

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The regular Sunday services of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were held in the Tabernacle, yesterday afternoon, commencing at 2 p. m.

The choir sang:

Jesus, from whom all blessings flow,
Great builder of the Church below.

Prayer was offered by Elder C. W. Penrose.

The choir sang:

How dark and gloomy was the night,
When Satan did his powers array.

The Sacrament was administered by the Priesthood of the Eighth Ward.

President George Q. Cannon addressed the congregation. It was with peculiar feelings that he stood before the Saints to speak to them. He was thankful for the opportunity of being once more amongst them and partaking of the peaceful influence that prevailed with this terribly abused people. The contrast between this spirit and that existing where he had recently been was very marked.

Some things had transpired during his absence that were not very pleasant, yet he had considered the circumstances, enjoyed himself. He had never seen so embittered a feeling against the Saints as in the past winter. This community had rebelled to some extent, his feeling and observed it by its effects. Had we been like other people, we would have been greatly alarmed. It looked at one time as if nothing but the destruction of this people would satisfy popular clamor. Had a person come to Utah and examined the true condition of things, it would have been exceedingly difficult for him to divine the cause of all this inimical excitement. The manifestation was, he thought, sufficient to convince most unbelievers in unseen influences that such powers were operating upon the public mind. It is supposed we are living in an enlightened age, yet this feeling was exhibited toward a people whose acts could not possibly be twisted so as to warrant such treatment. This whirlwind of passion, which had no real foundation, was created and fed by the press and from the pulpit. If lies could have destroyed a people, this community would have been buried out of sight long before now. People who had no conception of the real condition here have lent themselves, wittingly and otherwise, to destroy an innocent people. We have been accused of immorality, but there is no other community in the United States where virtue is more respected in the city and practice. We say that people can marry, but they shall not seduce, defile or lead astray. All that we can be accused of is that we have introduced a social institution that obtained among the patriarchs. We have adopted it as a part of our religion. We have not coerced women, but have accorded them the greatest liberty. It is said that our system shocks the sensibility of the nation. This is remarkable in view of existing corruption all over the country. Utah is 2,400 miles from Washington. It might be supposed that if our examples were bad, their influence would not be felt there. At the Capital there is no law against Adultery or fornication, where the government has full power. If morality were the object there would be a good field for the power of Congress. I drew the attention of Senator Edmunds to this point when the bill against Utah was being agitated. I asked him if adulterers would be punished under his bill. He replied in effect that sporadic cases of adultery would not be punished by the measure. If people should live in continued adultery they would be punished, but he thought that people who did not believe as we would be likely to avoid that.

It was not the putting down of immorality that was the object. It was intended to strike a blow at a peculiar feature of our religion. It was the claim that God had given revelation in the beginning of this Church that caused animosity to be aroused against it. Had the first principles of the gospel been preached without this declaration the message would have been popularly received. Mobs were, in consequence of this claim to new revelation, organized against the Saints. This was the chief accusation against the Church in 1832-3. There was no plural marriage then. So in relation to plural marriage, if we were

to practice it in some other form apart from our religion, it would not be likely to excite animosity. But we have, as a people, to pass through these ordeals. We are fighting the battles of religious liberty for the whole world. We are in a good position to do it. We can live by our own endeavors aided by the blessings of God, independent of outside help. When wrath is excited against us we are not thrown out of employment and deprived of subsistence. We will have to fight this battle, and there could be no nobler warfare. We must continue it without flinching or wavering, unyieldingly. We must do this not only for ourselves, but for all men, for all people are entitled to freedom. No power on earth can justly deprive men of their liberties. The day will come when every man in this broad land will enjoy the privilege of worshipping God according to the dictates of his own conscience. Such men as Mr. Talmage and Dr. Newman have conceived a dislike to this people. It is not much to be wondered at that Dr. Newman should feel that way after the defeat he sustained in his political contest with Brother Orson Pratt. Such men, and others of the same calling and spirit demand of Congress that they shall put down the Latter-day Saints, because they do not like them. We would just as soon be dictated to by a Catholic priest as such as they. It is asserted that a hierarchy here has dictated legislation. What are they doing? Who dictated the Edmunds law? Sectarian preachers. We shall contend for liberty as long as life remains. We cannot fight law. "We cannot obey but we can suffer." We cannot afford to disobey God, but we can take the consequences of obedience to His mandates. We do not defy Congress nor the laws of the United States, but we will contend for the establishment of a condition under which all men will worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience, so long as they do not infringe upon the rights of others.

