

shall be submerged by the healing tide that shall flow from its fountains of benevolence and peace, till one law shall bind all nations, kindreds, tongues and people, and that law shall be the law of universal brotherhood—then the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ, and Jesus, whose right it is, shall reign king of nations, as he now reigns king of Saints: Amen.

Mr. Wm. Poulter, by way of variety, sung a comic song.

ADDRESS OF THE YOUNG LADIES.

Mr. Wm. Clayton read the following address to the Pioneers, from the pen of Miss S. E. Carmichael:

FRIENDS AND BENEFACTORS:—

We address you thus, because we are proud to claim a friendship with, and confess an obligation to those whose untiring energy has trampled down the obstacles of a wilderness pathway, in pursuit of the peace, happiness and liberty we are permitted here to share.

We offer you the earnest gratitude of hearts that have beat happily for years in the peaceful homes that your energy has led us to.

We thank you with the smile-circled lip of a happiness that is but a bright reflection from the altar-light that you trod the deserts to kindle.

We thank you with the unfettered breath of that freedom you offered the brave, warm pulses of manly hearts to purchase, when you dared the dangers of a pioneer path, through foaming torrents, over mountain heights and desert sand-heaps, guided as the eagle's wing is guided through the heavens, by the sun of liberty.

Fathers! Brothers! and Friends!—We thank you. Is praise a recompense for dangers dared and difficulties conquered? Yours is written on the home-altars you have reared; breathed from the blossoms you have planted; acknowledged by a gratitude too deep for words; and spoken by a people's heart-beats.

Is a proud sense of great duties nobly discharged, and lofty aims most proudly gained, any reward for the weary days and sleepless nights they have cost you?—let your own high feelings answer.

Pioneers!—May the finger of Omnipotence that pointed the arrow of a people's prayer to its aim, guide your destinies for ever.

May the arm of power that helped you to buffet with the dark waves and climb the rocky hills, that enabled you to bear and triumph, when you lacerated and bleeding feet shrank not from the prairie brambles and broken flints in their way, strengthen and support you always.

May the unsleeping eye that watched over the calm, unshrinking rectitude of your course, that saw how truly man could trust, when you knelt on the desert sand and poured from lips that were parched and pale, the warm, outgushing eloquence of faith to God, read no darker page in your life-history.

May those that whispered the earliest prayer in this mountain asylum, hallow it long with their presence; and, when they are summoned to a higher destiny, may the light of an existence they honored, gild their sepulchers.

God bless—for ever bless—the Pioneers.

Anthem by the choir—"God is my song," which was remarkably well sung, and as well accompanied by the orchestra.

Governor Young invited Governor Harding to address the people; and, on the two governors taking the stand, there was a perfect stillness in the vast assembly; but, on Governor Young saying—"I have the pleasure of presenting Governor Harding, who will make a speech,"—the stillness of the multitude was broken, and the new governor was greeted with cheering.

SPEECH OF GOVERNOR HARDING.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—

And in that word, I mean all of you, of all ages, sexes and conditions—I am pleased at being with you to-day, and of being introduced in the agreeable manner you have just witnessed. I have desired the opportunity of looking upon such a vast concourse of the people of Utah, at one time; and, as such an occasion now presents itself, it is right and proper that I should say a few things to you.

You have doubtless been informed before now that the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, has appointed me to the office of Governor of this Territory. I have come amongst you to enter upon the discharge of the high and important duties that have devolved upon me; and when I greatly distrust my own ability, yet I cannot but hope that, with your assistance, I shall be able to discharge those duties to your satisfaction, and with strict fidelity to the government, whose servant I am.

If I know my own heart, I come amongst you a messenger of peace and good will. I have no wrongs—either real or imaginary, to complain of, and no religious prejudices to overcome.—[applause]. Believing, as I do, that the Constitution of the United States secures to every citizen the right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; and holding, further, that the Constitution itself is dependent for its support and maintenance on the preservation of that sacred right, it follows, as a corollary, that, under no pretext whatever, will I consent to its violation in this particular, by any

official act of mine, whilst Governor of this Territory.—[tremendous applause.]

