

AN APPEAL TO THE SAINTS

— OF THE —

GALLANDS GROVE, IOWA,
DISTRICT.

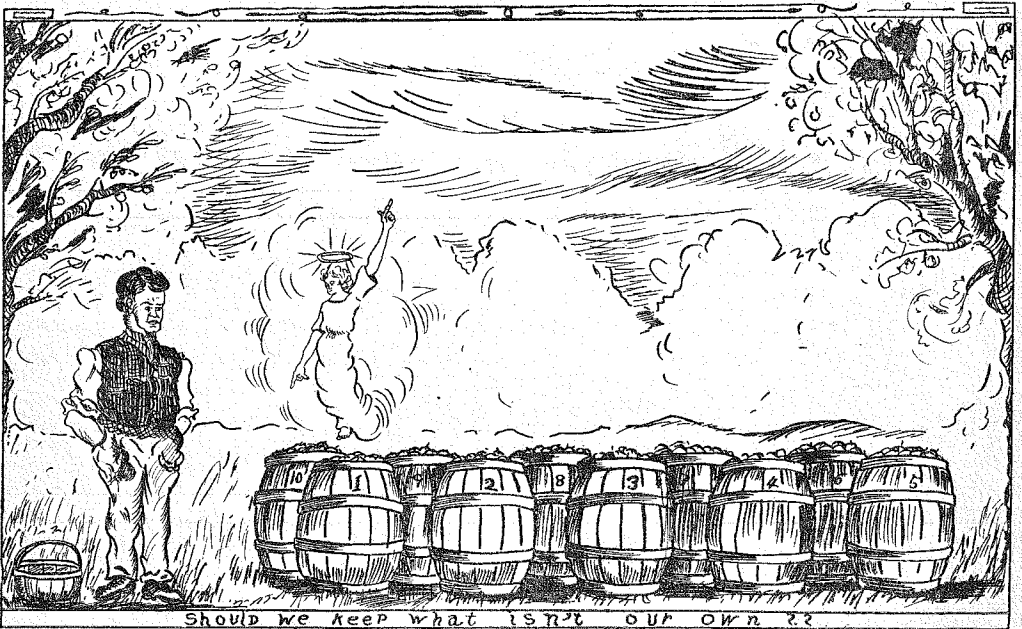
— BY —

CHARLES J. HUNT, BISHOP.



THE REORGANIZED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER DAY SAINTS.

-- 1913 --



“Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.” Deut. 14:22.

“And all of the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s. Lev. 27:30.

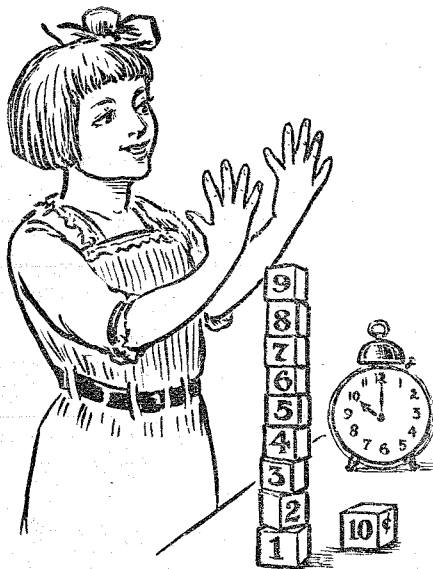
**READ CAREFULLY, THINK SERIOUSLY,
-- ACT PROMPTLY --**

Dear Saints:— Knowing of the many opportunities for doing good—the great need of a closer and more diligent observance of the law of the Lord that his gospel might go forth as directed in the sacred books of the Church. I am making this my ninth annual and earnest appeal for a more universal and fuller compliance with the law of tithes and free-will offerings.

The former appeals have not been fruitless, for the receipts during the past six months have been larger than usual, and much of it, too, by the young, giving assurance of greater success to the work in the near future.

It is very important that parents set the goodly example of paying tithes before their children, for such examples are impressive sermons and then their words are more effectual in their behalf.

Teach the children the Master's life of unselfish-



ness and sacrifice,—that their ten fingers are given them for service as well as pleasure that their days can be compared to the faithful clock that “ticks” their lives in and out of this world; and at least a tenth of their time, energy and earnings should be cheerfully giv’n to the Church.

It is a known fact that proper teachings will help them to reject the soul-destroying principles of greediness, idleness and extravagance. If they have been taught the value and love of service in that which is good they are more apt to begin to honor the Lord early in life with a portion of their time, talents and money. When you are teaching and preparing your children for the sacred ordinances of baptism and confirmation, don't fail to tell them the necessity of saving and giving, impressing upon their minds that good

deeds done before uniting with the church will stand to their credit as well as those done afterwards. All children should be taught to pay tithing although not old enough to be baptized. "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right." Prov .20:11.

