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REMARKS delivered in the New Tabernucle, Salt Lake City, May 5th, 1870. 1

[REPORTED BY DAVID W. WVANS.]

It is a great pleasure to meet with the brethren again in Conference, Mand it is certainly very gratifying to see the people | From the earliest days of the preaching so consortably sealed, with a prospect of of the gospel by Joseph Smith men were be favorable we have a shelter and a shade. Saints inver to stay in any place long enough to build a house sufficiently large to hold the people; but with the blessing of He would sift them as with a sleve, the Lord and the united efforts of the brethren we have room sufficient to hold a very large audience, though notionbt occasions will still occur when we shall ery out "murs room," and probably before our Conference closes. I think, hewever, that we need not ask any of our brethren who reside in this city, as we have had to do, to stay at home to make room for those who may be in from a distance; all may come and be accommodated. The acoustic properties of the labernacie are efficiently im proved by the erection of the gallery, and if all who attend Conference will leave their coughing at home, sit still while here and omit shuffling their feet, they may have an opportunity of hearing pretty much everything that may be said. It will certainly require, even when all these conditions are complied with, considerable effort to till so large s house with one voice, and that effort must be met by a corresponding effort on the part of the audience to preserve perfect stillness.

It was forty years ago on the 6th of last month since the organization of the Church took place, in the chamber of Father Whitmer, in Fayette, Seneca county, New York, with six members. The history of that forty years would require volumes to record. The institution, as it then commenced, was in its infancy; yet the Lord reyealed to His servant that He had laid the foundation of a great work; the truth of gress of events. The changes that have transpired in connection with this people have been very remarkable." The work depends upon man to carry on his work. Jesus, repentance and the ordinance of baptiam for the remission of ans, and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, which was an innovation upon the creeds and practices of every ether religious sect: I am not aware that any one decomination Believed in and practiced all the principles that were introduced at the organization of this Church. The first three of these principles were faith in the Lord Jesus, repentance and baptism by immersion for the remission of sihs. The next principle was the laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost, precisely as it was pointed out by the Savior and practised by His dhaples in Jages. There were denominations who believed in bastiam by immersion, but not for the remission of sins, they believed that remission of slos was meessary previous to baptism; but they were ignorant of the possibility of the reception, of the Holy Ghost, and, consequently, of the doctrine hand bore it off. of the laying on of hands. The Church of England, it is true, would confirm by the laying on of the hand of the bishops, but Ghost on the heads of the believers; and while all the professed believers in the ductrine of Christ had some portions or fragments of His gospel as ravealed and established by Him and His Apostles, it was the church of Latter day Saints which introduced and established, complete, the remission of sins, and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. These b dy could find that they coincided exactly with the principles set firth by the Savhor, and it required to be spiritualized and changed to make it appear otherwise. But the Christian world mad gone astray from these things, and when they were restored they rejected them. There were, however, honest persons in all of the deth ugh he may be deceived, and in error as to primeiple and doctrifte; yet so far as that error is the result of their being deceived by the cunning craftiness of men, or of circumstances over which such have no control, the Lord in His abundant mercy looks with allowance thereon, and in Hisgreat economy He has provided different glories and ordained that fill persons shall be judged according to, the knowledge they possess and the use they make of that knowledge, and meerding to the deeds done in the body, whether good or evil. "And again, we saw the terrestrial world, and behold and for these are they who are of the terrestrial, whose glory differ from that of the duares of the first horn, who have received the fullness of the Father, even as that of the mood differs from that of the sun in the firmament. Behold, these are they who died without law, and also they who are the spirits of men kept in prison, whom the Sen visited, and preached the gospel unto them, that they Jeans in the flesh, but afterwards received

right person; that the gospel has gone forth unto the world, that the minds of the children of men have been touched with the light of truth, and that it has time, and that he, the angel, came to the individuals; but stated them, were presented to the different sects, they were disposed to reject them and to persecute those who presched them in their fuliness. Such, however, was the fact, and it is owing to this that the Latterday Saints are now in the Great Basin of the Booky' Mountains, in the heart of the had the effect to inspire some to seek rfter American continent, in the enjoyment of the Lord, to observe and keep His laws, political and raligious liberty and freedom, for which they have sacrificed, more pertearn His ways and walk in His paths. The object and purpose of our gathering haps, than any other people on the face of the earth. And we have the greatest reatogether, brethren and sisters, is to learn son of all people to be thankful to God for of His ways, and walk in His paths. these blessings. It is one of the greatest conceivable bles-

