

A N A D D R E S S

TO THE

INHABITANTS AND SOJOURNERS OF WASHINGTON,

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

THE HONORABLE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS, AND ALL REV. DIVINES, MAGISTRATES, LANDLORDS, MERCHANTS, ARTISTS, MECHANICS, LABORERS, SOLDIERS, MARINES, AND THE WORLD AT LARGE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

YOUR Humble Servant, JOHN E. PAGE, Elder of the Church of Latter Day Saints, commonly called "Mormons," having been *sent* by the authority of the before-mentioned Church to administer the doctrine and ordinances in the fullness of the everlasting Gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of this city, wishes to enjoy an opportunity of occupying some commodious Chapel, Hall, or any other place suitable to your taste and convenience, for the above stated purpose.

As we are *sent* to preach the pure unadulterated Apostolic Gospel of Jesus Christ, without purse or scrip, we are entirely and totally dependant upon the Providence of our Heavenly Father and the good will of the People to provide for us food and raiment, and open to us their places of worship, or other respectable places, suitable to convene the people to hear the solemn and eternal truths, which Heaven has revealed for the good and salvation of mankind through the Lord Jesus Christ and Holy Apostles and Prophets.

If we were in possession of the means requisite, it would afford us infinite pleasure to dispose of them in procuring suitable places in which to convene the people; but as it is our misfortune to be without the means desirable for the accomplishment of our purpose, we are compelled most humbly to solicit and ask, in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, that some LADY OR GENTLEMAN, or the COMMUNITY, who ever it may be, that has at their control some Chapel or Hall, or other respectable place, in which to convene the people, that they may be enabled to hear the peculiar doctrine or faith of the Latter Day Saints—to hear this our prayer and answer our call.

It is desirable that all should understand, that the people who have never heard for themselves an explanation of our religious principles know nothing of their true merits, as they ought to know. The public press (as a general thing) has exerted itself to wield its influence against us to gratify its patrons, whose religious principles are somewhat jeopardized by the light and Heaven born truths which we present to the world. All reflecting minds know that the press is only sustained by using its influence in sustaining the peculiar interest of its patrons. And as our religious faith is "going breadth ways through the earth," and taking the worthy members of every community and bearing them "to the mountain of the Lord's house," in these "last days," the public press becomes the most powerful engine to traduce our character and prejudices the minds of the people against us before they have an opportunity to give us a hearing, by endeavoring to make the community at large believe that the Latter Day Saints are some dreadful desperadoes unworthy of a place among men—especially at the city of Nauvoo; whereas that place possesses all the advantages of the moral refinement of the Eastern world of both America and Europe; for our society and Church are made up of an average proportion of the learned and unlearned, rich and poor, em-

bracing all the advantages of the sciences and architecture. In proportion to our numbers we are not surpassed by any community on earth.

And is it reasonable to cherish the idea for one moment, that the people possessing the moral advantages which the cities of Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Salem, Lowell, Newbedford, and many other cities and the country surrounding them, that the people by simply emigrating to the city "beloved of the Saints," that they would sacrifice at once as a great mass, the moral refinement they have enjoyed, and become that desperate people that our enemies would represent us to be? NO! reason says NO!! common sense says, NO!!! and a sense of the better advantages of good moral principles, contrasted with savage barbarity in the organization of human society, cries with a voice as loud as pealing thunders, NO!!!! Therefore, we do claim, that it is no longer a virtue for men to listen to the vain calumniating tales, which, Report with her ten thousand tongues, is continually thundering in the ears of the world at large, to traduce our character and save from utter dissolution the speculative errors of the age.

We do hope, that the benevolent people of this city, and elsewhere, will seek to hear us; and for that purpose open to our call for their own interest and eternal good, some place convenient for the delivery of a sufficient course of lectures for the full development of the principles of our faith.

We believe in the divinity of the scriptures, of the old and new testament and that the gospel of Jesus Christ is an unchangeable principle in all its apostolic doctrine, ordinances, powers and blessings.

We believe in the divinity of the "Book of Mormon," and are prepared to present good evidence that it is, in reality, what it claims to be, a true history of the forefathers of the American Indians; and that it has been given to us in fulfillment of scripture prophecy, attended with evidence of its claim on its own face, compared with the developements made since its first publication, sustaining it.

We now number as a church from one hundred and fifty to two hundred thousand members in America and Europe, and the Islands of the sea.