Some of the most absurd arguments are introduced by some people to sustain their opposition to the marital institutions of the Saints. They will ask whether the devotees of a religion inculcating human sacrifice, could not be stopped by legislation. They overlook the fact that there is a wide distinction between murder and marriage, the one is a crime in and of itself, but the other is not essentially a crime. Plural marriage is also occasionally confided with bigamy. That offense inculcates the element of fraud and deception, which is the essence of criminality. In patriarchal marriage, all the parties, being agreeable and entering the relation with a clear understanding, the element of deception or fraud does not enter and no person's rights or freedom is infringed upon by another. It must be admitted that the doctrine of plural marriage could not become universal in its application, because of the numerical equality of the sexes. In Utah, the male sex preponderates over the female. But there are men who are not worthy to have any wife at all.

The Speaker said he had many friends in Washington, even among those who voted for the Edmunds bill. Their action in the matter was in consequence of popular clamor. They did not feel as if they could do otherwise, in consequence of the religious and political pressure brought to bear upon them. We can live in spite of adverse legislation. It may test us and pinch us, but I dread other things among us more than that class distinction and the disintegrating influences of wealth, the opposition from the outside only binds the Saints closer together. Men get wealth and their hearts are set upon their riches. These classes are singled out because of accumulated wealth, having more extended pecuniary interests than others, they are exposed to peculiar temptations.

The effect of outside persecution has been to advertise us. Three gentlemen whom the speaker had never seen had communicated with him, because they considered that an injustice was being done our people. One gentleman from Boston had delivered an able lecture and another, of the same city, produced a very able pamphlet of the same character. A gentleman of New York had written one of the best descriptions of life in Utah that he had ever perused.

The speaker stated that he had appeared at the bar of the House of Representatives of Congress to be sworn in. He had appeared there

in the same capacity at several previous Congresses and had been permitted to take the oath and had taken his seat.

He was the same man, the position being unchanged. It had been admitted that he had all the qualifications necessary, and had been duly elected by an overwhelming majority. Yet he was rejected and that rejection was clearly an unqualified violation of the principles of representative government and the principles of the Constitution.

Step by step the prophecies uttered by Joseph Smith were being fulfilled, and it would ultimately come to pass that the Saints would be the only people who would sustain constitutional principles. He exhorted the Saints to take the counsel of the Lord and be not afraid of their enemies. He exhorted them to sustain every good, pure and wholesome principle. The discourse was elaborate, eloquent and powerful, to which it is not possible to do anything like justice in a necessarily brief synopsis like the following.

President Taylor made the following remarks:

We are all pleased at the return of Brother Cannon to our midst. We all appreciate his labors during his absence. We all believe in the sentiments which he has enunciated to-day; and we all intend, by the help of God to maintain inviolate those great principles which the God of heaven has revealed to us; and to maintain those principles of human rights and human freedom, which he has alluded to. It is for us as Latter-day Saints to live our religion and cleave to the principles of eternal truth, to continue to pursue the course of virtue and to shield and protect the rights of all, male and female, young and old, as far as our power extends; and to sustain the Constitution of our country, together with every institution and principle calculated to elevate and ennoble the human family.

