

pel. And it will do that without interfering with our political or civil rights, or with any privileges that the most independent of us may have. I want to say it, too, with a clear understanding of its comprehensiveness, of all that it embraces. I know that the adversary is determined to close and seal up the mouths of the servants of God, so that we shall not have any voice in the government of this people. Yet every blessing that makes this commonwealth famous today, everything that makes Utah pre-eminent today, is traceable directly to the counsels and labors of the servants of God. You all know that. And it can be continued as it has been if the people will listen to counsel. Nor will they find their rights intruded upon. They will not find themselves curtailed in the least degree. They can be politicians to the fullest extent, and have every right that a politician has. I have had some experience in this myself, and I know that the counsels of God's servants have never interfered with the full exercise of every political right that I am entitled to. I have proved it through long years of experience.

I pray God to bless you and fill you with His Holy Spirit, and that we may all rejoice at these meetings; that our hearts may be softened under its influence and power, and that we may go away fed and refreshed, which I humbly ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

#### SUNDAY SERVICES.

Presidents Wilford Woodruff and Joseph F. Smith addressed the Saints in the Tabernacle Sunday afternoon, August 29th, 1897, the services being presided over by Elder Angus M. Cannon, president of the Salt Lake Stake. The choir sang the anthem:

"Behold the mountain of the Lord  
In latter days shall rise."

Prayer was offered by Elder Heber Iverson.

The choir further sang:

"Softly beams the sacred dawning  
Of the great millennial morn."

#### PREST. WOODRUFF'S ADDRESS.

President Wilford Woodruff was the first speaker. He spoke as follows:

I want to say to the Latter-day Saints that I have had quite a desire of late to once more address you upon some few subjects which I have upon my mind. I have been for quite a time under the weather as the saying is. I have not been able to meet with the Saints nor to do any business a good deal of the time. But I have been blessed of late with a little better health.

The first subject I want to name is the addressing of the Latter-day Saints in this Tabernacle or in any other assembly. There is nothing more painful to me than to arise before five or ten thousand people and attempt to address them when not one in five, or ten, or twenty, can hear what I say. It is very difficult when this Tabernacle is full for any man to make them hear. In speaking in this Tabernacle there are a few rules which I think every man should observe. In the first place he ought to preach to that post right in the center yonder from the time he begins till he gets through. When a man who speaks from this stand turns to the right, nobody on the left can hear him, and when he turns to the left, nobody on the right can hear him, and for men and women to sit here hour after hour without hearing or understanding what is said, is very painful. Pardon me, brethren and sisters, for referring to this. I perhaps am like

the rest of my brethren, I do not know that I can make this assembly hear, but I will do the best I can.

I was blessed with the privilege of attending the celebration of the introduction of the Pioneers into these valleys of the mountains. I was very poor in health, but I was enabled almost every day to attend those assemblies, and on the Pioneer day I had the privilege of riding at the head of the Pioneer company with several of my brethren. The events which I was privileged to witness during the Jubilee week were of deep interest to me and brought to my mind a great many thoughts and reflections. I had the privilege of meeting in this Tabernacle some ten or fifteen thousand boys and girls of the rising generation in the midst of Israel. Among other things I had the honor of being crowned here by a young lady as the oldest Pioneer of the valley. I looked upon it as a far higher honor than being crowned a king or a prince. All that I saw and heard during those celebrations furnished a testimony to me, and laid with weight upon my mind the events of the past. I viewed the adorning and the lighting of this city in the evenings with great delight. I have traveled something like 175,000 miles in over sixty years of my pilgrimage, and I never saw in any part of the world anything to compare with it. It is true the nations of the earth in years gone by have not had those appliances that we have today in so great a measure.

