

Superintendent of the Deseret Sunday School Union,
PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON:

To the Superintendents, Teachers and Children of the Sunday Schools:

Dear Brethren and Sisters.—It would give me great pleasure to speak to you to-day—the forty-first anniversary of the entrance of the Pioneers into the Valley of Great Salt Lake—in my own voice; it would be a great privilege; but as I cannot do this, I desire to send you a few words in writing.

As the General Superintendent of Sunday Schools I rejoice exceedingly in their growth and in the great amount of good which is being accomplished through them. Every settlement throughout these mountain valleys where faithful Latter-day Saints dwell has a Sunday School. Our last report gives the number of our schools as 433 and the number of scholars as 60,000.

TO THE SUPERINTENDENTS AND TEACHERS

I say, what a vast field of usefulness do these numbers represent! Sixty thousand precious souls to be taught the truth—to be taught the object of our Heavenly Father has had in view in giving them an existence—to be taught how to use that existence with the greatest profit to themselves and to humanity!

The Lord in speaking to Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer, concerning their calling, said:

"If it so be that you should labor all your days in crying repentance unto this people, and bring save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father."

Our Elders labor for long years to warn the people of the various nations of the approaching judgments and that the day of the Lord's coming draweth near. They are considered successful missionaries if during an absence of two years they are the means of bringing more than a score of people to the knowledge of the truth. A large percentage of these drop by the wayside and fail to endure to the end. But not so with the greater portion of these sixty thousand children. They come to us free from tradition and prejudice, with natures unspiced and uncontaminated, and ready to be moulded and fashioned according to the will of those to whom their training is committed. It is true they have their agency. According to the immutable decree of heaven they have the right to choose what they will be and whom they will follow. But if they are taught faith in God, and how to approach and know Him for themselves, and are made to understand the principles of righteousness, comparatively few of them will ever become infidel to the truth.

The children of the Latter-day Saints may have many weaknesses and be guilty of many follies; but in very few instances will they, who have received a careful and thorough training in our Sunday schools, ever become so abandoned as to have all love for God and His Zion utterly extinguished within them. The impressions made upon them in early years, when accompanied by the Spirit of God, can never be entirely effaced; their effect will be felt, in some form, as long as life will last.

Brethren and Sisters, Superintendents and teachers of Sunday schools: I feel sure that I do not overstate the importance of your callings, when I say that, in the proper education of these sixty thousand children which are numbered among the attendants of our schools, you have one of the greatest opportunities for profitable soul-saving labor ever enjoyed by mortals. But it requires faith and patient labor on your part, for you are now preparing the ground and sowing the seed. The harvest is not yet, but it will surely come by and by. Then you will see the fruits of your exertions and have abundant and never ending joy therein.

As General Superintendent I have had very great pleasure in hearing of your zeal and self-sacrificing devotion to the Sunday Schools. Your encouragement and reward have been the consciousness that you were doing good. In this you have shown true love for the souls of these children, and also recognized how great the advantage to the future of the work of God it will be to have them properly taught the truths contained in the Bible, the Book of Mormon and the Book of Doctrine and Covenants.

Probably there never was a time in the world's history when there was such an urgent necessity as there is at present for the men and women who love God and His truth to take a strong stand for pure religion. The very existence of God, with the attributes which His servants have always ascribed to Him, is stoutly and widely denied. And many who do not deny the possibility of there being a God, ridicule the faith that teaches us that He is willing to hear and answer prayer and to exert His providence in behalf of man. The prevalent belief is that the God of heaven is as voiceless, as powerless, and as deaf to all human supplication as Baal was when his priests called upon him in the days of Elijah. A flood of infidelity, steadily increasing in volume and intensity, is sweeping over Christendom. It is carrying before it that veneration for ancient beliefs and cardinal truths which men of God in all ages have cherished. Its treacherous waves have reached this

land; they surge around our very doors, and threatens to engulf our children and obliterate the faith which we have received from heaven.

But God has given to the Latter-day Saints the mission, and with it the power to check the advance of this tide of unbelief and to turn it back. One of the best agencies at our command at the present time to effect this with our children is the Sunday school. By a wise use of the opportunities which it furnishes, a knowledge of sound doctrine can be imparted to the children that will fortify their minds against the pernicious errors which, in the world, are sapping genuine faith in God and in heavenly gifts.

It is interesting to know that our example in maintaining Sunday Schools in Zion is being followed in other parts of the world where there are branches of the Church of any size. Even on the Sandwich Islands, and in far off New Zealand, the Elders avail themselves of this agency to teach the children the principles of the Gospel. Our Sunday School Union, though its funds have been limited, has helped the Elders in these labors in some instances by sending them some of its publications. Even now arrangements are being made to respond to a call from President Paxman of the New Zealand Mission to supply the Maories with some of our cards.