In a government like ours, based upon the freest exercise of conscience, religion is a matter between man and his Maker, and not between man and the government, and for the honest exercise of duties inculcated by his religious faith and conscience, so long as he does not infringe upon the rights of others, equally as sacred as his own, he is not responsible to any human tribunal, other than that which is found in the universal judgment of mankind [hear, hear]. If the right of conscience of the minority depended upon the will of the majority, then, in a government like ours, that same minority in a future day might control the conscience of the majority of to-day—when by superior cunning and finesse a political canvass had been won in its favor, and thus alternately would it be in the power of either when elevated to the seat of the law-makers to impose a despotism upon the conscience of its adversary only equalled by the "Index Expurgatoris" against which the Protestant world so justly complained [applause].

It has long been a maxim and accepted as true by our people—"That it is safe to tolerate error, so long as truth is left free to combat it." Who are in error, and in what that error consists in matters of speculative theology, are questions only cognizable at the bar of heaven. It has been the fate of propagandists of new ideas and religious dogmas, without regard to their truth or falsity, to meet with opposition, often ending in the most cruel persecution. Hoary-headed error, claiming for itself the immunity of ages, glares with jaundiced eyes upon all new ideas, which refuse to pay to it its accustomed homage. I know of no law of the human mind that makes this age an exception to the rule. Nevertheless, he who founds his ideas and theories on truth, correlative with his physical and spiritual being, and consequently in harmony with the law of nature, must ultimately succeed; whilst he who builds upon falsehood must share the fate of him who built his house upon the sand. This is not only a declaration of divine truth, but is in accordance with all human experience. The great highway of man's civilization and progress is strewn with the wrecks of a thousand systems—once the hopes of their founders and challenging the confidence of mankind [hear, hear]. But I must limit this dissertation, and will sum up in a few words what I have intended to say on this branch of the subject.

The founders of our Constitution fully comprehended these ideas which I have so briefly glanced at, and they clothed the citizen with absolute immunity in the exercise of his rights of conscience, and hrew the protecting shield of the Constitution around him, and over him, in all the diverging paths that lead the enquirer in his researches after truth in the "dim-unknown" of speculative theology.

But I must not detain you. I leave this part of the subject, and address myself to the occasion that has called together this mighty multitude.

On every hand I behold a miracle of labor. Fifteen years ago to-day, and your Pioneers by their heroism and devotion to a principle consecrated this valley to a civilization wonderful "to the stranger within your gates," and in the developments of which a new era will be stamped not only on the history of our own country, but on the world. You have, indeed, "caused the desert to blossom as the rose." Waving fields of gold; gardens containing all that is necessary for the comfort of civilized man; "shrubberies that a shepherd might have envied;" orchards bending beneath the promise of most luscious fruit,—now beautiful fields which your industry has filled with new life, and where but fifteen years since the genius of Solitude, from yon snow-capped peak, stood marking on her rocky tablets the centuries of desolation and death that rested on these same fields, since the upthral force of nature formed the mighty zone that separates the two oceans that wash the shores of our continent.

Wonderful progress! Wonderful people! If you shall be content, as I doubt not you will be, to enjoy the blessings with which you are surrounded, and abide your time, and enjoy your privileges under a benign and just government, "Imperium in Imperio," and not attempt to reverse this order of things, absolutely necessary under our form of government; and above all things, if you will act up to the line of duty, contained in that one grand article of your faith, "We believe in being honest, true, chaste, temperate, benevolent, virtuous, and upright, and in doing good to all men," you cannot fail to obtain that ultimate success [applause], which is the great desideratum of your hopes. Honestly conform to the standard of your creed and faith, and, though you may for a time be "cast down," you cannot be destroyed [great applause]; for the power of the Eternal One will be in your midst, though no mortal eye may behold the "pillar of cloud and of fire" [applause]. As the Great Master of sculpture gathered and combined all the perfections of the human face into one divine model, so you, in that one grand article, have bound into one golden sheaf all the Christian virtues that underlie our civilization.

But this must suffice. I, perhaps, have said more than I ought to have said, and yet I cannot see how I could have said less. If my words shall be as kindly received by you as they have been honestly and frankly uttered by me, and we will act accordingly, my mission amongst you, cannot fail of being alike profitable to you and to the government that I represent [hear, hear].

