REMARKS

BY

ELDER BRIGHAM YOUNG,

At the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, March 12th, 1893.

REPORTED BY ARTHUR WINTER.

Brethren and sisters, Latter-day Saints, for this opportunity of standing before you I feel grateful to my Father and my God. It is an opportunity that I have longed to come to me. Although I stand here in the fear of man, to some extent, and greatly in the fear of God, I rejoice to have the opportunity of beholding the face of my friends once more. A stranger in a strange land, though he be preaching the Gospel, learns to appreciate the home where his friends dwell. Although many changes have occurred within the last two and a half years that I have been absent—and you may say within the last eight years—yet it is my home, it is the home of the Latter-day Saints, and I rejoice to mingle with them once more in this life. Happiness does not come to me from external circumstances, but it comes from within. Within my breast is the happiness that God has planted there. Man did not give it, neither has his labor taken it from me.

I rejoice today in the plenitude of God's mercies that have brought us to see the fulfilment of prophecy and His handiwork among this people and among the nations of the earth. Elders are not sent out into Babylon today with the very great hope of converting the world. I did not leave my home with the expectation of being able to convert the people of Europe, nor in America, but with an intense desire in my heart to tell the people the glad tidings, declare unto them the knowledge which God had given me, and clear my skirts of the responsibility that I knew to be resting upon me. Not many converts were made in comparison with what has been done by the Elders in years past; yet but a few choice spirits have been added to the people of God, and the principles of the Gospel in plainness have been and are being placed before the people for them to receive or to reject. But I have found, somewhat to my surprise, that a kindlier feeling seems to pervade the hearts of all honest men toward the Latter-day Saints. A kindlier feeling has been manifested to me personally by gentlemen whom I have met in the world, for they believed that the "impurities" of my religion were eliminated. As one gentleman said to me, "What religion will you adopt now, as I understand that your religion is wiped out entirely by law?" I tried to enlighten his mind in relation to these matters, and he was very much astonished to find that the Latter-day Saints believed in anything except plural marriage. But the Gospel is the Son of God, I know, circumscribes the universe and all the creations of God. That which we see, that we hear, that we behold, in the heavens and in the earth, is exactly described by the religion that God has revealed, and that this people have received. I do not feel that the Lord has removed from me, nor from the people. His arm is not shortened, neither is He asleep but He is mindful, watchful, a present help to those who seek Him earnestly.

I have met a few individuals in this city who have expressed some sorrow at the situation in which the Latter-day Saints are placed. I am a new comer among you, to some extent. It is said there is a change in the social, the religious, the political and the financial condition of this people since I mingled with you. But I find no change in the heart of the Latter-day Saints who is seeking after God, filled with an earnestness born of the testimony of the Spirit of the Almighty. I have seen no diminution of labor among the Elders scattered throughout Europe in promulgating the principles of the everlasting Gospel. These changes have not affected, so far as I know, the work at home or abroad. For I testify to you this day that I know that the kingdom of God is rolling forward; the Church of Christ is increasing, and the kingdom of God is nigh unto us. The purposes of the Almighty will be fulfilled, and no power that is arrayed against these purposes shall prevail. The comforts my heart, for I know it by the testimony of the Spirit of God.

