

the differences which can arise in this matter, which is subsequently explained by the note of the Spanish minister at Washington of the 10th instant, as follows:

"As to the question of fact which springs from the diversified views between report of the American and the Spanish boards, Spain proposes that the fact be ascertained by an impartial investigation by experts which decision Spain accepts in advance. To this I have made no reply."

President Grant, in 1875, in discussing the phases of the contest as it then appeared, and its hopeless and apparent indefinite prolongation, said:

"In such event I am of the opinion that other nations will be compelled to assume the responsibility which devolves upon them, and to seriously consider the only remaining measures possible mediation and intervention. Owing, perhaps, to the large expanse of water separating the island from the peninsula the contending parties appear to have within themselves no depository of common confidence to suggest wisdom when passion and excitement have their sway, and thus assume the part of peacemaker. In this view in the earlier days of the contest the good offices of the United States as the mediator were tendered in good faith, without any selfish purpose in the interest of humanity and insincere friendship for both parties, but were at the time declined by Spain with the declaration, nevertheless, that at a future time they would be indispensable. No intimation has been received that in the opinion of Spain that time has been reached. And yet the strife continues with all its dread horrors and all its injuries to the United States and of other nations. Each party seems quite capable of working great injury and damage to the other, as well as to all the relations and interests dependent upon the existence of peace in the island; but they seem incapable of reaching any adjustment, and both have thus far failed of achieving any success whereby one hardly shall possess and control the island to the exclusion of the other. Under the circumstances the agency of others, either by mediation or by intervention, seems to be the only alternative which must sooner or later be involved for the termination of the strife.

In the last annual message of my immediate predecessor, during the pending struggle, it was said:

"When the inability of Spain to deal successfully with the insurrection has become manifest, and if demonstrated that her sovereignty is extinct in Cuba, for all purposes of its rightful existence, and when a hopeless struggle for its re-establishment has degenerated into the strife which means nothing more than the useless sacrifice of human life and the utter destruction of the very subject matter of the conflict, a situation will be presented in which other obligations to the sovereignty of Spain will be superceded by higher obligations which we can hardly hesitate to recognize and discharge."

In my annual message to Congress, December last, speaking to this question, I said:

"The near future will demonstrate whether the indispensable condition of a righteous peace, just alike to the Cubans and Spain, as well as equitable to all our interests, so intimately involved in the welfare of Cuba, is likely to be attained. If not, the exigency of further and other action by the United States, will remain to be taken. When that time comes, that action will be determined in the line of indisputable right and duty. It will be faced without misgiving or hesitancy in the light of the obligation this government owes to itself, to the people who have committed to it the protection of their interests and honor, and to humanity. Sure

of the right, keeping free from all offense ourselves, actuated by upright and patriotic considerations, moved neither by passion nor selfishness, the government will continue its watchful care over the rights and property of American citizens and will abate none of its efforts to bring about by peaceful agencies, a peace which shall be honorable and enduring. If it shall hereafter appear to be a duty imposed by our obligations to ourselves, to civilization and to humanity, and to intervene with force, it shall be without fault on our part and only because the necessity for such action will be so clear as to command the support and approval of the civilized world."

The long trial has proved that the object for which Spain has waged the war cannot be attained. The fire of insurrection may flame or may smoulder with varying seasons, but it has not been and it is plain that it cannot be extinguished by present methods.

The only hope of relief and repose from a condition which cannot longer be endured is the enforced pacification of Cuba. In the name of humanity, in the name of civilization, in behalf of endangered American interests which gives us the right and the duty to speak and to act, the war in Cuba must stop.

In view of these facts and these considerations, I ask the Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full termination of hostilities between the government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, ensuring peace and tranquility and the security of its citizens as well as our own and use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes, and in the interest of humanity and to aid in preserving the lives of the starving people of the island. I recommend that the distribution of food and supplies be continued and that an appropriation be made out of the public treasury to supplement the charity of our citizens.