We were first formed as a church, on the sixth day of April, A. D. 1830, of six members only, and had the principle of first hearing and then judging been adhered to strictly by the people at large, we should have, no doubt, quadrupled that number by this time; therefore when all things are duly considered in their proper light, by the people of this Metropolis, we feel that our solicitation will not be in vain, but that they will first hear us and then "judge a righteous judgment" concerning the merits of our cause.

Before we close, we will just say that we think, that from eight years experience in the ministry of this faith, in the Canadas and these United States, and having been stationed at the principal cities the most of the time, and having added more than a thousand members to the church in the meantime, has rendered us, in some goodly measure, competent to elucidate and define our principles.

Still further, we would say, that inasmuch as we have been so extremely fortunate as to show the errors embraced in the Rev. Mr. Miller's views, relative to the Second Advent of Christ, we wish to enjoy an opportunity of reclaiming those who are somewhat, of late, led away by its delusive mistakes, relative to the events that are now transpiring, and are yet to take place, and are near at hand.

We pledge ourselves to show most positively that the Jews, as *a people, a nation, a kingdom*, must and will be gathered to Palestine, and become a distinct and separate kingdom on "the land given to their fathers" before the Second Advent of Christ: this we pledge ourselves to do, not, however, without having heard the Millerites preach, and reading very extensively their Books and papers, and making ourself, we think, fully acquainted with their views. We are happy to say, that as far as that people have given us a hearing, we have generally gained their membership to our church; we would, therefore, respectfully solicit a hearing by that people in this city, that they may learn the mistake which the Rev. Mr. Miller is under, that the signs of the times and the terminations of those prophetic numbers of Daniel, are only ushering in the time for Almighty God to show favor to the Jews, for their gathering to the Land of Palestine and there adopting them in to the "root" from which they have been cut off preparatory to the advent of their king Messiah "Jesus of Nazareth," and they who through stubbornness will not hear us on this subject will only have to live and witness the rolling on of the wheel of old time, and undergo the chagrin of learning a lesson by ob

servation which they might learn by precept in a much shorter time, if they would only open their doors and hear us.

Old rolling time, with its events dictated by the wisdom of him who never sleepeth, and whose will is not controlled by the *will, caprice, or ignorance* of men, will determine it in the eyes and ears of those who live to see it, that the work now begun, of the gathering of the Jews to Jerusalem, and the gathering of the Saints from among the Gentiles now effecting with us, (the saints,) is the thing at last signified by the Prophets concerning the "last days" which attracts so much attention by the world and so much dispised by the Rev. father Miller and his associates, Messrs. Litch, Hymes, and others, who are as zealous to traduce and misrepresent the Latter Day Saints as they complain that others are to practise it on them—and they that doubt it have only to hear the evidence from their own documents, which I have on hand to prove it.

If any should wish a personal interview with Mr. Page, they can call at Mr. F. Edmonston's on the north side of F street, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets, or by leaving their address, designating the time and place, and Mr. Page will call on them when practicable, if requested.

Respectfully, your humble servant,

WASHINGTON, D. C. MARCH 7, 1844.

THE AUTHOR.

TO THE PUBLIC.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 12, 1844.

We, the undersigned, having had ample opportunities of forming an agreeable acquaintance with the Rev. John E. Page, author of the foregoing address, take pleasure in stating, that we believe him to be a gentleman worthy of respect and public esteem; and, to say the least, can but recommend all to hear him before coming to any positive conclusions touching his merits, and claims to public attention.

In regard to his religious views, so peculiar in their character, we have but one remark to make, viz: That, as the age in which we live, has been one so wonderfully characterised by fallacy, sophism, logical artifice, deceitful arguments, and gross religious impositions, we can but expect from a community whose indignation has been so often excited against these repeated attempts at deception, a treatment alike severe, to the introduction of any modern Faith. And however reasonable, in reality, it must expect to meet, at first, with inconsideration; and, however pure its doctrine, it must anticipate a cold and unwelcome reception, and endure the scorn, ridicule, and buffets of the world—until time shall permit its expounders to lower the popular emblem of error, and raise in its stead the standard of truth. But, whatever, may be the *name* of the sect or church, whose doctrines Mr. Page professes to preach and inculcate, or under what estimation they may have heretofore been held by a prejudiced and uninquiring community, so far as they bear, as their *main* characteristic, a literal and unqualified interpretation of Scripture, and followed by a strict belief in Biblical doctrine, and accompanied by such an explanation as the dictates of nature and reason teach an impartial mind to be correct, so far are we bound to coincide with them. We are vulnerable to truth—all sects and churches pretend to wield it as *their* weapon—but it matters not to us by what name they are recognised, we accept the wound from those who pierce the deepest.