I want to refer to the contrast between the celebration of the entrance of the Pioneers into this valley, and the entrance of the Pioneers itself. This celebration brought strongly to my mind what God has wrought in these valleys of the mountains. My thoughts turn to the day when we entered this valley, when I drove President Young in my carriage, he lying upon a bed of sickness. We camped here on the east of the Knutsford. We spent one night there. President Young slept in his bed in my wagon one night after entering this barren desert, and he was quite a sick man. He said to me in the morning, "Brother Woodruff, I want to take a walk." "All right," said I. A number of the Twelve Apostles were there and they got together. He commenced to walk from our encampment across this barren desert, this sage plain without any guide to mark anything appertaining to the future of the children of men in this land. President Young was quite feeble. He wore his little green cloak upon his shoulders and he walked slowly along.

As we advanced from below on to the rising ground we came to a certain spot where he stopped very suddenly. He took his cane, which had a spike in the end of it, and stuck it down into the ground, and said, "Here shall stand the Temple of our God." It went through me like lightning. I did not insult him, the Prophet of God, by asking him who told him so. What was there here to encourage the Prophet of God to make a remark of that kind? What had he to trust to to build a Temple here that would cost four millions of dollars? Instead of having around him a hundred thousand working men with millions of money in hand, he had one hundred and forty men. We were sore and tired and weary, without any money in our pockets, and still the Prophet of God sticks his cane into the ground and says, "Here shall stand the Temple of our God." I asked him to stop there till I could break a piece of sage brush or something that I could drive down into the place. I did nothing else until I put a stake in that spot that he marked with his cane, and then we went on about our business. But when

I listened to his words that first night that we spent in this barren desert, and then he told us here was going to stand the Temple of our God, I knew that man spoke by the Spirit of Almighty God. I knew it from the Spirit that was resting upon me. I was satisfied it would all be fulfilled.

What has been the result? Before you, he lived here. He laid the foundation of that Temple, and there stood the stake in the middle of that Temple when it was laid out, without any regard to his prophecies or sayings. These things rested with great weight upon my mind as I looked upon the mighty throngs celebrating the event of the Pioneers into the valleys of the mountains. There stands that Temple today, with its spires, on top of one of which a statue of Moroni stands, blowing the Gospel trumpet pointing to the throne of God in heaven, in fulfillment of the prophecies of Patriarchs and Prophets thousands of years ago. Those are eternal truths that ought to rest with some weight upon the minds of the Latter-day Saints.

Half an hour after the event I have described, I heard President Young say to Samuel Brannan, who was urging him to leave this desert land and go to California, "No, I am going to stop right here; I am going to build a city here; I am going to build a Temple here; and I am going to build a country here." Where is the fulfillment of this? It is before the eyes of all the world today. This prophecy has been fulfilled to the very letter.

President Young lived to dedicate the corner stone of this Temple, and to fulfil all that he had promised. He not only built this Temple, but he dictated and directed the building of the St. George Temple at a cost of half a million dollars. I dedicated the lower part of that house in its first dedication, by commandment of the Prophet of the Lord, Brother Erastus Snow and Brother Brigham Young Jr. dedicated the other portion of it. Thousands upon thousands of the living and the dead have been blessed in that Temple from that day until the present. These are principles of interest to me, whether they are to anybody else or not. The Prophet of God also laid out the Manti Temple, and he did a thing that perhaps no other man on the earth would have done—he removed a mountain at the cost of a hundred thousand dollars to get a place that would suit him for that Temple to stand on. That Temple was built under his direction, and Brother Folsom superintended its construction. Not only that Temple but also the Temple in Logan was built by his voice and counsel so long as he lived.

These things are before the heavens and before the earth, and the Saints ought not to forget the blessings which God has bestowed through His Prophets who have been among us. The Lord has set His hand to carry out this great work. Here we have standing in the State of Utah four Temples in which the Elders of Israel are laboring to redeem their dead and the dead of their fellow men. These things lie with weight upon my mind. They did during this great celebration. To see the thousands upon thousands come here into these valleys of the mountains fifty years after our arrival, it made me feel as though all the Latter-day Saints ought to have faith in God in His promises and revelations. For if there is anything that has taken place unlooked for to the whole earth it has been the building up of these Rocky Mountains by the Latter-day Saints, through the power of God. But we have performed a work, so far and that, too, under the dictation and direction of the Prophets of God that have been sent among us. I