we shall not hereafter lay a subject of this kind before them.

The Savior says: "When thou prayest thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues, and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward."

Duty calls upon us again, to state to our brethren and friends, (notwithstanding it is a painful task,) to say that a multiplicity of business, absence of some of our hands and the illness of others, are some of the causes why the Messenger and Advocate is again delayed beyond its usual time of publication. We hope that in time to come, we shall be able to issue each number in the time and season thereof: Notwithstanding our many embarrassments, we are laboring day and night to bring about and accomplish the work which is committed to us, through the dispensation of the new and everlasting covenant, which has come forth in these last days through the merits and mercies of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: and the prayers of the saints from Adam to Enoch, from Enoch to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, from Abraham to Isaac, from Isaac to Jacob, from Jacob to Elijah, from Elijah to John, and from him until the church fled into the wilderness: and also from Lehi to Nephi, from Nephi to Alma, from Alma to Lehigh, from Lehigh to Mormon and from Mormon to Maroni, who have all prayed that the time might come, that Israel should be gathered and dwell on the earth for a season, when "Righteousness should cover the earth, as the waters do the great deep." They prayed in faith too, and prophesied of it, and sang praises to God and the Lamb, for his goodness and mercy which endureth forever.

SEE TO IT.

☞ All persons indebted for the Messenger and Advocate, are requested to make PAYMENT.

THE RECORD OF THE NEPHITES.

TUESDAY MORNING, }
September 22, 1835. }

On the morning of the 22d of September, 1827, the angel of the Lord delivered the record of the Nephites to Joseph Smith, jr. This opening a new era, as it were, the mind runs, with the rapidity of lightning, over the history of the eight past years, and views with wonder the hand of God in its dealings with men, in that thousands and tens of thousands have since heard the contents of that volume which then remained locked up from the eyes and knowledge of the nations of the earth.

The book has been translated, tho' its translator was driven from his native land, to do the same, by the hand of wicked and designing men, and those too who professed the religion of heaven, or were instigated so to do, by such; it has been printed, though many sought to keep it from the public eye, and actually stole a part, which was, however, supplied from the writings of another; a few embraced its truths, yielded obedience to the gospel, and tasted the good word of God and the powers of the world to come; many of the elders of Christ's church have since been commissioned and sent forth over this vast Republic, from river to river, and from valley to valley, till the vast sunny plains of Missouri, the frozen regions of Canada, and the eastern Maine, with the summer States of the South, have been saluted with the sound of the voice of those who go forth for the last time to say to Israel, Prepare for the coming of thy King!

Wonderful to tell! Amid the frowns of bigots, the sneers of hypocrites, the scoffs of the foolish, the calumny of slanderers, the ridicule of the vain and the popular prejudice of a people estranged from God, urged on to deeds of villainy by the priests of Baal, the word has been proclaimed with success, and thousands are now enjoying the benign influence of the love of God shed forth by the Comforter upon the pure in heart!

Nor has the sound been confined alone to our shores: Europe has heard that the great King was doing wonders for us, and the eyes of many are now anxiously turned to behold the rising spreading glory of the church of the Latter Day Saints, in the new world: in that world, though vast its forests

and broad its rivers, where but a few centuries ago the roaming red man chased the buffalo, the elk & the bounding deer unmolested and alone, now subdued, the Father of mercies has lifted to the nations of the earth a standard, has raised up, to the gaze of the world, an ensign, has caused his voice to be heard, has shown to his faithful ones that Israel is about to be gathered, the indignation toward the Jews is also to cease, and that he will soon bring the house of Jacob from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, the blind, the lame, the aged and the suckling, that they may sing in the height of Zion, and flow together to the goodness of the Lord!

Prepare your hearts, O ye saints of the Most High, for great things await you! Hasten ye, hasten ye, to the places of gathering, for after a little the indignation of the Lord will cease toward those who are called by his name, and then his arm must fall upon the wicked. His sword is bathed in heaven, and must fall upon Idumea, and who can stand amid the crash and fall of empires?

Sanctify yourselves, O ye servants of the Lord, for much is required at your hands: the blood of souls will cry against you except you hasten on your mission: yes, let all raise their warning voice, in meekness and in mildness, for soon will there be a famine for the word of God. Listen, O ye elders, for soon the voice from distant lands will salute you,—Come over and help us! Think, for a moment, on the millions in your own land who are destitute of the word of life; think also on the vast multitudes whose thoughts never reached our shores, who are now perishing for lack of vision, and bowing to idols; think of the numberless islands where darkness and the shadow of death prevail, whose waters never covered a soul for the remission of sins, & whose groves, though spicy, were never saluted with the voice of one who proclaimed life and immortality through the power of a risen Savior!

Should one ask, what has been done during these eight years, of which you speak? I would say, the first two and a half only translated and printed the record, and organized the church with *six members!* and the fruit of the labor of five and a half are so great that the hearts of thousands are astonished; the

vail of superstition has been rent from the minds of many; the church increased to thousands; the list of elders multiplied to hundreds; the deaf have heard the words of the book; the eyes of the blind have seen out of obscurity and out of darkness; the meek have increased, (for their joy is in the Lord,) the poor among men rejoice in the Holy One of Israel; many that erred in spirit have come to understanding, while others that murmured have learned doctrine.

C.

Kirtland, Ohio, October, 1835.

Dear Brother,

Through the Medium of the Messenger and Advocate, we wish to lay before your readers, our friends and brethren, certain items relative to our mission the past summer. We were chosen pursuant to a commandment of the Lord, which was received through him whom he had appointed by the voice of the angel of God, and acknowledged by the Latter Day Saints, in that appointment, given June 1829, which may be found on page 173, in the book of covenants, published in Kirtland, Ohio—which reads as follows:—

“And now behold, there are others who are called to declare my gospel, both unto Gentile and unto Jew: yea, even twelve: and the twelve shall be my disciples, and they shall take upon them my name: and the twelve are they who shall desire to take upon them my name, with full purpose of heart: and if they desire to take upon them my name with full purpose of heart, they are called to go into all the world to preach my gospel unto every creature: and they are they who are ordained of me to baptize in my name, according to that which is written; and you have that which is written before you: wherefore you must perform it according to the words which are written. And now I speak unto the twelve: Behold my grace is sufficient for you: you must walk uprightly before me and sin not. And behold you are they who are ordained of me to ordain priests and teachers to declare my gospel, according to the power of the Holy Ghost which is in you, and according to the callings and gifts of God unto men: and I Jesus Christ, your Lord and your God, have spoken it. These words are not of men, nor of man, but of me: wherefore you shall testify they are of me, and not of man; for it is my voice which speaketh them unto you: for they are given by my Spirit unto you: and by my power you can read them one to another; and save it were by my power, you could not have them: wherefore you can testify that you have heard my voice, and know my words.

And now behold I give unto you, Oliver Cowdery, and also unto David Whitmer, that you shall search out the twelve who shall