

Poetry.

THE CHICKEN'S MISTAKE.

BY PHOEBE CARY.

A little downy chicken one day
 Asked leave to go on the water,
 Where she saw a duck with her brood at play,
 Swimming and splashing about her.

Indeed, she began to peep and cry,
 When her mother wouldn't let her;
 "If the ducks can swim there, why can't I;
 Are they any bigger or better?"

Then the old hen answered, "Listen to me,
 And hush your foolish talking;
 Just look at your feet, and you will see
 They were only made for walking."

But chicky wistfully eyed the brook
 And didn't half believe her,
 For she seemed to say, by a knowing look,
 "Such stories couldn't deceive her."

And as her mother was scratching the ground,
 She muttered lower and lower,
 "I know I can go there and not be drowned,
 And so I think I'll show her."

Then she made a plunge where the stream was
 deep,
 And saw too late her blunder;
 For she hadn't hardly time to peep
 Till her foolish head went under.

And now I hope her fate will show
 The child my story reading,
 That those who are older sometimes know
 What you will do well in heeding.

That each content in his place should dwell,
 And envy not his brother;
 And any part that is acted well
 Is just as good as another.

For we all have our proper sphere below,
 And this is a truth worth knowing:
 You will come to grief if you try to go
 Where you never were made for going!

REMARKS

By President Daniel H. Wells, delivered in the
 Bowery, Great Salt Lake City, April 8, 1867.

[REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.]

This is one of the greatest days that
 Israel has ever seen in this dispensation;
 and one of the largest congregations
 that ever assembled in the capacity of a
 Conference of the Church of Jesus
 Christ of Latter-day Saints. The cause
 which we have espoused possesses, prob-
 ably, to-day, a greater degree of pros-
 perity than it has ever done from its
 commencement. Thus may it ever be
 from this time henceforth and for ever!
 From the commencement of this work
 until the present time we have contin-
 ually increased in power and numbers,
 and in blessings from the Lord our God;
 and I believe that, to-day, a greater de-
 gree of unity dwells in the hearts of the
 people called Latter-day Saints than
 ever before.

When we look back on the past his-
 tory of this people, and see the difficul-
 ties they have had to encounter and
 have overcome, our hearts should swell
 with joy and gratitude to the benign
 Providence which has brought us to the
 position that we now enjoy. As we
 have been blessed and preserved in the
 past so it will ever be with us, if we will
 only be true to ourselves and walk in
 the ways of truth and righteousness. Has
 not our experience been sufficient in the
 past to give us confidence in the future?
 Has not our faith been increased by the
 multiplicity of blessings and favors
 which we have received at the hands of
 our heavenly Father? Inasmuch as we
 have asked in faith for blessings, and
 have had our prayers answered upon
 our heads, have we not faith and confi-
 dence to approach our heavenly Father
 again and again to supplicate for bless-
 ings? Most assuredly this is the experi-
 ence of every faithful Saint. Then let
 us continue to improve, and endeavor
 to weed from our hearts every evil in-
 fluence and strive to overcome every
 besetting sin. Let this be among our
 labors in the future, beginning with
 ourselves, and then with our families.

Upon this latter point, especially, let
 me say a word. Let us provide schools,
 competent teachers and good books for
 our children, and let us pay our teach-
 ers. I would have no objection to see-
 ing the standard works of the Church
 introduced into our schools, that our
 children may be taught more pertaining
 to the principles of the gospel in the
 future than they are at present. And
 let one test of fitness on the part of those
 who teach be a thorough acquaintance
 with and love for the principles of the
 gospel which we have received, that our
 children may be taught the principles

of truth and righteousness, and be train-
 ed from their youth in the nurture and
 admonition of the Lord. Let this course
 be taken in our schools, and let us pay
 our teachers. We have those among us
 who are well qualified for teachers if we
 will only pay them; but the great cry
 now is "we cannot afford to teach school,
 for the wages is too low, and low as it is
 we cannot get it when it is earned." This
 is the great difficulty among us, in
 this matter; and it has always been a
 crying evil. It has no need to be so;
 we should pay our school bills among
 the first things we pay.

If we wish to have teachers for our
 children let us sustain them. And we
 should sustain our own publications,
 which inculcate the principles of truth
 and righteousness, in preference to any
 others which may be brought into our
 midst. There are other works that
 are good, against which I do not wish
 to say anything; but let us first sustain
 our own works which are exclusively
 devoted to the spread of the principles
 of truth. The Lord has undertaken to
 raise the standard of truth in the earth
 through the instrumentality of His ser-
 vants, and it is the duty of the Saints to
 sustain those works which have the dis-
 semination of truth for their only object.
 We send forth elders to the nations of
 the earth, as messengers of salvation to
 the people; and while we sustain
 those who go to proclaim the gospel,
 let us also sustain the printed word.

