

With a prayer for the prosperity of kind Saints and the cause of Zion, I confidently trust my resignation may be accepted, and a worthy successor appointed, who shall receive the cordial support of all the good, and whom God shall delight to bless with much power. And may the Spirit of Christ be and abide with you all, henceforth and forever, is the prayer of your brother in the everlasting covenant. Amen.

D. S. MILLS,

President Pacific Slope Mission.

SANTA ANA, California, January 20th, 1878.

THE JEWS IN PALESTINE.

The project proposed some time since in Great Britain by leading Jews of the country to buy Palestine is said to have been completed. The Rothschilds, Montefiores, and other prominent and wealthy financiers have entire confidence, it is reported, in the success of the undertaking, and are moving energetically toward its early achievement. The secretary of the association formed for the purpose, who is, by the by, a Christian in creed, says that the Jews of the whole world seem to be in sympathy with the plan, and will do their utmost, individually and collectively, to further it. Those familiar with Palestine will not regard it as specially desirable, for its main features are not very attractive. It is not an extensive country—not more than one hundred and forty-five miles long and forty-five miles broad, on an average—and ought to be bought cheap. The plain of Philistia is its best part, the soil being of rich brown loam, without a stone. It is now, as it has always been, a vast grain-field—an ocean of wheat without a break or a fence. Its extraordinary fertility is shown by the fact that it has produced the same succession of crops year after year for forty centuries without artificial aid. Many tourists have such numberless associations with Palestine that they have idealized it prodigiously; but to a man who views it without bias it is a dreary, disagreeable land, its undulating surface, rounded hills separated by narrow glens, and its crevasses striking the eye monotonously and unpleasantly. So much has been said for generations of the Jews regaining possession of Jerusalem, that it is agreeable to think that they are likely to do so at last. They certainly deserve Jerusalem.—*New York Times.*

ARISTOCRATIC CITY WORSHIP.

Like anything in New York, where fashion rules, aristocratic worship has its fitting abode. Setting aside Trinity and Grace, the aristocracy worships between Twenty-third and Fifty-seventh streets, and covers the space between Fourth and Sixth avenues. Into this space are crowded the popular houses of worship of the leading denominations. When the aristocracy moves the churches move. As the private residences become more sumptuous so do the churches. With the increase of wealth, style and elegance, the churches have their share. The parsonages of Dr. Dix, Dr. Vincent, the rectory of Grace and the Fifth avenue Baptist church are not exceeded in location and elegance by any private residence in New York.

Dr. John Hall's church is elegantly located. The teams that fill the streets on the three

sides of the church indicate the wealth of the people. Some of the turnouts are regal. Many of the drivers are in livery, with knee-breeches and huge white neckties. The church is full on all pleasant Sunday mornings. It costs something to worship here. The income from rentals is over \$40,000 a year. The front gallery pews rent for \$350 each. The Stewarts, A. and R. L., own their pews, and they cost \$15,000 each.

Two blocks above, and over on Madison, stands the Reformed church. Though not so large as Dr. Hall's it is quite as elegant. But the house is painfully thin. Two-thirds of the pews are empty. The wide galleries have a straggler or two. The front of the galleries is open. The inside is broken into sections. It has the look of an ice-cream gallery. Four chairs in each section and a small table complete the illusion.

A VISION.

May 26th, 1878, Sunday morning, being near Brighton, California, there passed before my view the following:

From the western side of Asia there rose a great cloud of smoke, which rolled on westward until it overwhelmed Europe. I heard accompanying the smoke a great noise as of heavy artillery, and the clanking and clashing of cavalry and arms; also sharp streaks of light or fire pierced the dark cloud. These all caused an intense feeling of horror to rest upon me. Then near the middle of this (the American) continent, I saw a large temple, facing the west, which was surrounded by an evergreen-tree fence, about a quarter of a mile from the temple on either side. At the north-west corner of the fence, was a narrow gate, at which a beautiful, tall man was standing as gate-keeper. A man came out of the temple, walked down the steps in front of the building and went to the gate. He was a servant. The gate-keeper put into the servant's right hand a large leaf, shaped like a palm-leaf fan, which was composed of a great many small leaves of the same shape. He also bound upon his left arm, from the wrist to the elbow, these words which appeared like bright gold in color "Bind up the testimony. Seal up the law." The servant then went on his mission, traveling rapidly and crying his message with a loud voice. He soon came to a town, on the outskirts of which was gathered a large crowd of men, who appeared very angry, and were armed with guns, knives, clubs and stones. They seemed determined to stop and kill him if possible. I felt very much alarmed for his safety; they seemed so angry, and their countenances were really hideous, but he did not appear to heed them at all, although he knew of their intention. I watched him with much anxiety getting nearer and nearer the mob, who increased in anger as he neared them; but he walked straight ahead crying aloud his message, and when he got close to them, instead of their destroying him, as I feared they would, they suddenly parted in the middle and left an alley about three feet wide, through their midst, and a large cable made of iron, about three inches in circumference, extending the whole

length of the passage-way on each side, up as high as the waists of the men, which kept them from harming him as he passed through without the least stop or hesitation, crying aloud his message. And so he went over the country, through cities, towns and villages, fearless and unharmed, occasionally stopping to give a leaf from off the large leaf to some persons, who always seemed to be very glad to see him and get a leaf.

I then saw and heard that after he had gone along, there followed right upon his track huge mountains of darkness or blackness, from which issued sharp lightning and thunder, and mountains were rolled and tossed and cities destroyed by earthquakes. The plague and pestilence also destroyed many people. And the sharp conflict of the inhabitants of towns fighting against each other, besides the assassin with pistol and knife, with horrible countenance, crouching, waiting for his prey; afterward a great roar of fire, rushing, crackling, through cities, towns, and over the earth; and then two angels, one on the Atlantic coast, the other on the Pacific, each standing on the ocean beach smote the water with a long rod saying, "Thy bands are broken." Then many cities, and towns, and much land were covered with water. I then heard in a clear, round, full voice from one mighty and strong, "Come Home, Come Home;" and these words seemed to fill the whole vault of heaven; but of all the inhabitants of the world, none heard it except those who had accepted the leaf from the servant.

Again, I was at the corner of the fence by the gate. I saw the same servant return. In his right hand he held the skeleton stock of the palm leaf which he handed to the gate keeper, who had sent him out. I then noticed many such servants returning. This one seemed weary, and very glad to get back. I then understood that his mission had been to stay out until he had given away all the small leaves off the large palm leaf—one to each person worthy of it; which leaf was a passport, that allowed the holder of it to enter through the gate into the temple. His eyes seemed to burn with joy, and a bright color covered his countenance, which now shone with a freshness of joyous life as the gate keeper said to him, "You have done well, and have been faithful. Enter, nothing can keep you out;" and as he was passing through the gate a bright crown as of glittering gold, descended and rested upon his head; and as the gate-keeper adjusted it to his head he again spoke, saying, "Now is fulfilled the promise made to you by my Father, that if you would be faithful, you should receive a crown when his Son visited the earth again." I then saw a beautiful city, which seemed exceedingly bright. And I heard as in mid air most delightful music which seemed to entrance me; and from out the midst of the music which seemed to be from thousands of angels, came this sentence in a loud clear voice: "Whosoever is faithful and remains shall not die, but shall be changed with power and glory."

Language utterly fails to describe the feelings of perfect joy and peace that I was in possession of when, after viewing these things, I again saw the beauties of the country and felt the quiet of a holy Sabbath day.

I. F. B.

NEWPORT, California, January 2d, 1879.