

how it should be exercised by all men and women in every department of life. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the eternal nature of man and all the ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ, speaking more particularly of the law of marriage. He also made some remarks with regard to the opposition manifested against the work of God, stating that he was inclined to believe that many who thus array themselves against the Latter-day Saints are imbued with a degree of sincerity, as all have their peculiar stand-point from which they view the Kingdom of God. Such sincerity, however, does its possessor more injury than good. In speaking of polygamy, he said, how many of those who oppose the practice of that principle by the Saints, if they should be arraigned before the bar of God with the polygamist, could say, "here are my wives and children whom I have honored, acknowledged and sustained?" They would be compelled rather to tell a tale of sin and shame, in giving their account. He exhorted the Saints to increased diligence in keeping the commandments of God. If the Saints will do right, they will live to see their enemies humbled in the dust. He hoped there would be an abundant harvest, that tithes and offerings may flow into the storehouse of the Lord.

The choir sang:

"Great is Jehovah."

Prayer by Elder Franklin D. Richards.

Conference adjourned till 2 p. m.

2 p. m.

The choir sang:

"Let every mortal ear attend."

Prayer by Elder Wilford Woodruff.

The choir sang:

"Arise, O glorious Zion."

ELDER LORENZO SNOW

Addressed the Conference. He said, although the church has passed through many checkered and trying scenes since its organization, and notwithstanding the circumstances of the Saints have undergone many changes temporally, their faith and the principles of the gospel remain unchanged. He spoke of the various dispensations in which God had revealed his will to man, showing the opposition with which such dispensations had been met by the great bulk of the human family. He showed the absolute necessity of mankind being guided by revelation and alluded to the gift and power of the Holy Ghost and the only way by which that great gift could be obtained. There need be no dubiety in the minds of any respecting the truth of the gospel we preach, for the servants of God declare they have authority to administer the ordinances of the House of God and that if people will repent of their sins and be baptized for the remission of them, they shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, and they will thus have the truth revealed to themselves. This has been tested and proved by tens of thousands in various parts of the earth, who are living examples of the fulfillment of those promises. Many who see the good effects of gathering the poor to these valleys, thus enabling them to better their circumstances, say President Young is a very smart man. But those good effects are not particularly because he is a smart man, but because the Lord continually inspires him with the necessary wisdom to direct the work we are engaged in.

BISHOP JOHN SHARP

Said he was fortunate enough to be one of those to whom the servants of God brought the plan of salvation. When he heard the glad message he received it readily. The spirit of the Lord bore testimony to him that what he heard was the truth. The gospel found him in a coal pit and had brought him from darkness to light. He was not an enemy to mankind and he never would quarrel with his neighbor if he could not see as he did. He claimed the same right of religious freedom he was willing to accord to others, and in exercising that right, he took pleasure in bearing testimony that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God raised to introduce the fullness of the gospel of truth. It takes but little education to tell of the testimony he has received and the peace he enjoys in this world of strife. He alluded to the comprehensive nature of the gospel, as illustrated in the design of the Almighty to save not only those being in the flesh, but the dead who have gone before who will listen to His voice.

PRESIDENT GEORGE A. SMITH

Addressed the Conference for a short

time. He gave a graphic description of some of the persecutions endured by the Saints in the early rise of the church. He showed the great obstacles to be overcome in first bringing so many people, nearly all of whom were very poor, to these valleys. He also alluded to the help that had been extended in gathering the poor from the nations of the earth. The contributions for carrying on this important work have been limited for some time, on account of the destruction of crops by grasshoppers, &c. Let the brethren consider, during this Conference, what they will donate for this purpose and, when they become liberal, say what they will do. This is one of the items of this Conference. Those who owe the P. E. fund should immediately pay up. Let all the Elders who have been on missions remember their brethren in the old countries. May God bless us in doing this and every good thing.

PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG

Briefly addressed the Conference. He said it would be gratifying if those who spoke would take the course that had been pursued this afternoon, viz., not to speak too long. He bore his testimony to the truth of the gospel, and stated that a great many evil spirits were seeking to overthrow every good Saint. The Saints should be on their guard against such influences. He showed that there was not a science in existence but substantiated the truth of the gospel we have received, for it embraces all truth. He requested that, to avoid confusion, the people should remain quietly until meeting be dismissed, and that the door-keepers see that the doors be kept closed.