Enough has been said on this subject,
 and I do not wish to recapitulate. Let
 us pay our tithing, and do all we can to
 sustain the servants of God. And in
 paying our tithing, we should not for-
 get our money tithing. We hear con-
 siderable about hard times, so far as
 money is concerned; they who are en-
 deavoring to sustain the work of God
 feel the pressure as much as anybody
 else. Let us contribute our mites to as-
 sist; if we have not much, let us give a
 portion for that purpose,—be free and
 liberal. What have we to do but to ac-
 complish our mission in building up the
 kingdom of God? I know of nothing
 else that is worth the attention of the
 Latter-day Saints. Then let us do this
 with all our faith, might and means,
 and be united as the heart of one man
 in sustaining whatever is brought before
 us by those who are placed over us to
 lead, guide and direct our labors.

Has not the Lord the right to dictate
 the earth and its inhabitants? Most as-
 suredly He has; and it would be a great
 blessing for the people if they would
 allow Him to do so. We who have
 come here have said we are willing to be
 dictated by the Lord through His ser-
 vants; then let us make it our business
 to be so as long as we dwell in the flesh,
 the more especially as we expect to reap
 the rewards and benefits that will result
 from such a course. If we expect the
 blessings of Heaven we should take a
 course that will draw them down upon
 us, for they will most assuredly be ours
 as fast as we can make good use of them.
 If we are only true to ourselves, and are
 faithful to the end, our reward will be
 such that we will have no need to com-
 plain of it. And even while we pass
 along through life, the course of the
 Latter-day Saint is more conducive to
 happiness and peace than that of any
 other individual on the face of the
 earth.

Let us not be disheartened nor dis-
 couraged; but press onward in the good
 work which we have espoused. Our
 minds have been lit up with the prin-
 ciples of life and salvation and the truths
 of heaven; then let us cleave to those
 principles with full purpose of heart,
 keeping God's commands and walking
 blamelessly before Him in all things,
 every day of our lives. We shall thus
 accomplish our mission in the kingdom
 of God and eventually be welcomed in-
 to the presence of our Redeemer, which
 I hope will be the lot of every Latter-
 day Saint, and of every honest soul in
 the world.

These are some of my feelings. I
 hope and pray that we will all attend
 to the teachings which we receive from
 time to time; for it is God in His mercy
 who deals them out to us, and it for us
 to treasure them up in good and honest
 hearts, to carry them out in our lives,
 and to shun all things that are offensive
 in His sight. This is the mission of the
 Saints. Every man can be useful in his
 day and generation in promoting these
 principles; and if we will be united in so
 doing, truth will triumph in the hearts
 of the Saints, and a power for good,
 such as we have never yet seen, will
 soon be developed, and will increase un-
 til finally the earth will be redeemed

from the thralldom of sin, and the power
 of the wicked be forever broken.

That our labors may speedily bring
 about this desirable consummation, is
 my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

REMARKS

By Elder C. C. Rich, delivered in the Bowery,
 Great Salt Lake City, April 8, 1867.

[REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.]

I am glad to enjoy the opportunity of
 meeting with the brethren and sisters
 at this Conference. I am also glad that
 we have heard the instructions which
 have been imparted to us. The princi-
 ple of the Saints being united is one that
 we have labored to establish from the
 commencement up to the present time.
 Every Saint who has any knowledge of
 the gospel as it has been revealed to us
 in these last days, knows that this prin-
 ciple has been impressed on their minds
 from the time they first heard the gos-
 pel. Still, with all our labors and ex-
 ertions in the past, we have not yet
 reached this point, and we must con-
 tinue our labors for the accomplish-
 ment of this object.

When we are united in all things, the
 Lord will be able to use us in very deed
 for the building up of His Kingdom;
 until then, He can use us only as we
 are willing to be used. We say we are
 the people of God, and that we are la-
 boring to build up His Kingdom; but,
 when we come to think of it, we only
 do that which we can persuade our-
 selves to do.

We should be willing to do every-
 thing that the Lord requires us to do;
 and even if we are, there is still great
 need for us to improve and progress.
 This has been incumbent upon us from
 the time we embraced the gospel, but
 more especially at this Conference; and
 when we make up our minds individu-
 ally and collectively to do all things
 that the Lord requires of us, it will be
 a comparatively easy matter for us to
 do so. We do not expect to learn every-
 thing this Conference; but we can make
 ourselves willing to learn righteous
 principles, and we can, if we choose,
 adopt them as fast as we learn them.
 We are placed under circumstances
 where we can apply our labors for the
 accomplishment of the designs of the
 Almighty here on the earth; and we
 ought to esteem this as a very great
 privilege.

There are a great many notions and
 opinions with regard to the work of
 God and the building up of His King-
 dom on the earth. We have received
 the everlasting gospel from the heavens.
 It found us in the various nations of the
 earth, and it has gathered us to this place
 for the purpose of establishing the prin-
 ciples of righteousness and of building up
 the Kingdom of God on the earth. As we
 have heard this afternoon, and on many
 other occasions, the gospel we have
 obeyed embraces all truth on earth and
 in heaven. We have not to emigrate to
 some other world to find truth. We
 find it where we are; it is taught to us
 faster than we are willing to receive
 and practice it; and I can bear testi-
 mony that it has ever been so. We have
 never had to wait to know what was the
 right course for us to pursue. "Labor
 for the building of the Kingdom of
 God" has been the counsel given to us
 continually; and when we have been
 called upon to perform any labor, no
 matter in what direction, it has been
 with that object in view.