Then let us ask ourselves. Are we pre-By President GEORGE A. SMITH, pured for the great blessings which God has Lestowed upon us? Are we fiving up to sings which can be conferred upon the children of men to live in the day and our callings and magnifying the same? generation in which the Lord has sent forth Do we observe the duties which are im-posed upon us by our hely religion? Or are we foolish enough, while recognizing His gospel; in an age in which He has conferred upon men the authority of the holy its truth, and professing to be Latter-day Saints, to treat it with carelessness and things. It is one of the greatest blessings neglect, and failing to live up to our high and holy calling? that could be conferred upon His children

to become the happy recipients of that enjoying the benefits and blessings of the tried and tempted and led asitay by false knowledge which leads to eternal life and spirits and doctrines of devils. We find at exaltation in His kingdom. All people the commencement of Joseph's mission have this privilege so far as the knowledge that many who entered into covenant of the gospel has come to their ears. In It has been the fortune of the Latter-day surned away, and some became very bitter enemies. If was necessary from the very this the children of men are independent: beginning that there should be a sifting, they have their volition and agency to refor the Lord declared unto His people that ceive or to reject these principles when This sifting had to continue, and hence, every they shall hear them; but when they are time the Latter-day Saints were driven, sent forth with the authority of the holy vant will dictate us concerning our tempcattered or otherwise persecuted, it cause priesthood, which is the authority of God, those who could not abide in the faith to and are sounded in the cars of God's creapass quietly away, or to make their wickedness manifest unto the church and unto tures here on the earth, and they reject them, they incur a fearful responsibility. he world. But while this was going on the strength of Zion was increasing. It is Still they have the power to act as they all, and I presume correctly, that Oliver please in this matter; but the consequences Cowdery remarked at one time to Joseph Smith, "It I should apostatize and leave rest upon themselves-the Lord has left the Church, the Church would be broken them without excuse. It is a matter for The answer of the Prophet was, you and me and for all persons to canvasa What and who are you? This is the work in their own minds, and we can then act of God, and if you turn against it and withdraw from it, it will still roll on and upon our own volition in receiving or reyou will not be missed." It was not long jecting the truth. until Oliver turned away, but the work All who have not heard the principles of continued. God raised up men from obscurity to step forth and shoulder the burdens, and it was hardly known when and the privilege of doing so; if not here, then where be went. In about ten years he in some other sphere or state of existence. came back again, came before a local con-The plan of salvation is ample, full and erence at Mosquito Creek, Pottawatomie Co., Iowa, October, 1848, and acknowledged complete, and will save all the children of his faults. - He bore testimony of the mismen who will let it, and the Lord will be sion of the Prophet, Joseph Smith, and of the truth of the Book of Mormon; he exhorted the Sainis to follow the authority of up, so far as the probation of man on the with the Lord's, so much so at least as to the Holy Priesthood which he assured

earth is concerned. them was with the Twelve Apostles. He said, "When the Saints follow the main channel of the stream they find themselves in deep water and always right, pursuing their journey with safety; but when they turned aside into sloughs and bayons, they are left to flounder in the mud and are lost, for the Angel of God said unto Joseph in my bearing that this priesthood shall remain on the earth unto the end."