It was announced that a Priesthood meeting would be held to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock.

The choir sang:

"Make a joyful noise."

Prayer by Elder George Q. Cannon. Adjourned till to-morrow, 7th, at 10 a. m.

7th, 10 a. m.

The choir sang:

"See! all creation joins
To praise th' eternal God."

Prayer by Elder Orson Hyde.

The choir sang:

"Hosannah to the great Messiah."

ELDER WILLIAM C. STAINES

Addressed the conference. He said he had no subject but life and salvation, which he had studied for many years. It was thirty years since he heard the gospel. The first prayer he heard offered up by an Elder of Israel was commenced thus: "O thou God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, unto Thee I lift up my voice this morning." He felt convinced that he indeed addressed the true and living God, and by his discourse he felt he was a servant of the Almighty.

Previous to this he had been a Methodist. He was baptized for the remission of sins and received the Holy Ghost. After this he sought for the gifts of the spirit. Once while alone, the Spirit of prophecy came upon him. He was tempted to think that his having that gift and exercising it while alone, was useless. On consulting Elder Lorenzo Snow upon the subject, he told him that he would yet exercise that gift publicly and repeat the same prophecy he had uttered when alone. This was fulfilled afterward, just as Brother Snow had said.

Elder Staines bore a powerful testimony to the truth of the work of God, saying he knew by revelation that Joseph Smith was a prophet, and also that the Spirit and power of God had rested upon President Young from the death of Joseph to the present time. He spoke of the great difficulties that had to be encountered and overcome by the Saints since their settlement here, and through which they had been safely led by the servants of God. He exhorted the Saints to increased faithfulness and especially the young brethren and sisters to be obedient to their parents. He said he knew that when the prophet Joseph was martyred, his mantle fell upon Brigham and had remained with him from that day to the present. He desired that the blessings of God should be upon the people.

ELDER FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS

Spoke. He said that he first heard the gospel preached by President Young in Massachusetts. It was over thirty years since he embraced that gospel. He had not long obeyed its principles until it was revealed to him, by the Holy Ghost, that he had received the truth. He had never doubted the truth from

that time until now. His only object in life was to assist in building up the Kingdom of God. He alluded to the probable great influx of strangers that the opening of our mineral resources would bring here, and the mistaken notions of many with regard to the way in which we look upon such an advent. We do not look upon strangers with hostility, but otherwise. We have been expecting strangers to come here. No gentleman or lady has ever come here who has been uncourteously treated. There are, however, many who come with their minds filled with prejudice and with a determination to find fault with everything and, when they leave, they speak evil falsely against the people. The honorable, however, will tell the truth concerning us. He alluded to the war and contention in some parts of the world, showing that peace was being taken from the earth; that the spirit of peace is with the Saints and that President Young is the greatest living benefactor of the human family. He spoke of the allurements that would probably be placed before the people by the introduction of so-called civilization, and warned them against being led astray by them. We are greatly blessed in having the privilege of rearing two Temples at the present time. The prophet Joseph said there was no greater responsibility resting upon the Saints than looking after the interests of their dead. It is time we looked after our progenitors, to whom we are indebted for our existence. It is to be hoped that tithes and offerings will flow in to help carry on this work. He spoke of those who are indebted to the P. E. fund and the necessity of their paying up, and of the brethren donating of their means to gather the poor. He bore a strong testimony to the restoration of the gospel in these days.

PRESIDENT GEO. A. SMITH

Addressed the conference. He said the hard labors of the Saints, such as moving the people to these valleys with insufficient outfits, building cities and settlements, &c., have hitherto operated against the extension and introduction of facilities for education. Yet, whenever a settlement has been established, a school house has been the first building erected and the means of education have spread as rapidly as circumstances will permit. In this city and at Provo graded schools have been instituted. Government has rendered us no assistance in this direction. Let the brethren and sisters sustain these institutions by sending their children to attend them and furnish means to carry them on. It has been a great misfortune to us, he continued, that some of our school trustees, have engaged teachers of irresponsible character. The greatest and best foundation for a good teacher is a sound moral character, that his or her influence with pupils may be on the side of righteousness and purity.

The choir sang:

"Glory to God."

Prayer by Elder Geo. Q. Cannon.

Adjourned till 2 p. m.

7th, 2 p. m.

