

MISCELLANEOUS.

HUMILITY.

In life's sweet morn, when vanished hands
Taught me aright to stray,
Thy spirit, Lord! shone round my path,
And lit the unknown way.

The terrors of the night it chased;
It calmed the dread of ill;
And in the house of pain and grief
Brought solace to me still.

It showed, of Right, the pleasant paths;
Of Wrong, the darksome way;
It moved my heart to kindly deeds;
It taught my lips to pray.

Oh, gentle Spirit! with the years
A time long faded thy light!
Was it Ambition hid thy rays?
And wrapped my soul in night?

But ever yearned my heart, dear Lord!
And oft I called in vain,
Till Thou did'st kindly hear my prayer,
And send its aid again.

Youth's happy days have long since passed;
Life's noon has come and gone;
Yet, through the ever-varying years,
Thy light has led me on.

The clouds of darkness, doubt, despair,
Before its beams have fled;
And sorrows, hard to bear, have turned
To blessings on my head.

Now, as the shadows draw their length
Down life's declining hill,
When doubt and unbelief are rife,
Be with me, Spirit, still.

Illumine all the walks I tread;
Make clear the unknown ways;
Point out the pleasant paths of Truth,
As in my boyhood days.

Give me, as then, a prayerful heart,
Obedient to the right,
That I e'er darkness may prevail,
And live within Thy light.

JOSEPH A. SMITH,

Providence, Utah.

PAROWAN'S ANNIVERSARY.

PAROWAN, Iron County, Utah,
January 14, 1896.

Yesterday, the 18th, was a big day with us it being the 46th anniversary of the settlement of this place by the pioneers. This place was settled January 13, 1851, by President George A. Smith and a company of 120 men, women and children. They were forty days getting from Salt Lake City to Parowan; we can now make it with the assistance of the railroad in two days.

In the remarks of the pioneers yesterday we learned that this part of the country was seemingly so forbidding, the water was so scarce, the soil so red and barren, and the trouble with Indians so threatening that altogether many were discouraged and the next spring after the settlement here only twenty-five men were left. The Indian troubles the early settlers of Parowan had were retold, some of which have appeared in the News from your excellent correspondent James H. Martineau. Bro. Martineau lived here in early times, was general recorder of this part of the country and being an educated man

kept a fine record. Brother John Steele of Tugueville, a pioneer to Parowan, also a member of the Mormon Battalion, and his worthy daughter Mrs. Elizabeth Steele Stapely, were with us yesterday. Sister Stapely was the first child born in Salt Lake City. She was born in a tent pitched where the Temple block now stands, August 9, 1847. Sister Stapely lives at Kanarra, Iron county, and has a large family. One of her sons performed an honorable mission, returning therefrom two or three years ago.

In early days Brother John Steele was the military leader of this place and led his minute company against the Indians whenever they were making raids against the settlers or against their stock. One of the pioneers in his remarks said, we had such faith in our leader, that had Captain Steele given the command we would have fought all the Indians in the United States had it been possible.

The remarks of the several pioneers present were interspersed with songs, recitations, instrumental music, etc., and a very happy reunion was enjoyed by the veterans and their hundreds of warm-hearted friends.

Statehood day was also celebrated here in first class style on the 8th inst. (Some thought it should be January 4th and not the 6th.) The substance of the remarks of the various speakers was, that taken in its broad and comprehensive light, statehood was one of the greatest blessings that could come to Utah. The burden might be felt a little at present in higher taxation but the blessings of the future would outweigh that burden a hundred fold.

We would like to say, if not out of place here, that we were exceedingly well pleased with Elder B. H. Roberts' reply to an Ogden correspondent published in the SEMI-WEEKLY DESERET NEWS of the 12th inst. It was a most able reply, covering the whole ground and from the standpoint of every true Latter-day Saint I think it unanswerable. I trust our Ogden brother and all who may feel more or less as he does will read and be greatly benefited by the reply. I could wish that every man, woman and child interested in the subjects treated in the correspondence might read the same, and every Latter-day Saint is interested, and those who oppose them should also be interested.

WM. C. MCGREGOR.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

President, Angus M. Cannon presided over the services at the Tabernacle Sunday afternoon, Jan. 17, 1897. The choir sang the hymn.

Softly beams the sacred dawning
Of the great millennial morn.

Prayer was offered by Elder Elias Morris.

The choir further sang:

How great the wisdom and the love
That filled the courts on high.

Elder William G. Sears who had been laboring in the Samoan Islands

mission, was the first speaker. He said he had been home from the mission field some three months. While away he enjoyed his labors very much and had had the privilege of seeing the blessings pronounced upon his head before going, fulfilled in his behalf. He had been able to acquire the language very quickly, notwithstanding the fact that it was a hard language for an ordinary person to learn. During part of the time while away a civil war was raging among the men of the village where the speaker was residing, and at that particular time the Mormon Elders were called upon by the women, to act as their protectors. This war lasted about a year and a half and the pillaging and destructive spirit of the warriors, caused hard times on the islands. This condition strengthened the faith of the Elders and notwithstanding the scant supply of food, they enjoyed good health and felt well in the performance of their duties.

Elder Sears in his labors had been privileged in visiting all the Samoan Isles, and for such a privilege he felt grateful. The people of these Isles were being blessed of the Lord and the Elders laboring among them were also blessed in ministering unto them. The Samoan mission was opened in June, 1888, and up to the present time 88 Elders had done missionary work among them and 430 souls had been baptized into the Church. Over 100 of those people had fallen away since their baptism, leaving only 300 adult members now in the Church on those islands.

The Mormon missionaries had labored to a great extent on the Friendly group of islands, but their labors there had not been fraught with much success. The people were inclined to be stiff-necked and were anything but hospitable, therefore the progress of the work among them was necessarily slow. On the Samoan Isles the inhabitants were vastly different and showed great hospitality to the Elders. Elder Sears in conclusion spoke in the Samoan tongue.

Elder Z. T. Derrick who had labored on the British Isles was the next speaker. He said from the time of his being set apart to go upon his mission, until his return, he had had joy unspeakable in treading the path of duty. He had done service in the Newcastle conference, England, while away and had borne his testimony unto the people, telling them that God had set up His work in the last days and that He would bless those who embraced it and followed in its teachings. This testimony he could give unto the people in all sincerity for he knew full well that the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ had been restored to the earth and that it was characterized by blessings following the believer, the same as of old. Elder Derrick had enjoyed his mission and had been blessed exceedingly while away.

Elder Daniel H. Livingstone lately returned from a mission to Australia, addressed the congregation. While absent from home he said he had been privileged in talking to the people of the outside world, on the principles of the Gospel. He had felt well in his labors knowing that he was in the