Oliver declared he took pleasure in bearing this testimony to the largest congregai a of Saints he had over seen together. He was re-baptized and made arrangethat saying has been realized by the pro- ments to come to the mountains, but died soon after, while on a visit to the Whitmer's, that the Latter day Saints are the only peo in Missouri. ple who possess this knowledge. This circumstance shows how little God

world have no just conceptions of the deity: even the Christian world are without the commenced, by preaching faith in the Lord He does it by His own power. His own knowledge of God as much as the heathen majesty, by His own mighty hand and for the accomplishment of His own glorious DUPINO848. if we take the Scriptures for our guide and It was thought and fe't throughout the as the foundation of our argument; that is the world, about the year 1844, that if Joif the Christian world believe as they proseph Smith, the Prophet, could be desfess to do, I do not care to illustrate at troved, that would be the end of the this present time, or to bring evidence to Latter-day Maints. Men conspired together bear to sustain my position, to a people to shed his bloed; they sought occasion against him; they made him an offender for a word; they swore falsely against him, and some who had been his friends turned to understand these arguments and princi-. ples, and who have learned better things, as is the case with this congregation. know in whom we have trusted; we know traitors and conspired with the wicked and who has led us forth to the valleys of the shed his blood. It was generally believed mountains; who has blessed the land and by the enemies of the Saints that that was caused it to bring forth its strength for our the end of the work of the Lord. The pulsustenance; who has shielded and protected pit resounded with thanks to God that the us from the power of the adversary-those great arch-impostor, Joseph Smith, was who have sought our overthrow and desslain. The priests rejoiced over it; and truction. We have learned to know Him though there was a teeling, tolerably as our Father, the Father of our spirits, and wide-spread, that it was barbarous to kill the God and Father of our Lord and Savior ham, under the plignted faith of Illinois, Jesus Christ. He has exercised a parental yet the general leeting was that it was a care over us, and has delivered us at all good thing that he was dead. But God had times from the power of our enemies, a work to perform, and it did not debrought us an inheritance in a goodly pend upon the life of one or two individuland, blessed the land and caused it to als. It was Mis work, His kingdom, His bring forth in its strength for our sustechurch, His plan of salvation, and He, by nance. His own wisdom and His own mighty. by Him only are we preserved just as well These were the facts, and these continue as we know that the children of men, im-pelled by the great adversary, Satan, are to be the facts; and all that the Latter day Saints have to do is to live within the conseeking to overthrow us, to break in pieces fines of God's holy law and up to their not for confirming the gift of the Holy privileges. Are we doing so? Are we walking in accordance with these princithe priesthood of God. ples? Let us ask ourselves these questions, Are we prepared to take upon ourselves and if any of us are remiss, let us immedithe labor, the self-denial, the self-abnegaately commence to reform, humble ourtion. I might say the persecution, if it ourselves and all we have, if necessary, for the building up and redemption of Zion and for our salvation. are not we had better repent and seek unto We have come together as a Conference the Lord for strength, retrace our steps, principles of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, to compare notes with each other, to rejoice repeutance towards God, baptism for the together and to receive instruction; and let we may become more confirmed in our every man and woman that has come or most holy faith. When we received the that may yet come, list their hearts to God principles were all important, and the mo-ment the Bibte was brought forth every: rest upon His servants, that they may be privilege to devote our whole lives and all our interests in this existence to the exteninspired with a double portion of His holy sion of this great and glorious cause. Have spirit, that the priesthood, in all its life, power and glory, may speak forth the words of truth, light and intelligence, that shall pour comfort into the hearts of the our minds and turn away to the beggarly Saints, and guide and strengthen them, and elements of the world. filtuminate their path, that we, one and all, I will say, this morning, that the gospel may continue in the great and glorious that I received is as sweet to me to-day as nominations, and God had respect to every work which we have commenced. man who is housst of heart and purpose. May the Lord God of Hosts bless you. it ever was during my existence on the earth, yea, more so, for as I advance, greater and more glorious truths and beauand pence be and abide in your hearts, that you may appreciate these things, and exereise faith, union, knowledge, power, and wisdom in your walk and conduct henceforth, and that these meetings may be a blessing to all who attend them, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus: Amen.

to reveal a new principle to him if he thought that he could not receive it, that it would be detrimental to his faith or cause lation. him to turn from that which he had receiv-ed. He said he would rather remain in d153 2w

a general thing the

ed. He said he would rather remain in innerance than to have it prove a stum-bling-block to him. I have seen a great many people anxious for revelation, and for the development of some great mystery for the development of some great mystery concerning the kingdom of God. I have never felt so; I have been satisfied with what the Lord should condescend to reveal, and more than glad if when it did come. I and more than glad if, when it did come, I was able to receive and practice it.