I have been reflecting a little in rela-
 tion to the state of society which would
 soon be in existence, if the counsel
 given from this stand this Conference
 were to be observed. We would soon
 find a great deal more peace, love and
 oneness among the Saints, than have
 existed in times past; and if we ever
 expect to be one, we, as a people, must
 adopt in our lives those principles that
 have been and are continually taught us
 by the servants of the Lord. If we
 ever expect to have heaven, we must
 adopt those principles that will make
 heaven for us. We have had the gospel
 revealed to us from the heavens, for the
 purpose of bringing about that state of
 things here that exists in heaven. And
 it will most assuredly result in this if
 we will faithfully observe its principles.
 A faithful adherence to the principles
 of the gospel will cure all the evils we
 now endure. Where difficulties exist
 with individuals or communities, we
 would find, if they were traced to their
 source, that they exist simply because
 the principles of the gospel have not
 been adopted and applied.

It is this labor that lies before us to

learn the principles of the gospel of sal-
 vation, and to apply them in our lives.
 This will remove the evils we have to
 encounter, and will bring about union
 and happiness, and, no matter where
 our lot may be cast, will make for us a
 heaven upon earth. This is a joyous
 labor, and one in which all should unite
 with an unswerving determination. By
 so doing we will sustain those who pre-
 side over us, and our efforts will most
 effectually tend to build up the King-
 dom of God on the earth.

How can this Kingdom be built up
 unless God dictates? and how can we
 labor to serve Him unless He dictates
 us? and how will He do this? He will
 do it, as He ever has done, by and
 through His servants whom He has
 placed at our head. In this way we can
 be united in building up God's King-
 dom, and in moving forward His work
 on the earth. This is a very great pri-
 vilege, the possession of which confers
 upon us great honor and blessings.
 When the whole people are united in,
 and live continually according to, the
 principles of the gospel in all things,
 evils and difficulties will vanish from
 their midst like snow before the rays of
 the sun, and soon the knowledge of God
 will cover the earth as the waters cover
 the deep.

We have yet much to learn; but I
 often think that we can do more for the
 spread of truth, and the advancement
 of the work we are engaged in, than we
 imagine. We can read of individuals
 among the ancients who performed
 wonders on the principle of faith. They
 subdued kingdoms, wrought righteous-
 ness, obtained promises, stopped the
 mouths of lions, and performed many
 wonderful works. Can we not do some-
 thing on the principle of faith? Can we
 not have power with God as well as the
 ancients, if we labor continually to
 carry out His designs? I am satisfied
 that if we all go home and carry out the
 principles which have been taught to
 us during this Conference we shall soon
 see happy results flowing therefrom.
 There is a responsibility resting upon
 us all so to do, and we should discharge
 that responsibility honorably before God
 and each other. By following the coun-
 sel given us during this Conference our
 union, peace and best interests will be
 greatly advanced and forwarded.

Severe indisposition prevented me
 from being present at last fall Confer-
 ence, but I am thankful that I am pre-
 sent now. I always rejoice to be at Con-
 ference, or at any meeting with the
 Saints. I love to see and talk to them;
 and I love to hear others talk; and I
 love to use my influence to move for-
 ward and build up the cause of Zion,
 and to establish righteousness on the
 earth. We all ought to cultivate this
 kind of feeling and principle. We never
 need be afraid if we are doing right; but
 fear, only, to do wrong. Individuals
 are apt to think sometimes that if they
 do a wrong, no person in the world
 knows it but themselves; but it is known
 also to God; and if a wrong is known to
 God and to the one who commits it, his
 influence with God is destroyed, and it
 lowers him in his own estimation. Sup-
 pose, for instance, that a person wants
 a favor of President Young; but he has
 done some wrong that is known to the
 President; he cannot ask that favor
 with any confidence, but his head is
 cast down and he feels condemned be-
 cause of the wrong he has done. How
 much more is this the case when seek-
 ing blessings from the Lord. We should
 think of this in our course through life.
 We should also remember that the Lord
 has said, that "inasmuch as ye do it to
 one of the least of these my servants, ye
 do it unto me."

When we apply this principle to our
 conduct, strictly and properly, we shall
 feel that we do not want to injure any
 body or do anything wrong, and inju-
 ries and wrongs will fast disappear and
 will be soon blotted out of existence.
 This is what we are laboring for, and
 this course of conduct will move for-
 ward the cause of Zion, and enable us
 to do all things the Lord requires of
 us.

That we may labor to accomplish this
 work faithfully, is my prayer, in the
 name of Jesus. Amen.

THE MORMON QUESTION.

The following article taken from the
 New York Weekly Times of March 16,
 would have been given to our readers
 earlier, but for our non-receipt of the
 paper owing to the irregularity of the
 mails.