This is the hour, when your loyalty to our

common country is most acceptable and grateful to the heart of every patriot. Be but content, and abide your time, and your reward will be as great as it will be certain. Duty to ourselves, to our God and our country calls upon us to cast aside every prejudice and to rally around the Constitution and the flag of our fathers, and if need be to baptize them anew with our own blood. That Constitution will not perish, that flag will not trail in the dust, but they will both come out of the present fiery ordeal "redeemed, regenerated, and disenthralled, by the Genius of Universal Liberty and Justice." [Great applause].

Music by the Orchestra, the "Duke of Reichstadt's waltz."

Professor Thomas sung the Marseillaise Hymn, assisted in the chorus by his choir.

Messrs Randall and Poulter sung two comic songs.

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG.

I have been well pleased, yea, much delighted with the speeches we have heard to-day, and with the general display which has been made in commemoration of the entrance of the Pioneers into these valleys fifteen years ago. By the great number of children we see under fifteen years of age, born in these valleys, we can realize in a small degree the growth of this people in that short space of time. It is cheering, and forms a consideration of great promise to behold the rising generation in these mountains, to see the glow of health and beauty upon their countenances, and the unsurpassed beauty and strength of their forms. Their eyes sparkle with intelligence and their frames are nerved with strength. I am proud of this people, I am proud of our holy religion, of our God, and of the principles of eternal life committed unto us. I trust we shall honor them, and be able to sustain ourselves through the mercies and kindness of our Father in heaven.

I will say, for the gratification of the strangers that are here, as well as for the gratification of our own people, if there is one portion of the people belonging to the government of the United States who love, revere, and hold sacred the Constitution of that government more than any other portion, it is the Latter Day Saints. They understand the true worth of the institutions of their country, and will constantly uphold them. This government has produced great men—great statesmen, great generals—who have accomplished great and mighty deeds in the Senate and House of Representatives, and in the field; their fame is lauded at national celebrations, and there the matter stops. I will go a little farther, and say that the God of heaven brings men into public positions to accomplish changes which will prepare the way for the accomplishment of his great designs.

Much has been said and written upon the oppressions suffered by the puritan fathers under the reign of Charles the II. of England, causing them to seek a home in the wilds of America, and of the oppressions suffered by the colonies under the reign of George the III, bringing to pass the revolution, but they were not oppressed more than other people were in those times; and I think I am safe in saying they were not so much oppressed as the inhabitants under our own government are now. They enjoyed as much liberty and I think more than the masses do at this day. It is all the work of God in bringing to pass his designs. He raised up the government of the United States with its free institutions, that under its rule the kingdom of God might be set up, take root, and flourish. Before the government of the United States was established there was not a government in the known world where the kingdom of God could be founded and the holy priesthood be brought forth. He has established his kingdom, and soon the kingdoms of this world will crumble to pieces. God had a deep design in leading the Latter Day Saints to these valleys, and we acknowledge his hand in all this.

In the speeches and songs to-day, reference has been made to the oppressions received by this people from rulers of this nation. We should be happy indeed if data did not exist for such references. In referring to these portions of our past history, on occasions like this, we do it not under the influence of vindictive feelings and hatred, but we see in all this the providences of God, and we love to refer to them. We did not come to these valleys of our own free will and accord, we came here because we were obliged to.

I will here relate a fact that but few of this congregation are acquainted with. If I mistake not, three Senators, or three Congressmen, came to Nauvoo and entered into a treaty with the Latter Day Saints. They made as sacred a treaty with us as they ever made with any government in the world. I am the one they treated with. Under that treaty we agreed to leave the country on certain conditions, one of which was that they should not follow us. They have broken their pledge, and violated their treaty by hedging up our way to selling property in Nauvoo and that region, after agreeing to aid us in selling; in requiring a battalion of five hundred of our men to assist in the war against Mexico, at a time when the people were on the western prairie, fleeing destitute and barefoot from their enemies; in making war upon men, women and children in Nauvoo when doing their utmost to leave there; in sending their armies to make war upon us, and the Lord will hold them accountable for all this. We left the United States with the intention of planting our feet in the Great Basin, where we are to-day, which then belonged to Mexico. Before

we left Nauvoo we wrote to the Governors of every State and Territory in the Union, requesting them to give us an asylum within their borders. We received five answers, and these refused to listen to our petition. I have now in my possession a copy of those letters I caused to be written to those Governors, and the answers I received.

