

CONCLUSION OF PRESIDENT YOUNG'S TRIP TO SANPETE.

[REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.]

Mount Pleasant, 12th.

At early candle-light, the dancing-hall was lighted up and a dance inaugurated, in which the President and company freely participated.

Thursday, 13th.

After rain enough in the night to lay the dust, this morning is cloudy and cool. Meeting called to order at 10 a.m.

Elder W. Woodruff.—The Lord gives unto us revelation and truth as fast as we can make good use of them. It is a great blessing for us to know that we have the gospel, and not to be in doubt or in ignorance of our true position, which was the case before we embraced this work. We have apostles and prophets, a foundation upon which to rest our faith. The position we occupy, to-day, is vastly superior to that of the world. We read in the Book of Mormon that no nation or people will be permitted to dwell upon this land when the cup of their iniquity is full; when that is the case they cannot escape being overthrown. He quoted an instance from the Book of Mormon, where the Nephite nation were destroyed because of their sins. The spirit of God is being withheld from the nations of the earth, because of their iniquity. This is a good people. The Lord is striving with them. The Spirit of the Lord rests upon them, and they desire continually to do right and to live in the commandments of the Lord. As the wicked become more wicked, we should increase in righteousness. This is the kingdom of God and will prevail. The ancient prophets spoke of this kingdom and this day in which we live, when the earth should be sanctified, and the way prepared for the coming of the Son of Man in the clouds of heaven. God has given us wise men to lead us, and the Lord reveals His secrets unto His servants the prophets. We are the sons of Israel and the daughters of Zion, and God is our friend; and we know that we are right. We should seek to become sanctified before the Lord, and not to do any thing unless we are sure it is right. It is important that we teach our children righteous principles, for we fathers are wearing out, and they will have to step forth and continue the work that we are engaged in. If parents instil righteous principles in the minds of their children, those children will be affected by them throughout all their lives. The children God has given to this people are a great blessing to them, and should be carefully reared and educated, for the Lord is raising among us a kingdom of priests. Children have got faith in what their parents teach them, and parents should not conduct themselves contrary to what they teach their children, that the precepts they teach may be sustained by example. Let us pray to our Father in Heaven, for He holds the elements in His own hands, and can use them to hedge up the way of the wicked. Prayer is a mighty weapon, and we should be armed with it, as well as with other preparations, and thus be ready for what ever may occur. Let us be faithful before the Lord and prize and profit by these visits of our President.

Elder F. D. Richards.—I felt moved yesterday morning when I saw one of the brethren, who was keeping the passage way open, putting some little boys outside of the bowery. These little boys are just as anxious to see the prophet and his traveling friends as the grown up people are, and as anxious also to hear what is said at these great meetings. Does it not behoove us to be careful how we bring up these tender plants given into our care? They are innocent, and are more ready to receive the good than the evil; we should, therefore, give them the advantage of every opportunity which offers itself to forward their education in the principles of truth and life. They should have seats in the place of worship where the name of God is praised and His gospel preached. We are apt to treat this matter too lightly. Why not increase Sunday schools here and everywhere throughout the Territory, and thus teach them respect of that day, as well as to teach them the ways of the Lord, that when they arrive at the proper age they are ready to enter, by baptism, into the church of Christ, and thus lead on our children to become very useful and mighty men in bearing off the kingdom of God among all people.

Shall we live in the way of the gentiles, or shall we let the past suffice? We are now pretty comfortably situated with food and clothing and houses to dwell in, now let us see to the proper

education of our children, and encourage still more among us good teachers; and let us make it worth their while to follow the business of teaching. The speaker gave some excellent instructions to young men and women entering into marriage relations.

Elder George A. Smith.—The work of God is progressing more than we are progressing; we are scarcely up to the spirit of the times. We have to become acquainted with the affairs of men and nations. We commence in the organization of a township, and pass on to a County, a Territory and a State. Hence, we are placed under the necessity of making ourselves acquainted with law and justice.

If we let little petty feeling, create factions among us it gives the devil power over us. What we do we should do as one man. Our system should be Theo-Democracy,—the voice of the people consenting to the voice of God.

Afternoon.

President Brigham Young spoke about an hour.

Elder W. H. Hooper addressed the congregation for a short time, though suffering from sickness.

President B. Young; "I return thanks to the brethren and sisters for their kindness, and to the choirs and bands of music, in behalf of the company with me. Thirty years ago I contemplated thus traveling among the Saints, but I would then say to myself, "Brigham, you will never see that day," yet I do see it, and wherever we go we meet a brother and a friend.

Elder Van Cott spoke in Danish.