Inasmuch as some have thought, perhaps, that it is rather humiliating for Brother Cannon to return in the way he has done, not having been permitted to take his seat in Congress, I wanted to make a remark or two in relation to it. The Son of God appeared on the earth, but He was not permitted to have a place among men, and they cried out at last "Crucify him! Crucify him! It is not fit that He should live," and men in different ages have had to endure similar treatment for the truth's sake. We look for a continuation of the same condition; but we expect, under all circumstances, to maintain the principles of eternal truth as God has revealed them unto us.

Brother Cannon has been absent a long time, and I was going to say something, and do not know but I will: Jesus descended into hell and I am inclined to think that he has been very near the borders of it. I am happy to know, however, that he appreciates the kind of society that he is among to-day, for we do not calculate to treat any human being as he has been treated. I have felt perfectly satisfied with the course that he has pursued, with the thorough and manly manner in which he has maintained the principles which we as a community believe in, before the representatives of this nation.

All you who feel like sustaining Brother George Q. Cannon in the course he has taken, signify by raising your right hand. [The congregation responded unanimously.]

God bless you, and bless Brother Cannon and all good and honorable men. And may He enable us to pursue a wise and prudent and an intelligent course, keeping His commandments and honoring Him in our lives, that we may be prepared when we get through with the affairs of this world, after having established the great principles that God has committed to our charge, to inherit celestial exaltation in the kingdom of our God. Amen.

The choir sang the anthem:

Praise the Lord, all Ye Nations.

Benediction By Apostle Brigham Young.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
June 15th, 1882.

Being almost overcome by the heat, and with every stitch I have on me saturated with perspiration, I don't feel in the best of humor for writing. In such a plight, I

would much rather drop into one of the numerous parks in the city, and there, under the shade of a tree, endeavor to cool myself down with the aid of a five cent fan. Yet some people have the audacity to tell me that this is nothing—referring to the heat. "Why sir," said a gentleman to me the other day, "this is the coolest season I have known in Washington for years. If you will only wait here another month you will then have a chance of experiencing what hot weather is. I've been here when it was absolutely necessary to change my underwear twice a day; and as for a linen collar, why you won't have one on half an hour before every particle of starch there ever was in it will have disappeared." From my knowledge of the veracious character of the gentleman referred to, I am compelled to accept his statement as absolutely true.

The return of the hot weather, however, has by no means retarded to any perceptible degree, the work in Congress. The work in the Senate is said to be well forward. Yet Senators take things very easy indeed. While the House meets every morning at 11 o'clock, the Senate does not convene till noon, and the latter is generally the first to adjourn. Again, the House of late has had one night session every week; but the Senate not only has never had a night sitting, but it generally adjourns on the Friday evening until Monday, while the House has set every Saturday almost since the beginning of the session, and could not afford even to adjourn over Decoration Day. But then the Senate is an aristocratic body. It is the "Upper House," (as they would say in England,) not only in name, but in nature. To verify this it is only necessary to visit both Houses while in session. In the House there are noise and confusion, albeit every member is on the alert, and knows exactly what is going on. The House indeed seems to delight in being noisy. I have often witnessed the most animated discussions take place upon some important amendment or other, when, in consequence of the absence of order, it must have been a tremendous tax on the speaker to find out what the discussion was about. Sometimes the disputants get very excited; members leave their seats and gather in the vicinity of the wordy combatants; reporters dodge around the best way they can; and at last, when something very funny is said, causing roars of a ghter, the speaker commences to hammer vigorously on the desk with his gavel, shouting at the pitch of his voice, "The House will come to order." "Members will resume their seats," etc. Now, in the Senate, on the other hand, while there are occasionally some very lively scenes amongst the Senators, yet the proceedings, taken as a whole, are of a much more orderly character than those of the House. There is an air of dignity in the Senate that to me is conspicuously absent in the House. A stranger can actually "feel" the difference when he passes from one House to the other.

