

165
with their mouth, and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precepts of men: therefore behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, yea a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid." All the above is plain and pointed, and cannot refer to any other circumstance so plainly as the coming forth of the book of Mormon. And to that it does refer specially and pointedly.

10. When old Jacob was blessing Joseph's sons between his knees, he said of Ephraim, "And his seed shall become a multitude of nations." No where on this wide earth can Ephraim be traced into a "multitude of nations," except the Indians of North and South America is that multitude. And this accords with what old Jacob said in blessing Joseph as the progenitor, and head of one of the twelve tribes. He said, "The blessing of thy Father have prevailed above the blessing of my progenitors, unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills." The utmost bound from Goshen in Egypt to its farthest point east or west, would be in America, would be the Rocky mountains. Now we will hear Moses, the man of God, when he put his last blessing on the tribes. He thus said specially to Joseph, "Blessed of the Lord be Joseph's land. For the precious things of the earth and the fulness thereof." No man can apply this passage so as to make sense unless it applies to Ephraim, according to the book of Mormon, and the Indians in our American land. It is the only continent where the earth contains a fulness. Where all fowl of every wing, all fruits of every tropic, all beasts and reptiles of all grades, and the "earth and its fulness," can be found. Can't find it on any continent on earth except the American. And the vast American continent, where the Indians have roamed for many a century, runs from the straits of Magellan in the south, to the North Pole, containing a fulness."

The Testimony of men.

11. In open daylight, in an open wood lot, with their sensitive powers all calm and serene, Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and Martin Harris testify that an angel of glorified

166.
appearance and countenance came down from heaven, and stood before them, and took the
the plates which Joseph Smith had possessed, from which he had translated the Book, and held
them in his hand, and showed as many of the ^{the} leaves or plates as Joseph had translated, ^{read the translation of the book} to them. ^{the angel} ^{completed}
so that they saw, and looked upon them until they were entirely satisfied. And he spoke to David
Whitmer and said, "David, blessed is the Lord, and he that keepeth his commandments." These men
saw his form, saw his glorified appearance, heard his words, saw all that he showed them, and
then saw him ascend to heaven again. This was no collusion. These men could not be mistaken.
They either told the truth, or they wilfully lied. How shall we tell which, how shall we know?
This vision was in 1829. More than forty years ago, and what has been the conduct of those men
since that day? Two of them are dead - ^{and yet} two living. Those who are dead testified to the last hour
of their lives to the truth of their vision. Those who are still living are firm in their testimony.
I visited David Whitmer after he was more than 65 years of age, and solemnly declared to me
"I saw the Angel of God, I heard his voice, hence I know of a truth! Martin Harris is some over
89 years of age, and still he carries the book of Mormon under his arm, and testifies to all
great and small, 'I saw Martin Harris in all the world, and I know the book of Mormon
to be verily true. And although all men should deny the truth of that book, I dare not do it. My heart
is fixed. O God, my heart is fixed! I could not know more truly or certainly than I do!"
13. In 1833, when molting reigned triumphant in Jackson Co. Mo. I and O. Cowdery fled
from our homes, for fear of personal violence on Saturday the 20th day of July. The mob
dispersed, agreeing to meet again on the next Tuesday. They offered eighty dollars reward
for any one who would deliver Cowdery or McLellan in Independence on Tuesday. On Monday
I slipped down into the Whitmer's settlement, and there in the lonely woods I met with David Whit-
mer and Oliver Cowdery. I said to them, "brethren I never have seen an open vision in my life,
but you men say you have, and therefore you positively know. Now you know that our lives are
in danger every hour, if the mob can only catch us. Tell me in the fear of God,