Elder G. D. Watt bore testimony to the work in which we are engaged; and exhorted the people to domestic, local and public improvements, to build good houses, make nice gardens and progress in improvements generally. Spoke of the industry and energy of the people, and the productiveness of the soil with care and labor, although it was said when we came here that we could not raise grain nor fruit.

Pres. B. Young dismissed the congregation, and prayed the blessing of God upon all His people.

The bowery at Mount Pleasant is 100 by 80, well put up and fenced around with willows and poles, leaving entrances by gates.

Rolled out of Mount Pleasant and arrived in Springtown a little before sunset. It rained upon us all the way and in sufficient quantity to make the roads muddy. The rain continued to fall in the night, doing an invaluable amount of good to the growing grass and grain.

MEETING AT SPRINGTOWN.

Elder Stenhouse briefly sketched his experience during the past twenty years, in connection with this great work.

Elder Taylor spoke of the situation of the people, their being gathered for the purpose of worshiping God according to their own conscience, that God might teach them how to live, how to govern themselves, and how to prepare for returning again to His presence. He had instituted the Holy Priesthood, that the people might learn of their father and God, the object of their existence and what was held in reserve for those who lived purely and holy, that a holy seed might be raised up to the Most High; the blessings conferred upon the people were given to them to enable them to co-operate with the living priesthood now upon the earth, and with the priesthood of past ages. God, the holy angels and the spirits of the just are interested in our welfare, happiness and exaltation, a thousand times more than we can possibly be interested in our own children. Men and women are interested in their families, so the Lord is interested in the welfare and salvation of all His children; the Lord has drawn us together by His Spirit, and the Holy Ghost has fallen upon them, and shown us the truth of the work which He has commenced for the salvation of the human family; His Spirit has taught us the object of our existence and their destiny. The speaker continued at some length on the progress of the people and the future that is before them, and closed with his blessing to Israel everywhere.

Elder Joseph W. Young spoke encouragingly to the Saints, and rejoiced with them in the work of salvation.

President Young spoke a few words on the nature of his visits to the Saints in the settlements; that he was pleased to see them and to encourage them in their faith and good works; blessed them in the name of the Lord.

While meeting was being held at Springtown, Elders Geo. A. Smith, Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow and Franklin D. Richards, accompanied by others of the company, started at 10 a. m. for Fort Ephraim, to hold meeting there at 12 noon.

FORT EPHRAIM.

We entered this city through an arched gateway, formed of green branches and flowers, planted in the centre of the main street. Just before we reached the front of the meeting-house, which is a substantial rock building, we passed between two massive pillars of green boughs and flowers, mounted with the Stars and Stripes, similar columns extending across the street on each side of the entrance but of lesser dimensions, tied together with green and flowery garlands extending from pillar to pillar, each bearing a flag. The effect was striking and beautiful, and speaks loudly in favor of the respect the people of this settlement bear the leaders of Israel, and the hearty welcome they tendered to them.

MEETING AT FORT EPHRAIM.

At 12 noon, the people congregated for meeting. In the course of the meeting it was reported that the President and party were approaching the city, and we had a recess to give the people an opportunity to bid them welcome.

Elder Wilford Woodruff addressed the Saints: We need constant teachings that we may understand our duties thoroughly. This is a great work, and God requires a good people to work with, and for this purpose the elders of Israel have traveled through all the world, to gather together the proper material to work with. We now are trying to sanctify ourselves before God, to be worthy of our high calling, to build up His kingdom. It is our business to try to establish the kingdom of God in spite of all the opposition that is arrayed against us. He gave some excellent instructions regarding the training of children.

Elder Lorenzo Snow:—This is not our work that we are engaged in, it is the work of God. We are directed in our movements by a superior intelligence. We know who it is that guides us as a people in our growth and prosperity in these mountains. Our work at the present time consists chiefly in what is considered small things—things which pertain to our temporal and physical development. The future of this kingdom will rest on our offspring; and its power and ultimate triumph, on their education and proper training. If we wish to sway a proper influence over our families, we must show them good examples as well as give them good precepts. We should be able to say, do as I do, as well as to say do as I say.

Br. Van Cott spoke in the Danish language.

The arrival of the President and party caused a brief intermission, after which

Elder Geo. A. Smith returned the thanks of Pres. Young and company to the people for the manifestations of welcome to him and his party. He continued: President Young is looked upon as the wisest and most reliable man in the nation, though they are not willing to admit that he has attained to this wisdom and influence through the revelations of Jesus Christ. The acquisition of wealth is of secondary consideration. The building up of the kingdom of God should be the great object that we have in view in obtaining wealth, and should be the first and leading purpose of our lives. Self-preservation is considered the first law of nature. Oliver Cromwell said, "Trust in God and keep your powder dry." We are brought in contact with the Lamanites and they are not always to be depended upon. It is necessary for us to be prepared and united, and we can then defend ourselves against all wicked men and devils. He encouraged those who had not done so, and who were entitled to them, to obtain their full papers of citizenship; and urged all to vote at the ensuing election, honestly and conscientiously.