How many are there within the hearing of my voice who have felt infringed upon in priesthood to administer in sacred and holy their feelings when they were told to sustain Zion and not to trade with their enemies. This was a new feature, but it touched things of a temporal nature. Why submit to be dictated to, though it was by the servant of God, in regard to temporal affairs. Is not this true, and we, too, right in the midst of Israel? O, yes we can't deny it, there has been considerable howling made concerning this item. But yet this is the kingdom of God, and the kingdom and the greatness thereof are to be given to the Saints of the Most High. Can we expect anything else than that His seroral matters? I do not understand it in any other way. When, I would ask, can the kingdom of God be established on the earth, or in other words when can the kingdom of Utah. and the greatness thereof be given to the

them over to them. We have come up to Zion that we may be taught in the ways of the Lord and that we may learn to walk in His paths. And you know I have told you how independent we are-we can either receive the gospel, or reject it and take the consequences. But let no man life and salvation proclaimed will have | lay the flattering unction to his soul that he can do just as he pleases and obtain celestial glory. We can never do this except we make our ways, notions and ideas cor-respond with the Lord's. If we expect to

attain to celestial glory, and be prepared and qualified to receive the kingdom of God in its greatness upon the earth, we be found faithful in making good use of the blessings which He has entrusted to

We read in the Scriptures that to know us. It is those who are found faithful over the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom a few things unto whom the promise imade that they shall become rulers over He has sent, is life eternal. To enable His creatures to obtain this knowledge the Lord many things. It is not those who fly the has kindly sent forth His revelations from track at the moment of peril and difficulty time to time; but we do honestly believe who will obtain the blessings of High that the Latter-day Saints are the only Heaven: no the Lord tests and tries us to people on the face of the earth at the presprove if we have integrity, and the man who flies the track, when tested, proves that he is lacking in integrity and is not worthy ent time that have any true knowledge of God, of the relationship that does exist between Him and the inhabitants of the to receive the blessings of those who are earth, and of the design and object of the faithful and true. Blessings are no doubt Almighty in bringing them into existence, withheld in kindness for a time, for many and the purpose to be accomplished therewho receive them grow fat and kick, thus by in their future state. I say we believe proving to the Lord that they are not worthy; and peradventure He withholds blessings from many very good people, who will finally triumph over their own peculiar notions and ideas, and make their

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ON WEDNESDAY, the First Day of June, A.D. 1870, at two o'clock p.m.,

For the election of officers for the ensuing year and for the transaction of such other business as may come before them. JOHN W. YOUNG,

Becretary. Salt Lake City, May, 12, 1870.

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# REMARKS

By President D. H. WELLS, delivered in the New Tubernacle, Salt Lake City, May 5th, 1870.

[REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.]

It has pleased God in the day and generation in which we live to reveal His boly gospel. I expect that He knew the time to volume of revelation will remain open, and bring it forth; that He understood the might be judged according to men in the proper time to introduce its principles, and flesh, who received not the testimony of chose that period in the world's history in shall not be contined to what has already it. These are they who are honorable man of the earth, who were blinded by the craftiness of men. These are they who re-ceive of His glory, but not of His fullness. which is would be received by, at least, a been given, but that we shall continue to portion of His children. I sporchend that grow and increase in the knowledge of God and in every good is one of the most

so far correspond with the Lord's, a nations. This may be deemed a sweeping to be worthy. declaration, but it is susceptible of proof,

We are in a school of experience, brethren and sisters, and it will be well for us if we will wisely use and apply the blessings we receive and the experience that we are passing through, and so govern and control ourselves in the future that the experience of the past may be a light to our feet in time to come.