The church does not need an increase in membership today as much as it needs those who have been members for years to comply with the whole law of Christ. All should bear in mind that simply



owning property valued at hundreds, thousands, or tens of thousands of dollars is not "laying up treasures in heaven" unless proper use is made of it in observing the law which entitles the "doer" to hear the blessed words spoken by the Supreme Judge "well done."

Question to You:—How does your credit page stand with the Lord? Has your life been one of service to him? Have you paid your tithes, offerings, consecrations and surplus? Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21.

All Latter Day Saints should be as brave and desirous to do the Lord's will along financial lines, (though their families, their relatives and their friends oppose them) as they were when they faced opposition and suffered persecution in obeying the first principles of the gospel. Be brave, be true, "For not the hearers of the

law are just before God, but the doers of the law should be justified.”

Bishop Kelley wrote, “Wherever in the world the gospel has been preached, of which we have any history, there has accompanied the same a financial system forming a part of the gospel plan, and consequently ordained as the just and impartial means of sustaining the work, giving to those who love the truth and opportunity to help it along, and thus manifest by their works they are laborers together with God.”

The Lord instructed the Church as follows: . “See that ye love one another; cease to be covetous; learn to impart one to another as the gospel requires; cease to be idle; cease to be unclean; cease to find fault one with another; cease to sleep longer than is needful; retire to thy bed early, that ye may not be weary; arise early, that your bodies and your minds may be invigorated; and above all things clothe yourselves with the bonds of charity, as with a mantle, which is the bond of perfectness and peace; pray always, that you may not faint until I come; behold, and lo, I will come quickly, and receive you unto myself.” D. & C. Sec. 85:38.

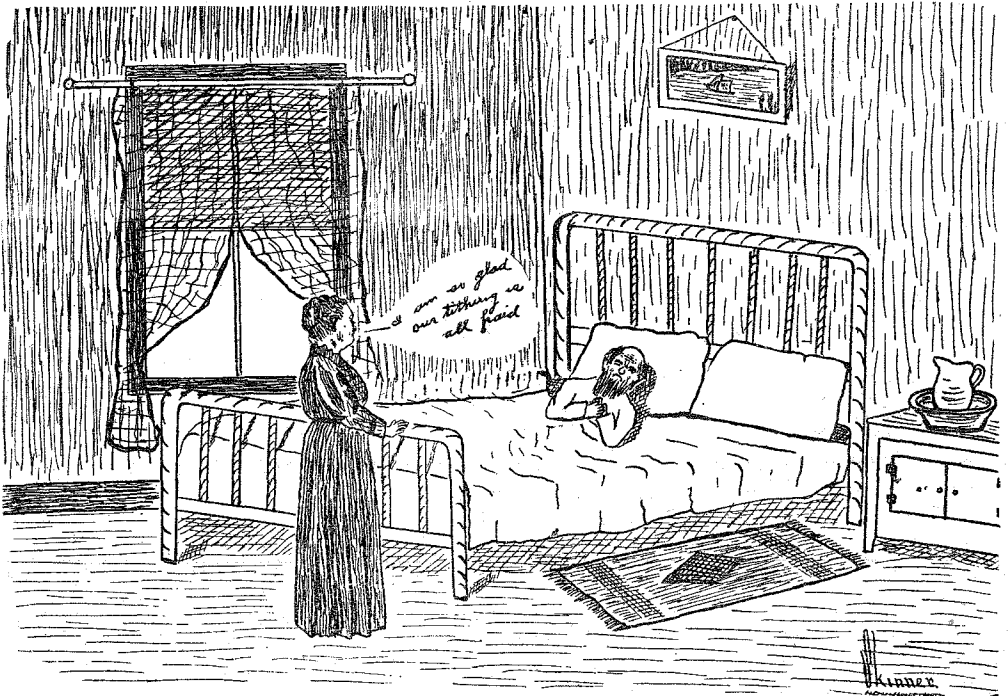


“Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase.” Prov. 3:9.

Bishop Kelley is on record, saying, “We are engaged in the most important work known to man.” “Men and women glorify God by giving of their means as they may also in other work, hence, the law of giving.” “When any person claiming to be of the priesthood does not move in accordance with the law of Christ, he is not moving with Christ. He is at variance with him when he is at variance with his law. The true doctrine is, ‘He that transgresseth and abideth

not in the doctrine of Christ hath not God.' Who? Anybody; whatever official place he may hold or claim to hold. The law tries men. Men do not try the law. Christ was subservient to the law in all instances. He did not make the law subservient to himself." Let every member of this District carefully consider and give heed to those words.

