

The choir sang the anthem:  
Sing unto the Lord.

Benediction by Patriarch John Smith.

## SECOND DAY.

### MORNING SESSION.

The choir sang:

Praise ye the Lord! 'tis good to raise  
Our hearts and voices to His praise.  
His nature and His works invite  
To make this duty our delight.

Prayer by Elder Milo Andrus.  
Singing:

With joy we own Thy servants, Lord,  
Thy ministers below,  
Ordnained to spread Thy truth abroad,  
That all Thy name may know!

APOSTLE MOSES THATCHER

addressed the conference. The substance of his remarks was as follows: I hope to have a portion of the same Spirit as has rested upon the speakers thus far. The Spirit of God has rested upon the people who have assembled in conference. God has revealed His mind through His prophets in our time. He has revealed the powers and keys of the Holy Priesthood, bringing the truth as it is in Christ to light. Previous to this revelation the world lay in darkness and in doubt. When it was made the youthful Prophet Joseph Smith was in doubt, not knowing which of the many religious paths he should pursue. He took the injunction of the Apostle James, and though only in his fifteenth year, he asked God for wisdom, in which he was lacking. He bowed down in a secret place in the woods, and the powers of darkness oppressed him for a time. In his extremity he called upon God for deliverance. His release came. In a bright pillar of light, which descended upon him, he beheld the Father and the Son, who instructed him to go after none of the religions of the day, because they were all astray, but that the right path would be shown him in course of time. As soon as the youth made known his experience he was persecuted by professed followers of the Savior. From that day until he was martyred in Carthage jail, persecution, calumny and falsehood followed him, culminating in his being murdered in cold blood. He was enabled in his lifetime to organize the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and form the nucleus of that great kingdom of which all the holy Prophets have spoken.

It is not my purpose to dwell upon the early history of the Church, further than to show that we have received the new light and the manifestations of the power of God in our day, and that the Holy Priesthood has been restored and its keys and powers have again been given to men; that under the direction of the servants of God we have gathered to these valleys and built up towns and cities and houses of a sacred character in which ordinances for the salvation of the living and the dead are performed. The hearts of the children are being turned to the fathers and the latter to the children.

Notwithstanding the evidences of these things and the testimonies that have been borne by the Elders, as a people we are derided, scorned and treated with contempt. Efforts are being made to lead our youth away from the religion of their fathers and from the paths of virtue. These conditions should cause the Saints to be determined that the community shall not be entirely leavened with the leaven of the Gentiles. Those who are living humbly and faithfully are not affected by fears as to the final triumph of this work. This feeling only exists in the breasts of those who are imbued with the spirit and genius of the world.

Satan at one time appeared to Moses and requested that great and good man to worship him. Moses detected the spirit of the evil one, and resisted him, and he departed in rage. The prophet had no fear of Satan, for he had before beheld the power and glory of God. Some are afraid when they compare the paucity of our numbers with the multitudes of the world's peoples. They can see no escape for the Saints. Those who have the Spirit of God are, however, not dismayed by any natural appearances, no matter how threatening. The speaker dwelt for some time upon the murderous crime of Cain against his brother and the cause of its perpetration—jealousy and covetousness, as related in the "Pearl of Great Price." The secret oaths and combinations and oaths entered into in those ancient times were also explained. Such associations of a secret character were also spoken of in the Book of Mormon, the ancient prophets on this continent asserting that they would prove the destruction of all peoples among whom they are allowed to exist and flourish. They have been established in this nation, being a special feature associated with the conflict in progress between capital and labor. The speaker treated of the condition of the people of the nation, and then of certain elements that were making their appearance in the community of Saints, saying in substance:

The great issue before the nations today is on the question of the combinations of capital and the union of secret societies of labor against it. In the midst of the Christian nations of the earth we find the evidences of extreme riches upon the one hand and of extreme poverty on the other. Here in the United States a beneficent government has put it within the reach of every industrious citizen to have in his own common right 160 acres of land, yet right in the youth of the nation, and while we are boasting that our power is respected on every sea, and that the United States is absolutely fearless of the combined forces of Europe, the startling announcement was made recently by a congressional committee that fewer people in the United States possess their own homes in proportion to the population of the nation than in France, which has just merged into a form of republican government. The reason given for this state of

affairs is that as the frugal and industrious pioneer takes up and cultivates the virgin soil, he is followed by the banker, the merchant, the saloon keeper, and those who come and take mortgages. The thoughtless, bound down hand and foot by these agencies and powers, yield up their homes and become poor. The same system has prevailed even in the new States of the Union west of the Mississippi River. Take the State of Nebraska. Today she is under the bondage of \$150,000,000 of mortgage; and last year, just from one or two of her counties, 1800 families removed from that State, leaving their farms and improvements to those who had taken mortgages upon their habitations, feeling themselves utterly unable to meet the demands of the money lenders.

This condition of affairs has been a subject of discussion in the House of Representatives and by the Senate. It has been called up before the President and his cabinet. We have not yet discovered a statesman wise enough to propose a remedy that would overcome the evil.

Here in Utah, to some extent, the same ideas are gaining a hold upon the minds of the people, and as our cities become more dense in population, our towns grow into cities and our villages into towns, our people are gradually yielding up their inheritances and becoming tenants rather than the owners of those places which God in His infinite mercy and loving-kindness gave unto them. They are learning the extravagant ways of the world, and the leaven of the Gentiles in this respect is working in the midst of the people.

A little while ago here in Salt Lake City we had the painful spectacle of our brethren, under the influence and leadership of one of these combinations already referred to, striking—not for higher wages, not because they were being oppressed by their brethren, but because they had turned their back against the organization of God's Holy Priesthood, and the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, and had bound themselves to one of the secret societies that are seeking a foothold in the midst of this people. They did not claim that their wages were too small or that their hours were too long, but they did claim that the behest of one of those union men had not been obeyed by the contractor. They claimed that men were employed upon a certain building who did not belong to the union, and that spirit, which bids fair to become one of destruction in the Christian world, found, for a time at least, lodgment in the hearts of some of the employed.

After referring to the watchful care bestowed upon the Saints of Zion by those holding authority in the respective wards and stakes, and the happiness which prevailed among the people, Apostle Thatcher remarked that all this was not the result of secret combination, of socialism, fenianism, of nihilism, of trades unions, and the struggle of labor against capital, but of the Holy Spirit of God resting down