The issue is now with Congress. It is a solemn responsibility. I have exhausted every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors. Prepared to execute every obligation imposed upon me by the Constitution and the law, I await your action.

Yesterday and since the preparation of the foregoing message, official information was received by me that the latest decree of the queen regent of Spain directs Gen. Blanco, in order to prepare and facilitate peace, to proclaim a suspension of hostilities, the duration and details of which have not yet been communicated to me. This fact, with every other pertinent consideration will, I am sure, have your just and careful attention in the solemn deliberations upon which you are about to enter. If this measure attains a successful result then our aspirations as a Christian, peace-loving people will be realized. If it fails, it will be only another justification for our contemplated action.

WILLIAM M'KINLEY
Executive Mansion, April 11

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The annual conference meeting of the Deseret Sunday School Union was held in the Tabernacle Sunday, beginning at 7 o'clock p. m. The general superintendency members of the Union Board and their aids, several of the members of the Council of Apostles, and Stake and ward officers and Sunday school workers, besides thousands of interested parents, were present.

The vast assembly was called to order

by Assistant General Superintendent George Goddard.

The choir, under the direction of Professor Evan Stephens, sang:
Great God attend while Zion sings
The joy that from Thy presence springs.

Prayer was offered by Elder Andrew Kimball.

The choir sang:

Lord, Thou wilt hear me when I pray.

Elder Seymour B. Young called the roll, which was responded to by 29 out of 37 Stakes. He also presented the general Sunday school authorities, who were unanimously sustained as follows:

George Q. Cannon, general superintendent; George Goddard, first assistant general superintendent; Karl G. Maeser, second assistant general superintendent; George Reynolds, general treasurer.

As members of the Deseret Sunday School Union Board: George Q. Cannon, George Goddard, Karl G. Maeser, George Reynolds, Thomas C. Griggs, Joseph W. Summerhays, Levi W. Richards, Francis M. Lyman, Heber J. Grant, Joseph M. Tanner, George Teasdale, Hugh J. Cannon and Andrew Kimball.

As Aids of the Board: L. John Nuttall, James W. Ure, John F. Bennett, John M. Mills, W. B. Dougall, W. D. Owen, Seymour B. Young and C. D. Fjeldsted.

The statistical and financial report of the Sunday schools had already been read in one of the general conference meetings.

First Assistant General Superintendent George Goddard, in his opening remarks, expressed his gratitude to his heavenly Father for the increase during the year; 165 schools and about 6,000 pupils had been added. He then dwelt upon the subject of congregational singing in the Sunday schools. The choir should lead but all should bring their hymn books and know what is sung and understand the principles contained in the hymn. He thought that this conference was one of the best of the eighty-five he had attended in this city. He expressed his desire to see all the Sunday school superintendents, teachers and pupils observers of the law of Tithing and of the Word of Wisdom.

After the remarks by Elder Goddard, the Utah Stake superintendency of Sunday schools, in behalf of the different Stakes of Zion, announced that this occasion had been thought fit, with consent of General Superintendent George Q. Cannon and Karl G. Maeser, to express their gratitude for the great services Brother Goddard had rendered to the Sunday school cause, their appreciation for the wise counsel he so often had imparted; their love for a brother who had devoted his whole life for the welfare of his fellow-men; their honor and their veneration for the great and noble actions which characterized his course of life, most worthy of imitation. As a token of these feelings a gold medal and a purse were presented to Brother Goddard. The inscription of the medal was as follows:

To George Goddard,
April 10th, 1898.

Who is on the Lord's side?

From Zion's Sunday School Stakes Superintendency, representing 37 Stakes, 6,320 schools, 10,429 officers and teachers and 88,497 pupils.

Elder A. L. Booth then briefly stated from which sources the means had come, and showed that all the Stakes of Zion had willingly contributed to this noble act. Finally a brief description of the missions performed by Brother Goddard and the work done by him were given.

General Superintendent George Q.