Every reader of our Church papers will remember that the last General Conference was one of unusual interest and worth to the whole Church, for during its sessions, fasting and prayer was observed that heavenly light and instruction might be given on the needs of the work in general, and we were not disappointed, for on the present temporal needs as well as exercising greater care in expending money, one paragraph of the revelation reads:



*"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course; I have kept the faith: *** there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, *** shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Tim. 4:7-8.*

"The Spirit sayeth further unto the church assembled and at large: In order that the temporal affairs of the church may be successfully carried on and the accumulated debt of the church in its respective departments where debts have accumulated may be properly met and in due time discharged, the church is instructed both as members and as the body at large, to avoid the unnecessary building of houses of worship or places of entertainment or otherwise ex-

pending the tithes and offerings of the church in that which may not be essential unto the continued forward progress of the general work; and both in private and public expenditure carry into active exercise the principle of sacrifice and repression of unnecessary wants; and thus permit the accumulation of tithes and offerings in such amounts as may be needful to properly discharge the existing indebtedness of the church as a body. And the Spirit counseleth the church in this regard.” D. & C. Sec. 130:7.

In keeping with the above instruction and in harmony with councils held, the Presiding Bishopric of the Church issued the following call to the whole Church:

SPECIAL WORK FOR EVERY ONE.

FINANCIAL WORK OF THE CHURCH.

“All who are anxiously waiting and praying for the progress and development of the work of Christ in the world are glad in heart when opportunity comes to them to enlist their powers in helping the same to success. This goodly desire too is in harmony with His divine instruction to the people wherein he says:

‘Wherefore, seek not the things of this world; but seek ye first to build up the kingdom of God, and to establish his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.’

The work of the church has been hindered for a number of years by reason of the lack of ready means to carry on its business, and provide for and sustain its missionary and benevolent work, in home and foreign fields. To perform this work and secure and hold the necessary lands and buildings for its work in many places the Bishopric have been compelled to borrow means both from banks and individuals and occasionally to pay out heavy interest which could under proper conditions have been saved to the good of the body. But not to have moved in this way would have been many times more reactionary to the work of the body and in some instances the losses would have been to a degree irreparable.

During the time of the late General Conference the question was taken up and considered by the First Presidency, the Twelve and the Presiding Bishopric in joint council, and by other quorums including the council of Bishops, with the result and general agreement that the Bishopric should take measures at the earliest time practicable to raise a special sum of money of at least Seventy-five thousand dollars to be used for the cancellation of this indebtedness and to place the church in circumstances to perform its work without being compelled to borrow means at high interest and loss. The

work when accomplished will be to the general and great good of the body and every one should be interested in the same, and no one fail to perform his or her part, and all should, with the Lord's help, do this at once.

Under special and separate statement the administration of this work has been submitted to the bishops and bishop's agents throughout the church, in every stake and district, and due and just apportionment made of the amount each division should raise to fulfill its work under the call; and we ask for them the ready co-operation and help of every member and friend of the work of the Lord within the respective districts. This work must be in addition to the usual amount raised for carrying on the work in these stakes and districts, and the sending of the gospel into all the world; but if each one will perform his full duty and contribute of his tithes and offerings, his consecrations and surplus, as provided in the law, there will be "plenty and to spare," and all will be stronger and better for having fulfilled their parts in carrying out the special work.

THE COLLEGE HELP.

The bishops and bishop's agents, in addition to the church indebtedness to be looked after, are also instructed to call attention to the help needed by the college, and to take special offerings in the interest of the college work, giving due credit for the same.

To perform all of this work will not require a sum to exceed one dollar and fifty cents if apportioned among all the members of the church. But many will help in this work who are not members, and many of the membership may and will help liberally in this great work, and we await the action of all trusting fully that the Lord in his work will by, and through his holy and divine spirit enrich all. The bishops and agents presenting this work in their respective fields have been instructed to make early returns of the same so that the benefits may accrue to the body the present year as well as the following, and due notice will be given as the returns are received.

Commending all to the blessed Lord who is ever ready to bless and strengthen his children "in every good work," we are hopefully in the truth, yours,"

E. L. KELLEY,

E. A. BLAKESLEE,

Presiding Bishopric.

Independence, Missouri, June 30, 1913.

The above call for special donations is a legitimate one. The urgent and numerous requests for missionary work together with other growing demands upon the Church has, for the past ten years, gradually increased its indebtedness. It is an honest obligation and as members we have witnessed the growth of the Church by the expenditure of that money. Now the small sum of ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS from each of the 1,028 members of this District will pay our apportionment of the debt, but let us do better than that. It is true that some will not feel able to help, while others can contribute Five, Ten, a Hundred or even Five Hundred or a Thousand Dollars. It can and should be done. Will you help?

Please fill out the enclosed special request blank and give to your Branch Agent or mail to the undersigned at Deloit, Crawford County, Iowa. Elder Edward Rannie, one of our new District Missionaries has consented to labor in the interest of church finances. Please favor him with contributions for all church purposes.