Elder Geo. Q. Cannon: What we have heard from Elder Geo. A. Smith is a practical sermon, and should be put into practice. By the Wisdom of God we can circumvent the adversary, and progress in the building up of the kingdom of God. We have thus far been victorious in every struggle that we have had with the enemy of all truth. We have been scattered and peeled and apparently had to leave the field, but by pursuing a wise policy it has always turned out that truth has gained a signal triumph over error. The past is a true chart for the future; as we have triumphed in the past so shall we triumph in the future. The struggle between light and darkness will continue, and it behooves us to be fully prepared for it. God has committed unto us this kingdom, and we should do all we can to accomplish the great purposes of God, and not be slothful servants, waiting to be commanded in all things. If we were to wait for God to command us to

put away evil from among us, it would be accompanied with censure to us. When we have faith and take hold of the promises of God, He is with us in power equal to our faith. The Priesthood of God has made us what we are, and we should under all circumstances honor this heavenly authority which God has revealed in our day and honored us with.

Elder Franklin D. Richards spoke of the rights which it is the will of God to bestow upon us, saying, we must step forward and lay hold of them, to our own benefit and the benefit of our children after us. Treated on the people being in a position to defend themselves, referring to the Lamanites, who know that we are their best friends, yet will kill our citizens, waylay the unconscious traveler, murder him and rob him of his property. We should be well prepared for such emergencies. The work of God cannot be hindered; but the Lord will make the wrath of man to praise Him. We should struggle for the right in everything. We are here to learn and practice the laws of God, and become the true sons and daughters of Zion.

Elder Hooper spoke a short time.

Pres. Young arose and stated that Br. Van Cott would preach to the people to-night, and then addressed the Saints a short time, when the meeting was concluded by a blessing from the President.

We took dinner and drove to Manti accompanied by Col. Burton and traveling companions from G. S. L. City who had joined us at Fort Ephraim.

In the evening Elders Van Cott and S. W. Richards spoke to the Saints at Fort Ephraim.

Manti, Saturday, 15.

Last night companies of horsemen repaired to the scenes of some late Indian outrages, to arrest, if possible, those marauders, and punish them for their crimes. The people from the settlements in the neighborhood of Manti gathered in multitudes to attend our two days meetings, and the public grounds in the city looked like a fair with bands of music playing; everybody seemed happy, and the little folks were full of glee, dressed in their best, expecting to see the President and the brethren from G. S. L. City.

Elder Amasa M. Lyman met with the President and company at this place.

MEETINGS AT MANTI.

At 10 a.m. the people assembled in the spacious bowery inside the Old Fort.

Pres. B. Young arose, wished the people good morning, and expressed his gladness at seeing them, when the meeting was opened in the usual way.

Elder John Taylor.—We are all in the hands of God, and should be willing to be guided by Him through His constituted authorities on the earth. Before we can spread forth light and intelligence, we must ourselves possess it. No man knows the things of God but by the Spirit of God. And in proportion as we possess that Spirit so should we be able to stand upon the great platform God has called us to occupy. Inasmuch as the Saints magnify the high and holy callings, they will always have the spirit and power of revelation from heaven to enlighten them, and they will be one with the prophets and the apostles of God, and one with God; and all will be filled with the effulgence of the Spirit of light from heaven.

Every one who cultivates the Holy Ghost will be full of light, and all uncertainty will be banished from the minds so long as they cultivate the Spirit within them. God does not leave men to themselves who trust in Him and keep His commandments. I am the light of the world, says Jesus, and He that abideth in me shall have the light of life and shall not walk in darkness. When men walk in Christ they are full of peace and joy, there is no doubt, wavering or anxiety in the minds in relation to anything and the Spirit of God takes of the things of God and shows them unto us.

Because we have the Spirit of revelation it is not for us to think that we are all to lead the church, for God has placed apostles and prophets, etc., in His church, for the work of the ministry. The organization and powers of the Holy Priesthood flow from God and His Son Jesus, and hence we reverence them.

What has preserved this people? the Lord, by the medium of the Holy Priesthood and in answer to prayer. We do not trust alone in carnal weapons—we trust in God. When we have prayed, God has heard us, and delivered us from evil. We should have our dependence upon the Lord, and trust in Him for guidance; and it should be with us the kingdom of God first in everything. The nearest and best way to accomplish what we need for