It has been remarked by the President of the Church, as I understand, that in the early days when the Elders were proselyting in Europe, one good sermon on the principles of the Gospel would convert hundreds. Today it takes hundreds of good sermons to start one person to investigate the principles of the Gospel. I have known of 3000 invitations being given out to the people of a city to attend a Latter-day Saint meeting, in a respectable hall, and only one stranger has appeared. Not very encouraging! And unless a man is wealthy—as the Elders tear their own expenses—he had better confine himself to street corners, or to public squares, to preach the Gospel, than attempt to hire halls to preach in. But we get enthusiastic once in awhile, and we spend some money, thinking that we can raise the excitement. It is no use trying, however, we cannot do it. If it were not for our enemies, the world would forget this people. Hence, enemies are necessary. If it were not for men who are determined to destroy us, if we were let alone, we would not be trained sufficiently to be precisely ready in the course that we are pursuing. Like the ancients that dwelt upon this continent, the scourge must be applied occasionally, or we would deviate from the right. Men have organized with a determination to break up our meetings in Great Britain, particularly in the north and south, and they have succeeded in raising excitement which has brought in converts. I have looked upon these proceedings and compared them with the persecutions that the people were enduring at home. I have said in my heart, God be thanked, we never could have reached these points without we had opposition. So far as proselyting in the world is concerned, as I understand it, it took several thousand dollars to convert one individual, but the effort is and has been for the Elders to spread abroad the knowledge of the Gospel among the people, that they may be left without excuse, for only unless will come, and this people are responsible for the testimony which has to be borne to mankind. I do not despair; I have not to the past, and I do not in the present, but I have prayed earnestly that we might be united together sufficiently that God would accept the sacrifice we have made and not permit our enemies to shed our blood. The Lamentations of Jeremiah have only to read up the history of the persecutions of early days, and then look upon our comfortable homes, their pleasant surroundings, the beautiful valleys, cities and towns, and the abundance that surrounds them, to be perfectly satisfied that the kingdom is growing.

There is a fact connected with sending Elders forth to the nations of the earth that never struck me as very strange. I have met hundreds of men who have been sent from Zion to strengthen our hands in the work of God, and I would question them when they arrived to this city in Israel. "Brethren, are there any present who have performed a mission before?" The invariable answer has been, "No, we have never been on preaching missions before." I passed five years in the ministry in the old world, from 1832 to 1837, and the country was filled with our missionaries. Not one of those men has appeared in the years that I have been there the last time; yet very rarely have I found a man who has never been upon a mission before or had any experience in the ministry. Young men in all—some still out never been on missions before. This is very singular, and I cannot account for it. But I will say this: the spirit, the power, the ability manifested by the young men who have been sent out to the nations of the earth is not inferior to that enjoyed by any that were sent from 1832 to 1837, when I was there. They have preached the Gospel with a power quite equal to any of the Elders that I have ever heard speak. Young men who have never preached the Gospel have prepared themselves so that within two or three months they were more than a match for the ministers who have been trained to preach a gospel. On one occasion a young man came into the country who had never even attended meetings at home, as far as I could learn; but he had the stamina to accept the appointment and to come to England on a mission. He was there about a year, or a little more, when he was challenged by the most intelligent of the ministers that were in that part of the country (near Cambridge) to a public discussion. He accepted, and their champion was sustained by a score or more of ministers, who came in to witness his triumph over this "Mormon" Elder. I will say, to my surprise and astonishment, the young man delivered an argument in favor of baptism which put his opponent entirely to flight. He did not advance one idea that could be compared with the light, intelligence and strong argument of this inexperienced young man. The ministers claimed that they had not been fairly represented. They chose another champion, and asked that they might have another evening to test this question, "is baptism essential to salvation?" Their second champion was worsted like the other.

These young men that have had no experience, trusting in the Spirit of God, have placed the Gospel before the people in a manner that has pleased those who are experienced. It has been astonishing to me. But I can say that the kingdom is growing, and the hearts of the people are enlarging. I see also that the training of more than sixty years in the principles of the Gospel has brought us to such a condition of affairs that we are to be educated in things pertaining to the kingdom of God as well as the Church of Christ. I look upon it that it is a young man can lay a foundation of faith in Jesus Christ, faith in the principles of the Gospel and in the revelations, he is in the proper way, having received the Church of Christ, to prepare himself for the kingdom of God which will be ushered in upon the earth.

Brethren and sisters, I rejoice to meet with you. I hope I have long able to make myself heard to this vast congregation. I have made, and I feel in my heart to say, God bless the Latter-day Saints; God bless those who are friendly to them and are honest enough to accord them the praise which is their due.