In regard to the Book, commonly termed, "Mormon," we have now but little to say. In relation to its *origin, &c.*, we are of opinion that it merits a fair, candid, and impartial examination; in relation to a portion of its contents we are compelled to make some further acknowledgments:

At a recent Lecture, given by Mr. Page, we were struck with the extraordinary character of the evidence adduced to sustain the claims of the Book of Mormon. If we are to rely upon the veracity of men standing high in public estimation, and Government favor, Messrs. Delafield, Priest, Catherwood and Stephens, whose recent important discoveries of ancient antiquities of America, have astounded all, under whose supervision their statements in relation thereto have come, then must their evidence remove, in a great degree, the doubts at present existing in the public mind, in relation to the character of this book; the plates of which, if we are to rely upon the statements made, were found some seventeen years previous to the discoveries made by the

gentlemen named above; the most important of which, were the fossil remains of ancient cities, found immured in the dense forests of the west, and the many bright specimens of human ingenuity, and ripe mechanical skill, found buried many feet beneath the trunks of towering oaks, proving beyond the possibility of a doubt, that the very land now known as the "wild western forests," have at some former period been densely populated by a wise and intelligent people—beautified by noble cities, ornamented with grand statuary, and towering monuments erected to the memory of their popular rulers. The book gives the *exact* location and character of these cities, while treating upon the extinct race that *once* inhabited and enlivened the crumbling walls that now barely mark the spot, and tell us of the "exceeding curious workmanship," which characterised the ingenuity of the people of that age, as found carved upon the blocks of fallen monuments, and broken statuary, that now moulder beneath the forest rubbish.

Need we say, that it was beyond the power of mortal being, or human understanding to have possessed any knowledge of the existence of these buried cities, at the time the book was written, or previous to the discoveries made by the above-named gentleman, which were seventeen years after. Yet the statements of the Book, and the discoveries made, have proved in no particular inconsistent with each other.

The question then arises, from whence did the Book of Mormon receive its information, 17 years before these discoveries, that these "people" "cities," "curious workmanship," "statuary," "monuments," &c., were all flourishing at some former period.

Without coming to any conclusion upon this important point, or the remarkable evidence alluded to above, we leave all who feel an anxiety to become acquainted with this book, to give it a proper examination and thorough investigation and then draw their own conclusions from the evidence they can readily procure in relation thereto.

We are with respect, &c.

JOS. S. POTTER, *Printer.*

FRANKLIN LITTLE,

Clerk at the Globe Office.

F. EDMONSTON, *Printer.*

Having been favored with an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the Rev. Jno. E. Page, author of the within address, listened to his conversation, sat under his ministry, and, in some degree, become familiar with the peculiar doctrines of his sect, (peculiar as regards the book of Mormon) being satisfied of the correctness of his deportment, and the soundness of his religious views, (taking the *Bible* as the standard of faith) and of his ability to explain, illustrate and elucidate, and carry conviction of the truths therein contained to the minds of his hearers, we cheerfully avail ourselves of the opportunity presented by this publication, to recommend him to the attention of all sincere and candid enquirers after truth; feeling convinced, that after a patient hearing, they will be both edified and profited. We the more cordially invite public attention to his discourses at this time, as they fully, conclusively and convincingly *prove* the statements and calculations of Mr. Miller, which have caused so much excitement, distress and misery throughout the country, to be false, fallacious and unfounded: that his arguments, professedly drawn from the Bible, are garbled extracts—isolated texts—which, taken in connexion with the preceding and succeeding text, prove the very reverse of that which they are made to sustain by the application of Mr. Miller and his coadjutors. This he (Mr. Page) is able to do—and for this alone, he deserves the thanks and kind consideration of all who have the happiness and well being of their fellow citizens at heart. HEAR AND JUDGE.

CHARLES W. FENTON, *Printer.*

L. A. EDMONSTON.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

We have on hand a variety of Books and Pamphlets, that elucidate and set forth our religious Faith in the clearest manner possible, which no person can refute on Scripture authority; and which we will sell at prices to suit the expenses of publishing and transportation. While there is so much time and money expended in reading books whose principles vanish, as it were, in a moment, at the touch of "sound doctrine," ours should also be read, that the people may learn that the doctrine of the Latter Day Saints is like gold seven times refined—IMPERISHABLE. J. E. PAGE.