As a Sunday School Union we should take prudent steps to accumulate a fund by means of which we can supply calls of this character whenever made upon us. The Assistant General Superintendents and the other officers who have had the care of the business of the Union in the past deserve our thanks for their economy and prudent management of its finances. As our field of operations enlarges they will find an increased necessity for the continued exercise of these qualities.

We are surrounded by tribes of Lamanites, to whose instruction and elevation we must devote attention. We should prepare ourselves, as a Sunday School Union, to do our part in teaching them correct principles and the arts of true civilization. The publications which we have issued, being plain and simple and adapted to their capacities, will be found most useful for this purpose in the schools that will be established among them.

In a word, there is no limit to the good that can be accomplished by this organization of Sunday School Interests. Already, we perceive how wonderfully the Lord has blessed the Sunday Schools and those who have sustained them. Presidents of Stakes, Bishops, and other leading officers of the Church have learned to appreciate their value and the potent influence they wield in promoting good order and restraining evil. These schools have grown and prospered marvelously. The future is equally full of promise for them. Now our scholars are counted by tens of thousands; but the day is not far distant when they will be numbered by millions.

Now, let me say a few words

TO THE CHILDREN.

Be punctual in your attendance at Sunday School. While there, take pleasure in learning all you can. The knowledge you obtain there is truth. It will be of use to you here and throughout eternity. The earth may be burned with fire and all the elements be consumed and changed; but the great truths taught to you in the Sunday School will never change; they will endure forever. By learning these truths and making them a part of your lives, you will lay the foundation for your happiness in this life and for eternal joy in the world to come. In the Sunday school you will learn about God your Heavenly Father. You will learn about your elder brother, Jesus, the Savior of the world. You will be taught how you can best please God, and how you can obtain His help and protection and how to ask Him and receive from Him that which you need. In the Sunday school you will learn about the Holy Ghost and what course you must take to ever have it with you. The knowledge which you gain there is more valuable than all the wealth of the world; yes, it is more valuable than life itself.

At the Sunday school you, boys, can learn about the plan of salvation, so that you can become missionaries to carry the gospel to the world and help prepare the earth for the coming of the Lord Jesus.

There you, girls, can learn those principles which will qualify you for your important duties, and prepare you, in your turn, to teach your children the laws of God.

From the Sunday School as you, children, grow in years and experience, you can continue to progress in obtaining intelligence, until you will be prepared to enter the society of the redeemed, and continue your advance through the endless ages of eternity. And that this may be the eventual happy condition of you all—superintendents, teachers and scholars—is the earnest and heartfelt desire of

Your Brother,
GEORGE Q. CANNON.

McIntyre's Glee Class then sang "The Soldiers' Chorus" in a manner that showed the efficient work of their leader, Brother Thomas McIntyre.

APOSTLE JOHN HENRY SMITH

said: I rejoice in the privilege of joining with you in paying our respects to the dead heroes who came to this land and made it so desirable for us, and also to those who are alive and

still in this sphere. I pray the blessings of God may be with them, and as they ripen and pass away, that God our Heavenly Father, will welcome them to His eternal home as His chosen sons who have been faithful in the discharge of their duties. May we emulate their good example, we who are the descendants of these noble sires. May we stand upon the rock of truth and carry God's work forward with success until its banners are reared on every mountain side. I pray that the truth may penetrate throughout the earth until the sons of God shall shout for joy in every land. Amen.

Sister Agnes Thomas sang "The Return."

The anthem "Ye shall dwell in the Land," was sung by Brother Moroni J. Thomas and the Tabernacle choir.

APOSTLE HEBER J. GRANT

said: I take pleasure in standing before this vast congregation this afternoon, and in saying a few words in praise of the Pioneers who entered these valleys 41 years ago today. There are no men that should live in the hearts of the Latter-day Saints more than the Pioneers. There are none residing in this Territory that have done more than they for its material advancement and for the advancement of the people here or those who will come. They are to the Territory of Utah what the Pilgrim fathers are to the United States, and the joy and patriotism that fill the heart of every American citizen on the Fourth of July, and that goes out to these noble men that founded our country should fill the hearts of the people that dwell in these mountains, and should go out to the noble Pioneers who came here on July 24th, 1847. I praise God that we are the children of those who made it possible for us to dwell in these beautiful valleys, surrounded by these grand mountains. May we be true as they have been true to the principles of truth. May we press forward and gain everlasting life in the kingdom of God is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Brother Goddard paid a compliment to Brother Joseph H. Ridges, the builder of the Tabernacle organ.