Everything that I see and hear encourages me in the cause in which I am engaged. I have not been disheartened for a moment, nor had one shadow cast upon my mind in relation to this glorious work which God has instituted. I pray that He may give us faith and strength sufficient that our enemies may not prevail over us to any extent—only sufficient to keep us in the line of our duty; and that triumph and success may come unto us in the due time of the Lord, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

A GREAT SCHEME.

How 3000 Acres of Land are to Be Brought Under Cultivation.

By means of the Washington field canal and dam, which will be completed soon, 3000 acres of the best land in the county not now available, will be brought into use. This will be about three times as much as the St. George and Washington people now have. The News is indebted to Hon. R. C. Lund for the following table of specifications and cost of the work to date:

Amount of rock and earth in excavation for canal:

	Cubic yards	Value
Rock	44,[illegible]	$[illegible]
Earth	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rock and earth in dam	18,962	8,[illegible]
Length of canal in miles		[illegible]
Depth of dam in feet		[illegible]
Length of dam canal in miles		[illegible]
Cost of work:—		
Rock and earth in canal		[illegible]
Rock and earth in dam		[illegible]
Superintendence, engineering, and other incidentals		[illegible]
Total work		[illegible]
Expenditure to date:—		
Rock and earth in canal	15,278	15,278 00
Surveys and engineering	15,[illegible]	[illegible]
Purchase of lands	8,[illegible]	[illegible]
Water rights or lands		
Cost of work to date		4,411 00
Superintendence, engineering and other incidentals		4,[illegible]
Total work	14,[illegible]	15,[illegible]

This does not include lateral ditches, of which there will have to be about fifty miles, nor lateral gates, fall in ditches, one and one-fifth inches to ten rods, or one foot to 100 rods.

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THE DEEP CREEK RAILWAY.

Counsellor Waddell Busy Investigating Plans for Its Construction.

HE TALKS ON the Depressed Condition of the Real Estate Market and the Necessity of New Life.

Counsellor Waddell is spending a great deal of his time these days in interviewing people on the Deep Creek railway project. When one scrutinizes his movements another, by a News reporter today he talked to Bishop Williams with the latter immediately after the adjournment of the Temple and the close of the Conference. The people from Utah and Idaho who generally attend the dedicatory ceremonies and the Conference, will spend a good deal of money here. While there are hard all around, yet the people in the mountains always have some money spared away. Now, it is estimated that there will be 5,000 strangers visit Utah during the next three weeks. Even one-half have been in Salt Lake—calling the average $10 will make the take in Salt Lake City, $50,000.

"Nearly a million dollars will thus be dumped into the hands of our merchants, street cars, hotels, railroads, hacks, theaters and miscellaneous institutions. Now, suppose twenty-five cent of that money could be secured, profitably, if not, the difference between the real profit and the twenty-five per cent could be gained by the people and the merchants who get the money, also suppose the people who thus profit were patriotic enough to contribute that twenty-five per cent (which means $250,000) towards the Deep Creek railway, what a change there would be immediately in the prospects and status of the city! And this can be done if only we the people can be made to say and do all together what they say individually they are willing to do.

"Two hundred thousand dollars invested in the road west either as a loan to outside capital or put to construction work for a home company will put the citizens on the net so that the road will be plain sailing.

"There never has been a more aggressive class of citizens than we have and anywhere in the west that the dangerous course of delay now being followed by the people of this city once would be the last word.

"Suppose the Rio Grande Western or Union Pacific should build west from Tintic? Where are cities to be benefited? Where are the advantages which this city would confer? Where the city would immediately jump? The road should start from Tintic, still the people of this town would be as much less than the people of this town ought to stir up every point and get a start west from here.

"It is not simply the question of a road to Deep Creek or Dugway or Fish Springs. It is also the main line for the next road to California. It, therefore, means that Salt Lake City will be the railway center without the shadow of a rivet.

With the start Salt Lake City has the dimensions enough, combined of business and sympathy of men who control the operations in mines and range interest in the surrounding districts, the only thing needed to send her ahead in the Western road.