The following Branch Agents will also gladly receipt you for gifts, large or small: A. H. Rudd, Dow City; D. A. Holcomb, Gallands Grove; J. H. Bullard, Salem; T. N. Franklin, Harlan; Lacy Myers, Deloit; John Jordison, Coalville; C. L. Carmichael, Mallard; A. R. Crippen, Cherokee.

Trusting to receive an early and hearty response, I am,

Your co-laborer in the Master's cause,

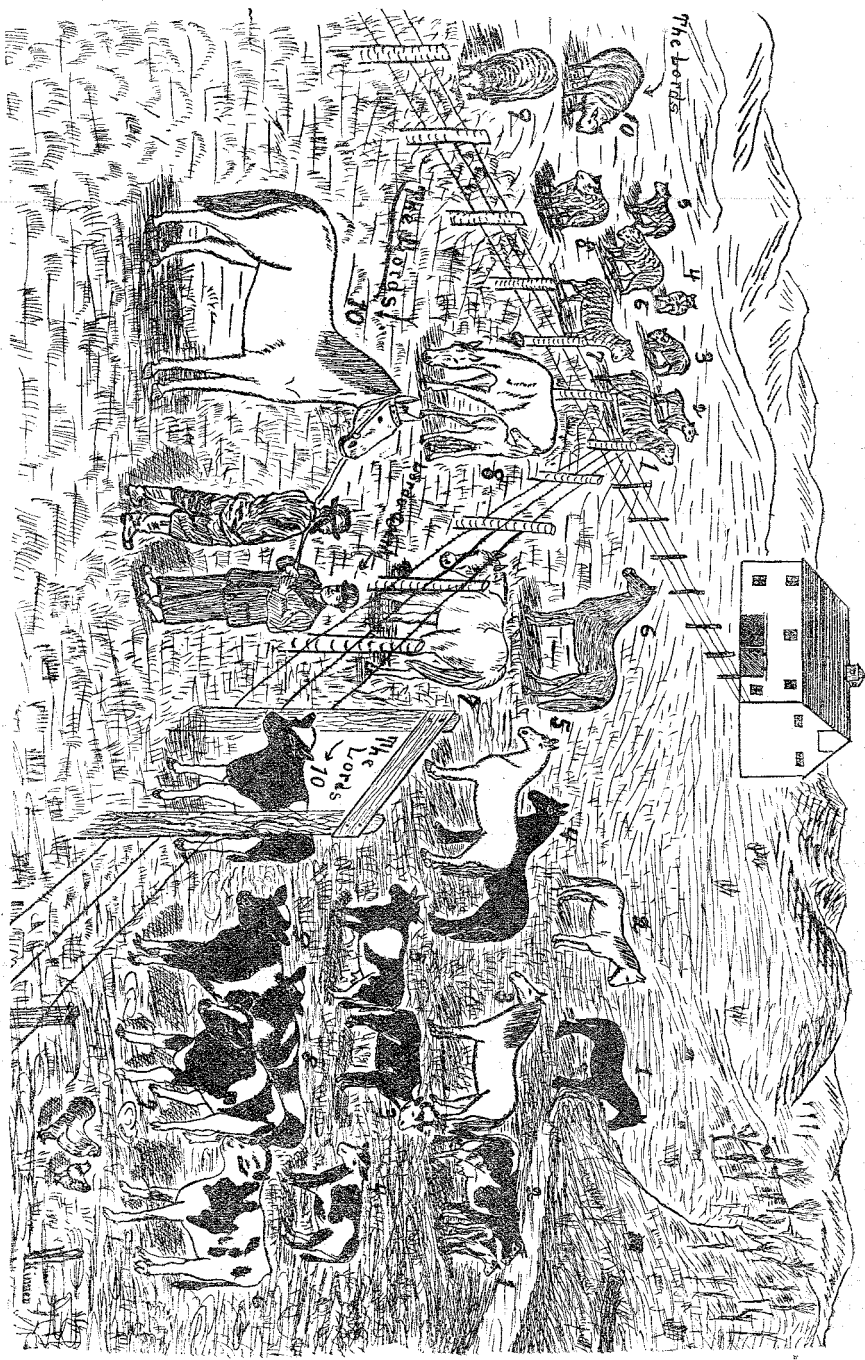
Charles J. Hunt,

July 24, 1913.

Deloit, Iowa.

“The way to have nothing is to give nothing, the riches that we impart, are the only wealth that remains.” Bishop R. May.

“Behold now it is called today, until the coming of the Son of Man, and verily it is a day of sacrifice, and a day for the tithing of my people. D. & C. 64:5.



“And concerning the tithe of the herd, or the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord.” Lev. 27:32.