During the past week and up to the present time, the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill—has been under consideration in the House, and it is a matter of surprise to me that members have stuck so tenaciously to business. From its very title it will at once be seen that the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill must necessarily involve the apportionment of an immense amount of money. It amounts in the aggregate, I believe, to nearly twenty millions of dollars. I have visited the House on several occasions during the consideration of this bill; but in the very nature of things, the proceedings are of the tamest character. The bill covers some one hundred and sixty pages of closely printed matter, full of tabulated figures. Yet the wisecracks of the nation have to undergo the affliction of having it read, and they are supposed to have their weather-eye open all the time to be able to plant an objection to the passage of any item that has the appearance of extravagance. The bill, considering its size and importance, has been pushed through in a surprising short time; indeed, at time of writing it may be said to have virtually passed the House. The next important bill to be considered by the House is the river and harbor bill, which is under consideration to-day and may be passed before this letter appears in print. Then will follow the invalid pensions bill, which is ready for report by the House committee

on appropriations—and which asks for about one hundred million dollars—and next will come, I suppose, the navy bill over which—unless I am greatly mistaken—there will be much animated discussion, not to speak of personal acrimony.

My previous letters have hinted at this, and notwithstanding that Robeson has in previous years had as much money appropriated for naval purposes as would have built and equipped a navy almost equal to that of England and France, Robeson has cheek enough to ask for any number of millions to build and equip—what should have been built and equipped long ago—a respectable navy for the Republic of the United States. Robeson is one of two things: he is either the best abused man in America—judging from the comments I read about him—or he is an unmitigated thief. I do not assert he is either; on the contrary, I have always noticed that when his naval career is attacked on the floor of the House he is ever ready to repel these attacks with the most vehement indignation.

Outside of the business in Congress, there is nothing worthy of particular note going on in the Capital city. As the session draws to a close, and as the hot weather creeps in, the hotels are beginning to have a deserted appearance, their occupants having departed for the seashore, or the mountains, or other places more congenial in climate than the city of Washington at this time of the year. Yet locally there is always something of interest inspiring. For instance, in connection with what is known as the "whisky" bill, Mr. N. C. Buell, the editor of the Washington Critic, a short time ago, made some very serious charges against two Washington correspondents, namely Mr. H. L. Nelson, of the Boston Post, and Mr. Charles Nordhoff, of the New York Herald. Buell openly accused these gentlemen with having been bribed to write up the bill in question, and he even went so far as to insinuate that certain congressmen were not free from the same taint. To investigate such serious charges, a committee was appointed by the Senate, before which Buell was summoned to appear. He accordingly appeared, and when asked to state the basis of his charges he coolly replied that what he had written was merely "his opinion" formed upon strong suspicions he had heard expressed by certain individuals whose names he refused to divulge. Buell again appeared before the committee yesterday, when he reiterated his belief that the two correspondents mentioned were "on the make," but when pressed in cross examination, he admitted that this was simply his opinion, and that he had no knowledge of any fact which would justify such a charge, or of any person who had such knowledge personally. How the matter will end it is difficult to say. Buell is threatened with legal proceedings on the ground of libel; while on the other hand it is suggested that Buell should receive such a thrashing as to leave him unrecognizable by his nearest friends. The Critic is a journal of the blackguard type, and those who run it must sooner or later expect to see a vacancy in the Editorial department, or otherwise the editor so-maimed that he will not abuse the characters of respectable men for some time to come.

The Star Route trials drag wearily along. Even Judge Wylie complains at the slow rate of progress. A more uninteresting proceeding I never saw, and I certainly pity the judge and the jury who are compelled to sit and listen to the details placed before them. At this stage of the proceedings it is, of course, difficult to say what will be the result of the trial; but if I were to hazard a guess I should say the parties accused will be acquitted. A great deal has been written and much has been inferred in reference to the alleged Star Route conspiracy; but if what I am told is correct, the Government will not be able to establish a case, and the administration which commenced the proceedings will be shown up as having made a mountain out of a mole-hole.

J. I.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

Go to Calder's on the 4th, "Lots" of pleasure and fun, for 25 cents.

The Park City Chinese murder case is under examination, before Commissioner Pearson.