

the mission. There are, in fact, not missionaries enough to take advantage of the opportunities that are offered where the Gospel might be preached. Among all the indifference of the people and the contumely that must be borne by the servants of God, this fact should at least serve to encourage us. The way will doubtless be opened so that all will have the privilege of hearing the word of God. So, also, will help come to those who pant for freedom from the bonds of Babylon; if they continue in faith and good works they will soon be privileged to behold the morning star of their deliverance arise.

A visit to other parts of the mission had been made previously by the President of the Scandinavian mission, conferences being held in Aalborg, Denmark, on March 26th and 27th. There were large congregations of attentive listeners including both Saints and strangers. In Aalborg six meetings were held on Sunday and Monday, March 29th and 30th. The work is progressing quite favorably in Jylland, many investigating the principles of the Gospel. No opposition of any consequence is experienced, and there are many openings for places to preach where the Elders have formerly been denied access. The brethren are receiving kind treatment as a rule, and the record of baptisms shows that there are many yet in the old fields of Denmark who are willing to obey the truth. The bulk of the missionary labor is now performed in halls, where regular services are held; and hence the necessity of having a roomy meeting place, a good choir, and a presiding Elder in each of the larger cities, to present, on all appropriate occasions, the principles of the Gospel to all who are willing to hear. As a rule, the people respect the Scriptures, and when the Gospel as it is contained in them is explained by the inspiration of the Spirit, the impression upon those who listen is lasting. The favorable results arising from the use of sacred music and song in our services is everywhere apparent, and it should be the aim of presiding Elders to organize and sustain a good choir in each branch. Both in Aalborg and Aarhus we found interesting choir organizations.

On Saturday and Sunday, April 4th and 5th, the Goteborg conference was held in Norrköping on the central east coast of Sweden. This is the manufacturing centre of Sweden, and has been called this country's Manchester. Five meetings were held, at which the principles of the Gospel were explained to crowded houses. The hall, which, like those in Denmark, was tastefully decorated for the occasion, was not large enough to accommodate all who wished admittance. The majority of the listeners were strangers, as this branch has only few Saints.

The Skane conference was held in Malmö on the 11th and 12th of April. Five meetings were held. This is the oldest and most thoroughly worked field in Sweden, but notwithstanding this, the work is making fair progress, especially in the province of Blekinge. The Elders in most parts of Sweden labor under the disadvantage of having two large a scope of country, with an insufficient number of laborers. In many districts the Gospel has not recently, if ever, been preached, but

there are openings everywhere for the servants of God to preach, although this must often be done in hired public halls, entailing expenses upon them which they are illly prepared to meet. If they had the necessary means, it would often enable them to testify of the restoration of the Gospel to hundreds and thousands of people who have never heard the testimony of an Elder. In some parts, again, much indifference exists on the part of the people in relation to the word of God, the labors of the Elders seemingly bearing only little fruit.

There are now 3954 members of the Church in this mission, 1063 being in Denmark, 2189 in Sweden, and 702 in Norway. During the six months ending May 15th, 229 new members were baptized—93 in Denmark, 118 in Sweden, and 18 in Norway. There are 70 Elders now in the field—29 in Denmark, 8 in Norway, and 33 in Sweden, besides 10 native Elders. Unity and kind feelings prevail among the Elders, whose example extends to the Saints, so that harmony and good feelings generally exist among them. The Gospel in this field is verily a school master subjecting those who would enjoy its influence to a sensibility of kindness and humility that is heavenly to enjoy and pleasing to contemplate.

Six conference presidents have been released this spring to return to their mountain homes after honorable labors here. Their names and conferences are as follows: C. M. Jensen, Aalborg; Nels Fredericksen, Aarhus; A. S. Cchou, Copenhagen; O. H. Berg, Christiania; Andrew P. Renstrom, Goteborg; T. A. Halgren, Skane. Their places have been filled by the following brethren respectively: F. C. Micklesen, Joseph Christiansen, O. E. Thorstensen, John Johnson, L. Dahlquist, Fred Lundberg. At present all is well with us, for which we join in thanking our Father in heaven.

There are hundreds of people who will be interested to know that Lorenzengade, where the mission office has been located since April 15, 1856, when Hector C. Haight presided over the Scandinavian mission, has been changed in name by legal authority to Sankt Pauls Gade, the new order taking effect June 15, 1891. The address of this office is, therefore, Sankt Pauls Gade, No. 14, 1ste Sal.

EDW. H. ANDERSON,  
COPENHAGEN, June 19th, 1891.

### SERMON

*Delivered at the Dedication of the Temple B'Nai Israel, Salt Lake City, Utah, July 12, 1891, by Rabbi J. L. Stern.*

The perpetual light, the symbol of God's law and man's liberty, has been kindled, the scrolls of the sacred teachings have been deposited in the Ark, the builders have delivered the keys of the shrine, the workers stand aside, the temple is completed and a congregation that might inspire any preacher eagerly awaits the minister to put his thoughts into words. From your beaming countenances, from the joyful sparkle of your eyes do I read my text, a thought of your own thoughts:

"How goodly are thy tenths, O Jacob, thy tabernacles, O Israel! How beautiful

is this temple!"—thus do you think—"How creditable to the small band of noble men and self-sacrificing women that have reared it and o, how it adds to the glory of God on High!"

"To the glory of God?" Indeed? Would you have these walls compared to yonder mighty mountain giants whose bases stretch over many miles, whose snow capped peaks reach into the clouds? Are these arches to rival the azure firmament stretching from horizon to horizon? These columns—would you have them stand beside the cedars of Lebanon and the mighty oaks of the plains? Hark to the sound of nature's mighty organ, listen to the symphony of the storm played upon the thousand-stringed harp of the forest, hear the roar of the breaking waves of the sea, list to the warble of the lark and the fluting of the nightingale and let this man-made organ keep silent! These flickering lights, do you indeed think that they could add lustre to the glorious orb of day or beauty to the sparkling stars of the night? Is a heap of stone, a handful of mortar, able to add glory to the glory of God? Nay, nay, they can not do it, nor are they needed for that purpose. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork."

Nor can this house, merely as a house, redound to the credit of men. Was there not a greater temple and even it was counted for naught for thus said the prophet:

"Hear the word of the Lord, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the Lord. Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel. Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the Lord, The temple of the Lord, are these, For if ye thoroughly mend your ways and your doings; if ye thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbor; if ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt; then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, forever and ever. Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit. Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not, and come and stand before me in this house which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to de all these abominations. Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes?"

And the greatest of all preachers has exclaimed: "Who hath required this at your hands, to tread my courts?" Are then, temples not wanted at all? This cannot be so for God himself has proclaimed through His prophet: "And I will set my dwelling among you."

A beautiful Midrash makes answer by a pretty play on words, saying "Do not read Mishkan (dwelling) but Mashkon (pledge)." The temple merely as a temple is worthless indeed, but acceptable it is to God as a pledge given by its builders of their earnest to do all that which is symbolized in the temple; as a pledge that they will rear greater and grander temples for the benefit of man and to the glory of God; as a symbol of all that is pure and good.

Man himself is a temple of God, and