When we planted our feet on this soil, it did not belong to the government of the United States, it was Mexican territory. God did not design that we should entirely leave the government of the United States, neither did we wish to. We were willing to go, or stay, for we knew we should be led right, and we were led to this land. Not long after we settled here, Mexico ceded this country to the United States, on the 2d of February, 1848, and we are still within the pales of that government. We are now asking for admission as a State, and we intend to continue to ask, and "bide our time," and to live by and honor the Constitution of our country, whether others do so or not. We shall hold to and sustain this government, and rally under the stars and stripes, when the inhabitants of the land will violate, dishonor, and forsake them. Some may think this a wild saying, and that I venture a great deal in making it, but I invite the clerks to write it, and I wish my stranger friends to enter it in a safe place where they can read it in future.

Here is a growing population. When the Fall months come we have not to prepare for sickness in these peaceful and healthy valleys of Deseret, as in other parts of the country. Health is wealth to any people. The people in Deseret possess in a remarkable degree the wealth of health. The youth of our land bud and blossom like the rose, and here we shall continue to live, to grow, and to increase in number like unto the stars of the firmament, or the sands on the sea shore; and I trust that we shall also continue to increase in the grace and love of God, keeping his commandments and walking in all his ordinances blameless.

When this people do right, they are my pride; when they do wrong, I feel to lament. I am satisfied that the whole aim of the great majority of this people is to love and serve their God all their days, doing every right thing we wish to do, and enjoying everything God has provided for our happiness, not infringing in the least upon the rights of our fellow-creatures. This is the liberty I believe in, and the kind of government I nourish. I desire to enjoy the heavens and the earth, the elements, and all that my heart desires in the love of the truth, not infringing upon the rights of any individual on earth.

I wish to encourage the schools now before me. Continue, children, in your studies; and if we are let alone to still further build and inhabit, plant and enjoy the fruits of our labors, we hope to secure for you further facilities for learning. We wish to introduce into our schools every useful branch of learning that is now taught in the highest schools and colleges in the new or old world. We will educate our own lawyers, statesmen, mechanics, mathematicians, historians, etc., etc., and thus prove to God and mankind that our object is improvement in the knowledge of all truth in heaven and on earth, that is possessed by God, angels, and men. If we can have the privilege, we will enrich our minds with knowledge, filling these mortal tenements with the rich treasures of heavenly wisdom.

May God bless you. Amen.

National anthem—"O God, Bless Brigham Young"—was sung by the choir, accompanied by the orchestra.

Elder F. D. Richards blessed the assembly and the multitude dispersed.

The proceedings, throughout the day, were conducted with the utmost order and decorum; and we have not heard of any accident that marred the universal joy. The Fifteenth Anniversary was celebrated under circumstances calculated to fill the souls of the Saints with gratitude to the Almighty ruler of the universe. In no period of our history, have the people been more blessed than at the present time. The Spring floods, in some parts of the Territory, have caused considerable damage to property, and a few accidents and losses in families in connection therewith, have caused grief and mourning; but, as a people, we are enjoying largely the blessings of a smiling Providence. At home, there is health and peace and abundant increase of the products of the earth for the support of man and beast; and abroad, we hear of nothing but what contributes to the general onward progress of that cause to which we have devoted our lives and all we possess. To behold increasing wisdom in the people, and honor and confidence bestowed upon the heads of those whom God has placed to lead Israel; and to know that nothing formed against this people has ever prospered, and that the wicked have been cast down, and the humble exalted, are sources of everlasting joy and gratitude. So evident were these to us all, and so abundantly manifest in the juvenile procession of the Twenty-Fourth, was the fulfillment of the promise that Israel must increase and not decrease, that indifferent indeed must have been the heart that felt not to give praise to that holy name "that daily loadeth us with benefits."