The Sunday School children sang—

The youth of each land for their fatherland stand,
And boast of its grandeur with pride;
Whatever their estate, their fortunes or fate
To none is this freedom denied.
Then why should not we, young, happy and free,
Rejoice in the land we love best?
For our Father, so kind, our lot has assigned
In Utah, the queen of the west.

PRES. ANGUS M. CANNON.
was called and paid a high tribute to the labors of the Pioneers. As the snows of the mountains melt and spreading over the valleys caused the earth to bring forth bountifully, so may the truths embraced by the Pioneers and by all the Latter-day Saints, be the means of increasing the love of liberty, of industry, of peace, of virtue, and of intelligence, to the glory of God. May His blessing rest upon the Saints and upon all the pure in heart in this and all other lands.

The audience then arose to their feet, and after benediction by President Angus M. Cannon, dispersed to their homes.

DUBLIN, July 26.—A number of tenants have been evicted from their holdings on the Lewis estate at Woodford, County Galway. The evicting party met with desperate resistance. One of the policemen was injured and eleven of their opponents were taken into custody.

STAPLETON, L. I., July 26.—Joseph E. Stickney's steam yacht *Susquehanna* left this morning for Adams Express Company's pier, Jersey City, where the President and Mrs. Cleveland were to board the yacht for a few days' cruise as the guests of Mr. Stickney. The trim yacht was covered with bunting from stem to stern.

GRATEFUL.—"Clara," said the old man from the head of the stairs, "say to that young fellow that a storm is coming up."

"All right, sir; thanks," responded the young fellow himself, "I hadn't noticed it; I think I'll wait and see if it doesn't blow over."

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ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One large roan BULL, branded **MC**, on right hip.
One black yearling Jersey BULL, branded **M9** on right hip.
If said animals are not claimed before the 9th day of August, 1888, they will be sold to the highest cash bidder, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the estray pound, Mountain Dell.
W. B. HARDY,
Poundkeeper.
Parley's Cañon July 25th, 1888.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One bay MARE, 4 years old; branded **PR** on right thigh; with sore under her jaw; also star on right hind foot.
If damage and costs on said animal be not paid within ten days from date of this notice, it will be sold to the highest cash bidder, at Snyderville, at 10 o'clock a. m., on the 14th day of August, 1888.
WM. ARCHIBALD,
Poundkeeper of said Precinct.
Dated at Parley's Park precinct, Summit County, Utah, this 24th day of July, 1888.

ESTRAY NOTICE

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION.

One cream colored HORSE; 5 years old; white mane and tail; left hind foot white; white spot in forehead; branded **OB** on right thigh.
One dark iron-gray yearling mare COLT; white hind feet; branded **CA** on left thigh.
One bay yearling mare COLT; white spot in forehead and white strip down nose; branded **K** on left thigh.

If the above described animals are not claimed within ten days, they will be sold on the 27th of August, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the precinct pound, Granite, to the highest cash bidder.

JOHN ROYCE,
Precinct Poundkeeper.

GRANITE, July 23.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION.

One sorrel HORSE; 3 years old; white stripe in face; little white on right hind foot; shod all round; branded **E** on left thigh.
One bay HORSE; 13 or 14 years old; collar and saddle marked a little; shod all round; branded **J** on right thigh; **H** on left hip.

If the above animal is not claimed and taken away within 15 days from date, it will be sold to the highest cash bidder, at the North Jordan estray pound, at 2 o'clock p. m. on the 9th day of August, 1888.
W. J. SPENCER,
Poundkeeper of said Precinct.
North Jordan, July 25th, 1888.

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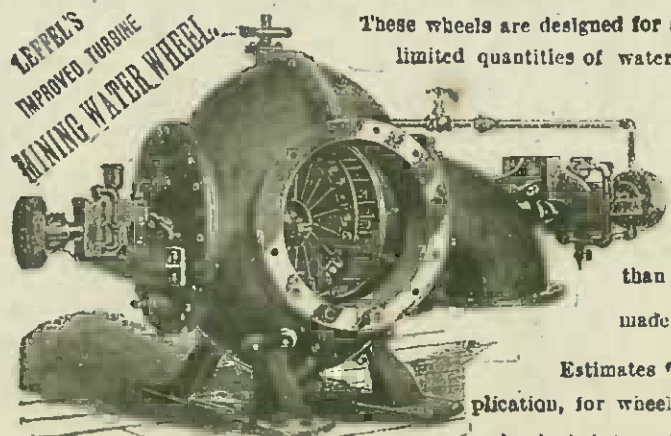
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