

lished and have gone abroad in the court reports into all the spheres of legal lore throughout this country and the world; and so we became advertised while we were staying around at home and away from home taking care of ourselves as best we could, we were making acquaintances through the attorneys and the courts in the higher circles of life.

When this had been going on for some months and years, there was a council held down East, and our leading ladies were invited to join the National Council of women, in Washington and they reported the Relief Societies, &c., and those reports were published in the papers and books, which have gone to all the States and Territories of the Union, and in a higher circle than merely those that are plowing and sowing, the mechanics, &c. These means the Lord employed during the hard period of our winter. It was not very much the "winter of discontent" after all. He made us to become known among the people. They could take these books and hunt over the decisions of the law courts, and they could read the reports of this grand Council of Women from all parts of the world, and quietly learn something about us.

Directly there was a great call for all the inhabitants of the earth to come to Chicago and celebrate the World's Columbian Exposition. At this Exposition there came commissioners from all civilized countries; many of them got a chance to talk with our brethren and sisters in Chicago, and a number of them came to Salt Lake City. We gave them copies of our Church works and of the History of Utah, which they carried off with them to their homes, and they have no doubt been reading over these things. So the work has been going on. Our dear sisters and brethren of the choir went down and really put the country on its nettle in music. Thus we got some of the fine arts before the people of the earth. The Presidency went along also, and as has been shown you this morning, the Mayor of Independence welcomed them and accompanied them to the hall where they could exchange congratulations publicly.

These things have been going on until, I want to say to you brethren and sisters, and especially the Elders of Israel, springtime seems to be on us again; and as the earth, after the frosts and snows of winter, is being broken up and pulverized and prepared for the seed, so calls are coming from all parts of the earth for Elders. "Where can we find an Elder?" "If you have an Elder coming this way, please direct him to our place." Calls are being made, and the people of the earth are now ready to hear the Gospel. I want to tell this legion of Seventies that are before us—the bone and sinew of Israel, if you please—and the multitudes of the Elders' quorums, that the time has come when the inhabitants of the earth want the Gospel; want to know what it is that we have been making such a fuss about in the earth, keeping the courts busy and the penitentiary full. They want us to send some Elders along, that they can ask questions of them, and that the Gospel may be explained unto them. We have calls for Elders from sea to sea and from the rivers to the ends of the earth. The time has come when we must rise up and sow—go forth and scatter the Gospel seeds throughout the

lands. The inhabitants of the earth are ready to hear it, and it is our duty, and it is made the duty of the Twelve Apostles, and especially you have made it the duty of the missionary committee, to hunt up Elders and send them abroad to preach the Gospel. We have had a good deal of difficulty to find them as fast as they have been wanted. One mission in the South called for one hundred extra Elders. We have a thousand or more in the field; but there is wanted a great multitude yet to go everywhere, and we are seeking through Israel, almost with lighted candles, to find men of suitable spirit and faith—men that can go and preach the word of God to the nations of the earth. There never has been a time when we have been so able to do it as at the present time. I know one says, "I am owing something;" another, "I am a little in debt" &c. Arrange these things from this day forth, as if you knew you had to go on a mission. Then when you are ready to go, you will be ready to stay if you are not wanted. I do not want you to think it is a difficult thing. We do not ask anybody to go on missions until they can go reasonably and consistently with the spirit of the Gospel, with the faith of their kindred and with the blessings of their Bishops and Presidents. In the beginning, when Presidents Young, Woodruff, Snow and others that are around me, were called upon to go and preach the Gospel, and had nothing to go with, we went whether we could or not. You do not have to do that today; you are given time to go consistently and comfortably. But I give you notice that we want Elders to go and preach the Gospel; for now is the time when the desire of the people is open to receive it. It is the great leading duty of Israel to preach this Gospel to the nations of the earth, laid especially upon the Twelve Apostles, with the First Presidency to see that it is carried out.

Think what the Lord is doing for us! A little while ago we were set upon fiercely by the government, and if the Lord had not come to our rescue to tell us we might suspend operations in some of His ordinances, not only would our public and our private property have been taken away from us, but our temples would have been closed up. Now the government has come back, and gave us, a while ago, our personal property, and last week, by enactment and the signature of the Executive, they restore to us the real property, except that which has been lost and wasted in the handling.

We have occasion to rejoice in this. The work of the Lord is beginning to triumph in some of these matters. This is the first time we have had the chance to hold the general Conference with these Stars and Stripes over us in the relationship we sustain to them now. Utah is no longer a territory, looked upon with suspicion; but it has become a state—I had almost said a sovereign state. Well, if the states are sovereign, then I suppose Utah is sovereign, too. Heretofore we have always had to go under the direction and counsel of the President and Congress of the United States; but now we have a State organization, and a Governor, a native born Governor, who can give letters of commendation to honorable men and can introduce them to governors of other States and men in high positions. Thus the Lord is opening the way, by

which we can carry the Gospel wherever it should be carried.

I think, brethren and sisters, we ought to rise up to the possibilities and opportunities of the situation, and spread the knowledge of this Gospel. If you have relations out in the world, and you may have been slow to communicate with them, keep up a kindly, friendly correspondence with them. If you have been backward in sending the word of the Lord to your kindred, send them some of it. Let them be enlightened. Feed them a little. As Brigham and Heber used to say, hand them a little salt, that they can taste of it and see how good it is. And so let us go on with the good work of the Lord which He has given to us to do, and let us work while it is today.

You know, in going out in a great field, where some of the land is high and some low, that which is on the knolls ripens the quickest, while down in the swales it doesn't get ripe so quick. It is just so with this great vineyard of the Lord and field of the world. There are spots and places where it is ripe sooner than others. But we want to be prepared and ready that when the summer is on we may gather in the harvest. When the springtime comes we want to cast in the seed—the word of the Lord, that we may by and by, in the autumn, realize a great ingathering, a harvest of souls, to Zion, that shall increase and extend and multiply, till we will be building other temples, other stakes, and multiplying the wards of Israel throughout the land. You must not think because we have become a State, and these sisters must not think now they have the franchise, that we have got it all and we can sit down to enjoy it. This is simply the armor that God gives us to pick up and buckle on to go to work for another summer's labor. The winter has gone again, and after the sowing the Lord will bring the harvest as He would have it. We need not wonder or marvel about things in the future; we want to be up and doing today.

Now, I want to notify you Elders that in going abroad we wish you, when you get to be presidents of missions, to bring home the very best published histories there are of those countries that you go to, so that we can have the history of the generations of men on the earth in the Historian's Office; and we do hope, now that the government has given us back our substance, that sometime we shall have a Historian's Office that will be a credit to the Church, so that we can preserve the records properly. I wish you to see that there are good complete records instituted in your conferences, in your missions. And when you go to those nations where they are led by chiefs, in tribes, as in New Zealand among the Maories, (and among the Lamanites, if they don't get killed off before their day comes) you get at some of those venerable old Maori chiefs, and you will find they are full of the genealogy and history of their tribes and will take you back by tradition for hundreds of years. Get what they know, and write it for the benefit of those people that live around them; for when they come up to Zion or when temples shall be built in their midst, they will find that the people of Zion are getting up records of their fathers. We must begin to be Israel in this direction more than we have been before.

These are some of my ideas just now,