

vall they would find their records there, in the great library of the Kingdom of Heaven, and he would like to have a good account, as he wanted all of them to have.

After pointing out the important responsibility resting upon the people of God, and remarking that the eyes of the Lord and all the heavenly host were constantly upon them, President Woodruff said that God had greatly blessed them thus far in their mission here below and would yet give them the power to accomplish much more, if they but walked uprightly before Him, lived in unity, and carried out the purposes and principles of the Gospel in their daily life. Whatever duties we were called upon to perform, we should fulfil them cheerfully. Today the Latter-day Saints who dwell in the valleys of these mountains occupied a very important position in the world. A great change was taking place in public opinion toward them, even in our own nation. They had been so derided and misrepresented in the past that people at one time, it would seem, hardly dared to come into Salt Lake City for fear that they would have their throats cut or be otherwise killed! The object of this people was to labor for the welfare of their fellow-men both here and abroad; and this was what they had been doing all the way through. The Gospel which they preached would save all the sons of men under the heaven who would embrace it and obey all its laws. The Latter-day Saints were not the enemies of anybody. They believed that every man had a right to his religion, to whatever sect he might belong, and this people only claimed in return the same privilege. That was all they ever had asked.

The speaker referred briefly to the building of temples by the Latter-day Saints, and said they had made this once desert land to bring forth things in abundance for the sustentance of man, through the power of God. Thousands had gone before us here and thousands would come after; but the foundation had been laid and we were building upon it.

In conclusion, President Woodruff alluded to the ceremony of placing the cap-stone on the Temple on Wednesday. A great deal had been said as to people going upon the building on that occasion, but he wished to state that not one-tenth of that congregation could go up there. It was desired that all should remain on terra firma except the very few whose duty it would be to ascend the building to perform the necessary work of the day. He would rather not a soul went up than that one man, woman or child should be injured.

President Joseph F. Smith

said he desired to bear his testimony to the remarks which had been made by President Cannon and President Wilford Woodruff. He wished to be understood that he was heart and soul in unison with them in the views which they had just expressed, both in regard to religious and political questions. He joined in exhorting the Latter-day Saints, whatever they might do, in the line of politics, to endeavor to bring them up to the high standard that they should occupy among those who professed to be the people of God,

and not descend to the low, mean ways and tricks of the world. If they could not be honest in politics as well as religion, and act as men of God, they were not very good Latter-day Saints.

In relation to the authority of the Presidency of the Church, there had been a tendency for the last seven or eight years among the Latter-day Saints to disregard to some extent the rights of the Presidency and the authority of those who had been placed over them. This no doubt had arisen from the fact that the Presidency had a great length of time been comparatively out of sight of the people, and the people had been free to act as they pleased. There had been a feeling, more or less, growing up, not only among the people, but also with some who were prominent in the Priesthood, which caused them to act as though they considered themselves just about as great, and perhaps a little greater, and that they had just as much knowledge, and perhaps a little more, and equal authority, with the presiding authorities of the Church. In some respects he himself had seen a disregard shown to the counsels of the Priesthood. This was wrong. It was true we had not the Prophet Joseph Smith with us in person today, neither had we the Prophet Brigham Young; nor the Prophet John Taylor; but we had the Prophet Wilford Woodruff and his counselors; we had the first Presidency of the Church, organized and acknowledged by the whole people and by God the Heavenly Father; and the same authority that rested in Joseph Smith and his counselors and that succeeded them in others rested here today with the Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and when they essayed to counsel the people—as it was their right to do—it was the duty of the Saints to hearken. He prayed that the Lord might guide them in this direction in this matter, give them to understand that the Church of God was organized upon the earth, that the authority of the holy Priesthood was here and that that Priesthood had the right to dictate in all things appertaining to the building up of that Church. God had so far acknowledged the acts of His servants and would continue to do so from this time henceforth; because this was His work.

Great responsibilities rested upon the men who had been chosen by the Almighty and appointed to act in these positions, and they felt the weight of the responsibility resting upon them continually. Not only did they feel this, but they had actually to assume the task of carrying the troubles, burdens, and sorrows of hundreds, he might say thousands, of individuals in the Church; for there was scarcely a man or woman who had any trouble who did not come to the First Presidency for sympathy and counsel. Sometimes he had seen President Woodruff almost borne down beyond the possibility of endurance by these responsibilities crowding upon him, in addition to those which he had to bear in connection with his Presidency over the whole Church. "Try to make his burdens light," implored the speaker. "Let the people go to their Bishops, to the Presidents of their Stakes and to

other wise men in Israel to ask counsel, and get them to help bear their burdens; but do not bring so many to President Woodruff. It is weighing him down and shortening his time upon the earth. Keep your troubles in your local organizations as much as you can."

God bless this people, and during this Conference may the spirit of peace and unity dwell in the hearts of all. He besought the Saints to live their religion, to do right and keep all the commandments of God, that they might know of the doctrine whether it was of God or of man, and whether the course they were pursuing was acceptable in His sight.

The choir sang the anthem,

Let God arise.

Benediction by Apostle Francis M. Lyman.

THIRD DAY.

Morning Session.

The choir and congregation sang:

Lo what is right; the day dawn is breaking,
Hailing a future of freedom and light;
Angels, above us, are silent notes taking
Of every action; do what is right.

Prayer by Elder John D. T. McAllister.

Singing by the choir and congregation:

The Spirit of God like a fire is burning!
The latter-day glory begins to come forth.
The visions and blessings of old are returning.
The angels are coming to visit the earth.

President Cannon read the following communication:

Church University.

SALT LAKE CITY, April 4, 1892.

To the First Presidency and Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in annual Conference assembled:

Dear Brethren and Sisters—Your committee to whom was referred the duty of preparing a plan for the action of the Conference, relative to the establishment of a Church University, respectfully submit the accompanying resolution; and we recommend its adoption.

Respectfully, your brethren,

WILLARD YOUNG,
KARL G. MAESER,
JAMES E. TALMAGE,
JAMES SHARP,
BENJAMIN CLUFF, JR.,
Committee.

RESOLUTION.

Being sincerely desirous of fostering education in our midst, we the members of the unincorporated body of religious worshippers known and designated as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, now in General Conference assembled, on this 5th day of April, 1892, do respectfully request the presiding officers of our Church, viz: Wilford Woodruff, President, and George Q. Cannon and Joseph F. Smith, Counselors, all of the First Presidency; and Lorenzo Snow, President, and Franklin D. Richards, Brigham Young, Moses Thatcher, Francis M. Lyman, John Henry Smith, George Teasdale, Heber J. Grant, John W. Taylor, Mariner W. Merrill, Anthon H. Lund and Abraham H. Cannon, members, all of the quorum of the Twelve Apostles; for us, and in our behalf, to found upon such trusts, and to endow, in such a manner as they may deem wise and proper, an institution of learning of high grade, to be officially named "The University of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," but to be