It is most desirable to us all that we should be preserved in the purity of our most holy faith, and never depart therefrom or swerve either to the right hand or to the left. The fate of others who dave departed from the path of rectitude ought to be a warning to us all to be care-ful not to grieve the Holy Spirit, lest we fall into the same pit. It is a very easy thing for a man to get into the dark, and and small things often lead to it. He sees. peradventure, something in his bishop or teacher, or in some of the authorities, which he does not like, and instead of going to the proper place to ascertain the truth in the case, and informing his mind correctly concerning the matter, he lets it corrode in his heart until disaffection is produced and he begins to lose confidence. In a short We know that we are dependent upon Him for our very existence, and that time, if he indulges in this spirit, he mouths it to some confidant or friend, and after doing it once he mouths it again, and if you follow that man a little longer you will find that he neglects his prayers and the kingdom of God and to destroy from the the duties of his calling, and very soon the face of the earth the rule and authority of counsel of his mind becomes darkened, and soon he is on the highway to apostacy,

and, in fact, he has been there from the beginning, if he had only known it; and if no good friend should tell him his error, in should be permitted to come upon us, that continually besits the pathway of the Saint and makes shipwreck of his faith, and that of God? If we are, we are all right; if we is the greatest calamity that can befall any person. What matters it to the Saints what path and get the Spirit of God in our hearts that they are led into if the Lord leads? If they are submissive and yield to His dictation. no matter whether it brings weal or woe, gospel we felt as though it would be a great it will work out good; it may bring poverty, so far as the things of the world are concerned, but it will never bring poverty to the soul. And it will be a happy we grown luke-warm in our feelings and reflection when we have passed through teve? If so it is time to retrace our steps, this mortal existence, that we were able to the become darkened in the counsel of the test enduring the orderis and stand the test, enduring the ordeals and remaining steadfast and faithful to the end. I do not know that we are promised anything here but the hatred and persecution f the world: and this has been the portion of the Saints of God in every age of the

world. I do believe, however, that the table is going to change: I believe that when ties develop themselves and come home to the people are sufficiently pure and wormy understanding. If the first principles thy, and capable of wisely using the bless-of the gospel were true in the days of ings of which I have spoken, the blessings Joseph, they are true to-day. If the prinof earth and Heaven will be poured upon ciples that have been developed as we have them in rich abundance. We have a little passed along were true when they first foretaste of this in the blessings that we struck our minds with their convincing have received and enjoy to-day. Although prosis, they are also true to-day. If what we believed ware the whisperings of the Spirit of God confirming these truths on truction of the cause and kingdom of God our minds, were really so, and we received on the earth; yet it is a different age of the them from Heaven, we should live faithworld, it is a different dispensation; it is the ful to what we have received that we may dispensation of the falness of times, in progress and improve as we pass along. W which, no matter how much we may have received an item of truth here and anoverturned, no matter how much individother there, as we could receive and mainuals may suffer, or how much they may called to endure, the final result will tain it; but the revelations declare that there are things yet to be revealed which have been kept hid from the foundations of the world. I, for one, expect that the triumph to the kingdom, and it will not be given to another people; but we shall have power to redeem Zion and to build that power to redeem Zion and to build that great and glorious temple in which the Saints will receive the blessings of eter-nity, and on which the glory of God will will rest as a cloud by day and as a pillar of fire by night. This people are that peo-ple; these Saints are the Saints of the Most High, to whom the kingdom and the greatthat the servants of God will, in the future as they have in the past, read to us from the Book of Life. The reflection that we God, and in every good, is one of the most ness thereof will be given, and another highly-prized principles of the gospel of

people shall never possess it. This should be a great satisfaction to us, Tennessee Rolling Works.

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