

in Paris for one minute only; and it is safe to say that Parisians do not want it there again.

Still, whatever the desire of residents of beautiful Paris may be, there is no assurance that the destructive tornado will pass them by as coldly in the future as in the past. The indications are decidedly the opposite, both for the French capital and other European cities. Like a plague, wherever the tornado and the cyclone make an inroad, there they persist in their deadly exploits, till those who know their tendency learn to recognize the "cyclone district." It is in historical evidence that with the advance of time earthquakes are growing more frequent, disastrous storms and tornadoes and cyclones are becoming more frequent visitors than formerly. In the face of this record, unassuring as the fact may be, it is nevertheless a cold fact that the prospect on the testimony before the world is that the tornado's one minute in Paris is merely a precursor of other visitations of greater duration and more marked violence.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK AND WORKERS.

The effectiveness and great variety of the labor performed in the Sunday schools of the Latter-day Saints in training the young people in an understanding of the principles of the Gospel is a source of the deepest gratification to those who love to see the rising generation firmly established in the principles and practice of righteousness. These schools as they stand today can present in some cases teachers who have filled that position for more than thirty years, doing capable, earnest, progressive work, and are still untiring in their labor of love. The teachers of the early times have been supplemented by others equally energetic and efficient, so that today the large corps of men and women employed in this line is among the foremost in the army which the Church has engaged in the active duty of teaching the Gospel. With the advance of time and the acquisition of experience in these schools there has been a corresponding improvement in methods of instruction, and the number and quality of auxiliary text books has been greatly augmented. The basic text books are the same as ever, and always must be—those containing the revealed word of God. These include the Bible, Book of Mormon, and Doctrine and Covenants, all presenting the same testimony, agreeing perfectly in doctrine, and unitedly bearing unimpeachable witness of the truth and power of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gratifying as is the labor of the Sunday schools in conveying an understanding of the principles of truth to the pupils who attend and the teachers who take part, there is still one reason for special satisfaction in connection with such efforts. It is that the Sabbath schools are instructors in religion, not in theology alone. They impress the necessity of being good, even more than the abstract idea of what rules of conduct constitute goodness. They teach that comprehending the Gospel is living in obedience to its doctrines, rather than

merely learning the forms of its laws. They bring the children to realize that while a knowledge of religious precepts as revealed by the Almighty is essential as a guide to conduct, the knowledge is perfected only by practicing the principles thus taught—that their duty is not to be hearers of the word alone, but doers of it also.

It is in this practical application of the divine laws that the Sunday schools are displaying the effectiveness of their work. The aim successfully achieved in due order in the entire field is to bring a testimony of the Gospel to all who attend, and to do it on the line marked out by the Savior: If any man will do the will of God he shall know of the doctrine. And the religious strength of the Latter-day Saints rests on the revelation of that knowledge which is a result of obedience to the divine commands. The work of the Sunday schools is effective in leading to that testimony by guiding the youth to seek the channel through which it is obtained. Evidence of this fact is seen in the schools especially on occasions of bearing testimony—a privilege accorded to male and female pupils. The progress in this line is in many instances quite notable, yet generally common to the schools. An illustration may be in point—that of the East Beautiful, Davis county, school on last Sunday, the 6th instant. There, in the large theological class, the opportunity for testimony bearing was given; every young lady responded to the invitation, and only one young gentleman shrank from the call. For that day the same general rule was observed in all the classes; and the response thereto was of such a nature as required the courage of honest, earnest conviction to make it as it came in the spirit of humility and truth. Hundreds of other Sunday schools among the Saints might be cited for similar illustration of the good that is being wrought.

Sometimes the stoutest heart shows signs of faintness; sometimes the most zealous worker feels an inclination to falter. But the brave heart beats on, the inspired worker bends to his task, till the full duty of the is done. So in Sunday schools sometimes teachers wonder if their efforts really are as effective for good as they could wish. They keep on and on, and when they have opportunity to look over the great harvest before them, to note the blessed results that are being accomplished, they find response to their thoughtful inquiry and renewed inspiration for their work. To these faithful toilers among the Sunday schools the Latter-day Saints owe a meed of praise and encouragement. They are messengers of salvation to Israel, in the service of One whose coming is sure and whose reward cannot fail. May they never grow weary in well-doing!

#### BRYAN'S ACCEPTANCE.

The letter of Hon. Wm. J. Bryan, accepting the nomination of the Democratic party as its candidate for President of the United States, published in Wednesday's News, is not so long but that every citizen who truly recognizes his responsibility as

an elector should take the time to read it. Although his letter is brief, that is not a point of objection to it, for he covers the whole ground, and in concise and emphatic language plants himself squarely on the platform adopted by the Democratic convention at Chicago in July. However anyone may disagree with the Democratic nominee as to any political view he may have, all must unite in recognizing the fact that he states his position clearly and without equivocation, so that none who desire to take issue with him will be at a loss to understand his precise views.

In the opening sentences of his letter Mr. Bryan expresses his intention, if elected to the position of chief magistrate, to use the office in a way to prove worthy of the confidence of the nation, and declares his determination not to be a candidate for re-election. Then he states his unqualified endorsement of the entire Democratic platform, and points out the advantages of a government of the people. He next declares in favor of the enforcement of the laws, insisting that this should be done by the national government with due consideration for the rights of each state.

The financial question then is brought forward in several phases. The declaration is made for economy in the administration of public affairs, and the issuing of bonds in time of peace is roundly criticized and opposed. The present administration's policy of redeeming its obligations in one coin only—gold—when the law provides for such redemption in either gold or silver coin, or both, is condemned as leaving the government at the mercy of those who find a pecuniary profit in bonds; and the declaration is made that the government, when administered in the interest of the whole people, is able to establish and enforce its financial policy not only without the aid of syndicates but in spite of their opposition. The issue of paper money by national banks is opposed, and the government's issue of greenbacks endorsed.

The Monroe doctrine comes next for pointed approval, as the best guarantee of peace with other nations. Penalties to deserving soldiers and sailors of the nation are upheld. It is declared that labor creates capital; and the pledge is made to enact such legislation as will protect the masses in the enjoyment of political rights and of their just share of the reward of their labor. Arbitration in labor difficulties is advocated as being in the interest of government and society. Immigration of criminals or contract labor is opposed; trial by jury in contempt cases is commended; trusts are vigorously denounced; the right of the government to regulate interstate commerce is reasserted, and an extension of power is urged for the interstate commerce commission; and the prosecution of the government claims against the Pacific railways is demanded.

Sympathy is expressed by Mr. Bryan for Cuba in the struggle there for political freedom. Life tenure of office under civil service rules is condemned as not being in harmony with American institutions. Statehood for the territories, and home rule