

years his tribulations increased, and he was beaten and bruised, even some of those who professed to be his friends turning against him. He passed through one continual experience of mob violence. In Missouri he was condemned to death, but was delivered by the power of God. He was thrown into jail, and his people were driven to Illinois. At last, in the latter State, in Carthage jail, he was assassinated. But by his death the purposes of God were not completed. When he fell by the hand of assassins he affixed a broad seal upon his testimony which made it of force upon all the world.

His life was wonderful, and his character remarkable. A Prophet of God, in frequent communication with angels, there was no affectation in his character. Of him a noted man said that he was the opposite of a Prophet and Priest, because he was sociable, kind and hospitable. This man was mistaken in the attributes of a Prophet of God. Joseph was a child of nature, and an exemplar among men. He returned good for evil, as was shown by the instance when he was kidnapped to be put to death. He was liberated, and took his captors captive. He treated them with the greatest hospitality, and made them guests at his own house. He freely forgave those who sought to work him the greatest injury. He was a friend to innocence, and detested oppression in any form. Though his body slumbers in the tomb, his spirit lives and associates with the Gods. He is still the friend of the saints, and is cognizant of the oppression upon them. He is at work, and will continue to labor till the redemption of Zion is accomplished. The young men of Israel do themselves honor by bringing in the life of Joseph Smith as a part of their exercises. It was he who brought the knowledge of God to the children of men in this age. I commend to you his life and labors, and to put in practice his teachings that you may receive the knowledge of God.

**PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF** testified to the kind treatment by the Prophet Joseph of his captors and persecutors, as stated by Elder Roberts. As to the character of the prophet, Brother Woodruff remarked that he was without hypocrisy, and this drew upon him the adverse comment of clergymen and professional ministers of the Gospel.

The glee club sang a selection, and the closing prayer was offered by Elder W. F. Smith, of Morgan Stake.

2 p. m.

The choir sang:

Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire,  
Let us Thine influence prove.

Prayer was offered by Elder J. H. Wilcox, of Davis Stake.

The choir sang the hymn commencing:

O, my Father, Thon that dwellest,  
In the high and glorious place.

The Priesthood of the Second Ward officiated in the administration of the Sacrament.

L. R. MARTINEAU,

of Cache Stake, responded to the sentiment "The future of Zion." The speaker said that their interpretation of the word Zion was indicated in a revelation given to the Prophet Joseph Smith in the year 1838, which he read. The future of Zion was a theme which should be of more than common interest to Latter-day Saints, for if they could but penetrate the future they would see closely interwoven with their everyday life the glory and greatness of Zion and her people. It would be impossible for the Lord to have a Zion upon the earth, as predicted by all the Holy Prophets, unless He had a people who desired to be pure in heart and carry out His instructions and commandments. He did not know where today they could look for a people who were exemplars and standard-bearers of those principles which would exalt and purify the human family if they could not be found in the young and rising generation of the Latter-day Saints. The speaker adverted to the trial, and persecutions through which the Saints had passed ever since the organization of the Church, and said the courage and fortitude which they had displayed throughout had no parallel in the annals of history. They were taught that in the future the Saints would have to endure many scourings, many more trials and persecutions before the redemption should draw near. He therefore especially counseled the young among the Latter-day Saints to hold firmly to the principles which they had espoused, for to renounce them on account of what the world might say would be the greatest moral cowardice they could exhibit. The Latter-day Saints were engaged in a conflict in which truth and error were the two opposing forces, but he himself had no doubt as to the ultimate issue. He had no fear that the young men of Zion would depart from the faith of their fathers, that they would barter their principles for political or other privileges which might be held out to them. Let them not be discouraged because of the unpopularity of the work in which they were engaged, but rather look to the fulfillment of the promises of God which awaited His people and to the glorious future of Zion.

R. R. FARNSWORTH,

of Sevier Stake, responded to the next sentiment, "Testimony." He remarked that all who had confidence in the promises of our Lord exercised faith, and those who did His will could testify that this was not the gospel of man but of Jesus Christ. It was a wonder to the world why the young men and women among the Latter-day Saints cling so closely to the gospel taught them by their parents, to that which the world was pleased to call "Mormonism." It was not because of the wisdom of their parents, however, but because of the Spirit connected with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, revealed 1800 years ago and restored to the

earth in this day and generation. He, for one, knew that neither Joseph Smith, President Brigham Young, President John Taylor, nor President Woodruff had the power to confer the Spirit upon mankind that could be enjoyed in the Church and Kingdom of God at the present time unless God had acknowledged their acts, unless they held His Priesthood and authority. It was within the power of all Latter-day Saints to secure a testimony from the Lord, if they but sought for it humbly and faithfully. The Church of God would yet triumph, and not all the forces which man might seek to bring against it could stay its progress.

N. G. SOWARDS,

of San Luis Stake, in responding to the third and last sentiment, "Persecution and its results," said the people of God in all ages of the world had had to suffer persecution. Whenever a ray of truth dawned upon the face of the earth it had been the mission of Satan to oppose it. This had been so from the time of Christ down to the present. The speaker referred especially to the persecutions and trials of the Prophet Joseph Smith and to his subsequent martyrdom. He also drew a picture of the suffering endured by his collaborators and followers for the Gospel's sake. Notwithstanding all this, however, they stood firm to their faith, and the trials which they had undergone only made the people more united than before. Though persecution still followed the Saints it bound them still closer together, and this would continue to be the case until God's work had been accomplished here below. That work would go on despite all the opposition that could be brought to bear against it.

**PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF**

then addressed the conference. He said in substance: No man occupying the place that I do at this time, addressing a body of Latter-day Saints, could answer his own mind or the minds of those who hear except by the inspiration of Almighty God and the assistance of the Holy Ghost. If I were to tell this congregation which has assembled together as a Mutual Improvement Association of the young men and maidens of Zion that I was not deeply interested in your welfare, I should deny the faith. Indeed the circumstances in which we are placed cause me as well as my brethren to have the deepest interest in the rising generation who dwell here in the mountains of Israel. I will tell you why: I realize the fact that this world with all its kingdoms, thrones, principalities, and powers, with all its wealth, seas, rivers, lakes, its shipping, telegraphs, railroads, its mines, its gold, and silver, the whole of it has to go into the hands of the young men and maidens who dwell upon this earth, who stand in the midst of some fourteen hundred millions of the human family.

Had I the power to tell by the visions of heaven, by the revelations of Jesus Christ, what will