

SUNDAY SERVICES.

The services at the Tabernacle Sunday afternoon, April 25, 1898, were presided over by Elder Angus M. Cannon, president of the Stake.

The choir sang the hymn:

"Guide us O Thou great Jehovah
Saints unto the promised land."

Prayer was offered by Elder Jesse West.

The choir sang the anthem:

"Glory to the Lord, our deliverer."

Elder Brigham Young of the quorum of the Apostles, addressed the congregation. In commencing he expressed a desire to be blessed of the Lord, that each and every one assembled might be spiritually fed and built up in their most holy faith. Times had changed, said the speaker, since the early days of the Church, and there were many of the people that had almost drifted from the truth because of their worldly mindedness. They were too much taken up with the business affairs of life to live in possession of the spirit of the Lord; and in their anxiety to outdo their neighbor in the race for worldly wealth, oftentimes faltered by the wayside and left the Gospel entirely.

Elder Young said that argument was not necessary in convincing honest-hearted people of the truth of the Gospel. It was the spirit of God working upon individuals that brought them into the Church. The still, small voice whispered the divinity of the Gospel and gave the people of the earth an indisputable testimony as to its truthfulness, and this being the case, discussion was not a necessary function in the spread of Church principles.

The speaker deprecated the fact that in the homes of the Saints there was not more order. Games and frivolous pastimes were indulged in to such an extent, that the spirit of the Gospel was hardly in evidence. Some families of the Saints were fast drifting into by and forbidden paths; they were beginning to think too much of worldly pleasures—dance halls, card parties, etc.—to be of much use in helping build up the kingdom of God upon the earth; in fact they were throwing off the armor of Christ and taking on the armor of unrighteousness.

Elder Young referred to the spirit of warfare now rampant in the land, and advised the young men of Zion to show their patriotism to the nation by tilling the soil and getting from it that which would sustain those who had been legitimately called to the front to defend the nation's honor and dignity. They could show their loyalty to their country in a great many more ways than one, and should not be carried away by the cries of those not inspired of the Lord.

The speaker read from the revelation on war given to the Prophet Joseph Smith in early days, in which the war between the North and the South was predicted. The same revelation declared that the time would come within the borders of the United States, when slaves would rise up in arms against their masters and internal dissension would become rampant. Such a condition had been predicted, said the speaker, and would verily come to pass. A war of races was now on; the whites were striving against the colored people, and vice versa, and preparations were now making for the fulfillment of the prediction contained in the revelation given through the Prophet Joseph. The nation should strive to build up peace, and in doing so God would bless it and all the people therein.

Concluding, Elder Young impressed upon the Saints that they could exhibit their patriotism to the nation by being true to their God and not throw them-

selves into the chasm that had been dug by uninspired men. The mission of the Gospel was peace, and the Latter-day Saints should strive to create and maintain it.

The choir and congregation sang:

Our God we raise to Thee.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder E. F. Sheets.

EMERY STAKE CONFERENCE.

Huntington, Utah, April 18, 1898.

Our quarterly conference was held at Castle Dale yesterday and the day before. It had been feared that the attendance would be small owing to the fact that the time and place had been changed only a few days previous. This, however, was a mistake, as all the meetings were crowded, and many were not able to get inside the house.

Elder Lyman and Elder Taylor of the Twelve Apostles and Elder Fjeldsted of the First Council of Seventies were in attendance.

At the opening meeting Elder Larsen gave a brief report of the Stake, which showed that the people were advancing both temporally and spiritually. The poor were being cared for by their respective Bishops, and that with the exception of Castle Dale ward peace and good will reigned supreme among the Saints.

Elder Lyman occupied the remaining time of the first meeting, defining the duties of the different officers in the Priesthood, showing how harmoniously all were joined together for the perfecting of the Saints.

Elder Taylor occupied the time during the afternoon meeting—contrasting vividly the visible with the invisible things of nature, showing how easy it is for the imagination to build mountains out of mole hills, and illustrated the perfection of the Spirit of God in defining truth and bringing peace to the troubled soul.