"If the town was not able to build the road the excuse would be insufficient, but this fact is that if the energy that has been exhibited in dozens of towns of the west, of another the size and ability of this city would be exhibited the problem would be an easy one to solve.

"Land values are depressed. A man who could have sold out three years ago for $100,000 does not know whether he can get $50,000 or not. A small percentage of his land if put into the Deep Creek scheme will make the balance of it worth from 25 to 100 per cent more. Then why not try it?

"This road would help all Utah, and why not use all Utah to help it? Labor will be contributed by people outside of Salt Lake county.

If the people will not build the road themselves it ought to be known quickly, and then another effort ought to be made to raise say $250,000 to give to some one else to do for us what we ought to do for ourselves. And that effort, if properly managed, can be made to work.

Suppose the Chamber of Commerce would go up a scheme to levy an assessment of five mills on the assessed valuation of Salt Lake county, of course this would be a voluntary matter and the pride of the people would be brought into play. Would not seventy-five per cent of the property owners respond? At least thirty per cent of Salt Lake property is owned by non-residents. I am satisfied that at least ninety per cent of the non-resident owners would respond promptly, and if the outside owners in time certainly our own people would be teased or shamed into responding and if ninety per cent of the assessment would be secured, what a wonderful success; $50,000,000 valuation would bring $300,000, eighty per cent of this would bring $240,000, which would be a large sum sufficient to bring the Deep Creek road in a hurry.

Something must be done. The sooner will help us but it will not be sufficient to send Salt Lake ahead in a manner that will help business as it might to be helped, or that will enable landowners to hold up values of land, since a little of business or an somewhere is increase the factory interest.

"All the people seem now to believe in the advantages which will come to the city if the western road is secured. It would mean quickly an additional extension to Los Angeles or San Francisco, and then a great additional markets would be opened up to the merchants of the city.

The travel to be directed from other sections, but the best in south of the Pacific Coast, the iron of southern Utah to be utilized and the resources of Utah to be fully investigated and developed are all factors in the general prosperity that would come to us. The new mines to be opened up would require tunnels, and lumber, of grain, hay, vegetables, salt, groceries and other supplies. Salt Lake alone does not produce all of these and the other portions of the territory would be drawn from and develop accordingly. Therefore a proper effort to explain the proposition to people of Utah outside of Salt Lake county would result certainly in contributions towards the road. From Logan to St. George the people would be benefited and the people would be convinced of the benefits to be derived by willing contributions. Utah people are conservative and slow to move, no one seems to move into action unless gets a tail feed, in outside hands, and the Utah people will be made to see that it will be their advantage to contribute to this enterprise, I believe they will do it.

"The thing necessary now is to get a good plan started, have the matter in charge of persons who know the people have entire confidence and the fact will be every.

"Too leaves is working.

The people are discussing the Deep Creek question as never before. Polls in Salt Lake's mines and the desire to still be worth what they are sure they could have sold for a while ago will make it easier for the city to raise the necessary money to secure the Western road than it was to raise the county bonds. What everything has become used to so. Almost all others now that the Western road would be the making of the city, and therefore everybody must and will help to secure the prize.

"Salt Lake people ought to embrace every opportunity to convince outsiders that it will also be to their advantage to help us in the proposition and sufficient missionary work can be done with the people who will be here during the coming Conference to prove of great advantage to us to the next ninety days. Now is the time to bring over this matter and about two missions after it is thoroughly worked over to the proper time to take action."

Coming to the Dedication.

It would be advisable for those who intend to be present at the Temple dedicatory services to be in hour at which it is necessary to present themselves at the Temple block gates. Those who are to be admitted to a morning service should apply at the gate at 8 a. m. and for the afternoon service at 12:30 p. m. Should any who live outside of the city anticipate being coming in on a train which arrived here at 9 a. m. they could gain admission to a morning service; they are sure to be disappointed. Their arrangements should be to reach the city not later than 8 a. m., or come in the evening previous.

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