The choir sang:

"The great and glorious gospel light."

Prayer was offered by Joseph F. Smith.

The choir sang:

"Author of faith, Eternal Word."

ELDER JOHN TAYLOR

Addressed the assembly. He said he would take a text from the Church of England prayer Book: "As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, worlds without end." He thought, as great improvements had taken place in literature, science, &c., that there ought to be a corresponding improvement among men in religious matters. The rapid progress in science, art, and mechanism, however, affect us only temporally. Discoveries are but the development of latent principles which have existed eternally in nature. Man, he said, was formed in the image of God; had come from and would, in due time, return to him. Elder Taylor discoursed, at considerable length on the nature and constitution of man; his relationship to the Deity; what should be his present hopes and aspirations, and what shall be his ultimate destiny. He also alluded to the eternal nature of the plans and purposes of the Almighty. This discourse was reported in full.

ELDER JOSEPH F. SMITH

Briefly addressed the Conference. He said that all Latter-day Saints should devote themselves exclusively to building up the kingdom of God. However as-

siduously we may work to that end, the fruits of our labors are with the Lord. We have, he said, been able to accomplish what has already been done by His blessing. Our enemies, have, at various times, endeavored to overthrow us. Their operations against us have invariably been overruled for our benefit. As this has been the case in the past, so will it ever be in the future. He alluded to the sending of the army here in 1857-8; the object of those who were instrumental in having it sent, and the benefits to the Saints accruing therefrom. He referred to the magnitude of the work that lies before the people of God, and exhorted the Saints to cast aside every evil habit, and practice the holy and ennobling principles of life and salvation.

The choir sang:

"Praise Him."

Prayer by Elder Orson Pratt.

Adjourned till 10 a. m., to-morrow.

According to appointment, a meeting of the priesthood was held in the old Tabernacle, last night, commencing at 7 o'clock, at which many valuable instructions were given, principally with regard to the necessity and best method of carrying on the work of building the Temple in this city. Elders Geo. Q. Cannon, and Orson Hyde, and Presidents Daniel H. Wells and Brigham Young were the speakers.

SATURDAY, 8th, 10, a. m.

The choir sang:

"An angel from on high."

Prayer by Elder Orson Pratt.

The choir sang:

"Ye wondering nations, now give ear."

ELDER GEORGE Q. CANNON

Addressed the assembly. He read a portion of the 17th chapter of the first book of Chronicles, commencing at the third verse. After which he delivered a highly instructive discourse upon the subject of rearing Temples to God. He alluded to the desire which David of old had to erect such an edifice and the reason the Lord had for not permitting him to do so, and why that important labor was transferred to Solomon. No people, he said, excepting the Latter-day Saints, now design to build an house unto the Most High God, upon which His glory might rest and in which His power could be manifested and the ordinances of the everlasting gospel attended to. He spoke of the Temples that were built in the places from which the Saints had been driven by persecution, and the blessings and endowments that were received therein, and which can only be bestowed and conferred in a house built and dedicated for the purpose.

The servants of God, he said, are very desirous that the Temple in this city should be pushed to completion. If the people would faithfully pay their tithes, there would be no difficulty in accomplishing this. There has been much negligence on the part of many in this matter. There was, however, a chance now to make up for past negligence. He showed that additional power would be bestowed on the Elders of Israel if the Temple were finished. This has been illustrated in the past by the power received through the ministrations in the Temples already built by the Saints.

To the keys, powers, &c., thus received could be attributed the miraculous intervention of God's power in our behalf when we were hemmed in by dangers on every side, and there seemed to be no means of escape. If it must be fulfilled that "the tabernacle of God shall be with men," and that God will suddenly come to His Temple, we must build that Temple, that He may visit it.

He showed the eternal nature of the ordinances of the House of God and their absolute necessity in binding the human family together in all the relationships of life and in joining the connecting link between the living and the dead. He gave numerous and conclusive reasons why the Saints should prosecute with energy the work of completing the Temple.

ELDER CHARLES W. PENROSE

Addressed the Conference. He spoke of the joy that had animated the breasts of all the Saints, in every part of the world, when it was announced to them that they would have the privilege of building a Temple to the name of God. He alluded to the prophecies of the ancients in relation to the establishment and building of the House of the Lord in the last days. Our gathering here has so far fulfilled those prophecies, but there is an immense amount of labor yet