During the evening on Saturday, the Priesthood was called together and the trouble at Castle Dale was amicably settled.

Sunday morning Elder Lyman presented the general and local authorities of the Church who were sustained by unanimous vote.

John Y. Jensen was chosen and set apart as Bishop of Castle Dale ward with Seth Allen and Peter Frandsen as counselors.

Splendid instructions were given during the day by Elders Lyman, Taylor and Fjeldsted. They returned home feeling thankful for the spiritual feast, and thankful, too, for the messengers of peace who had poured oil upon our troubled waters, pointed out and hid us follow the way to the more perfect life.

D. C. WOODWARD Stake Clerk.

A TESTIMONY.

A sister who has embraced the Gospel recently, writes from Carbondale, Pa., April 6, 1898:

It is about twenty years ago since I first heard the name "Mormon." I scarcely gave it a second thought at that time, but in my recent experience, when one of the Elders of Israel came to my door with a tract, I accepted and read it, and it seemed like a message sent from God direct to me. As soon as I had a chance, I went to hear the Elder speak and I thank my heavenly Father that I did go. I always had my Bible, but I thought it too sacred a book for a sinner to read; but now it appears to me a new volume, and I realize that it is only by the Spirit of God that we can understand the things of God.

It has been over a year since I heard the sound of the first true Gospel note, and I love to think of that time and

of the day I was baptized, which was the happiest of my life. I have had many happy days since and some cloudy ones. I have learned how ready and willing God is to answer prayers, for when I was about to enter the waters of baptism, the powers of darkness seemed to encompass me, and the stream I was ready to step into appeared almost like the river of death. Still I did not feel like turning back, for I knew I was on the road to life, and I asked the Elder standing nearest to me to pray for me, which he did, and there immediately came over me a calm feeling. I felt strong enough to be baptized for all those around me. It was then and there I found out the power in prayer, and it is well for me that I did, for it was not long before the evil one with his many willing aids put in his appearance again, and his promptings came to me something like this: "Now don't you say anything in favor or in defense of the work you have embraced, for what little you may say will not benefit yourself nor anyone else." I knew I had started right, and had a testimony of the work of God; but I soon found that it was as necessary to acknowledge that fact before my brethren and sisters and bear my testimony to others, as it was to possess that knowledge myself.

The evil one is ever ready to tempt and deceive us in all ways, and has even tried to persuade me that I could attend other churches and live my religion good enough; but I soon found that I could not, and I know that "he that planteth and he that watereth are one." I believe the Elders of Israel who are out proclaiming the Gospel do not always realize the amount of good they are doing.

Your sister in the cause of Truth,
MRS. ANNIE E. WADEMAN.

AN ENJOYABLE CONFERENCE.

Whare Kaka, N. Z., March 7, 1898.

It seems to have been some time since anyone wrote to the "News" from this part. We may not be enabled to give quite as glowing an account as some do in other parts of the world, but we are sowing the good seed, and believe that some is falling upon good ground.

I am laboring in the Waiapu district, where I have been for the past year, with Jos. A. M. Jacobsen as my senior companion. We have traveled considerably, and spent a great many happy hours in explaining the Gospel to our Maori friends.

On the 26th and 27th of February, our semi-annual conference of this district convened at Uawa with the following Elders from Zion present: E. F. Richards; George H. Eyre, traveling Elder of Turanga district; Jos. A. M. Jacobsen, president of the Waiapu district, and Bryant C. Mechem, traveling Elder.

At the opening meeting it looked as though our conference was going to be a failure on account of so few in attendance. However, we continued our services, trusting in the Lord and praying for the success of our conference. When our meetings were called to order the second day, our house proved to be too small and a great many were compelled to stand outside, beneath the scorching sun. An excellent spirit prevailed and our conference proved to be a great success. Elder Richards said he had enjoyed the gathering better than any other one yet since acting as president of the mission, not because of the great number which assembled, but of the blessings that were showered upon us by our great Redeemer. We can see that His blessings are still reaching to this far off isle of the seas.

Elder Richards spent the balance of