

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Elder Charles W. Penrose of the Stake presidency presided over the services at the Tabernacle Sunday afternoon, July 10, 1898.

The choir and congregation sang:
America.

Prayer was offered by Elder Henry P. Richards.

The choir sang the hymn:

O my Father Thou that dwellest
In the high and glorious place.

Elder Edwin F. Parry, who recently returned from laboring as a missionary in Great Britain, was introduced as the first speaker. Elder Parry related it as his experience that there was a great lack of faith among those professing Christianity in the world. Such people made many claims that certain things and obedience to certain laws and requirements were not necessary in the making of true Christians. In this, said the speaker, they showed their great weakness, inasmuch as they demonstrated their unwillingness to yield obedience to all the requirements of the Gospel, notwithstanding the profession which they made as Christians. Faith was only apparent through works; without them there was no faith manifest and a profession alone would avail nothing.

Elder Parry bore his testimony to the truthfulness of the Gospel; it embodied all that was good and would save those who would accept of it and obey its precepts. The Elders abroad were working diligently in proclaiming the principles of the Gospel, and in the European mission, conditions were improving and the way was gradually opening up for the spread of truth and righteousness.

Elder Charles E. Rose, who had labored as a missionary in England, was the next speaker. He said he had spent some time in the Newcastle conference, where, on his arrival, a great indifference was manifest, but latterly said the speaker, conditions had improved and the Gospel was gradually finding its way into the hearts of the people. Elder Rose had also labored in the Liverpool office, and had had much satisfaction in his ministerial work, although he found that false and erroneous doctrines were very much in evidence among the people of the world, and that this condition militated much against the spread of truth—the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Elder Hyrum T. Cartwright, whose lot had also been cast with the people of England, next addressed the congregation. His labors, said he, had been in the Nottingham conference. The Elders had met with much opposition, but it had all been for the best, and had only had the effect of scattering the Gospel seed, rather than trampling it under foot, as desired by the antagonists. The Lord was with His servants, said the speaker, and the humble missionaries were gaining friends on every hand and had been led to rejoice in the work in which they were engaged. The Gospel was true, and being so, it triumphed in the end, despite the opposition that met it in every land and clime.

ELDER SMITH'S REMARKS.

Elder John Henry Smith of the Council of Apostles, was the next speaker, his remarks being as follows:

It is not my thought, my brethren and sisters and friends, in the brief time that I shall occupy, to speak to you upon the questions of the Gospel principles. My mind is rather inclined to rest upon the conditions attendant upon our country today. The President of the great republic has requested the religious peoples of the United States, when they shall first assemble in their churches, to send up their

prayers to the Giver of all good, in thanksgiving and praise for His mercies extended to our nation in the midst of the trying situation in which we have been placed. It must be apparent to every thinking man who shall examine the history of the past few months, that the Dispenser of all blessings, God our Father, has had in view the interest and wellbeing of His children of this land.

The President of this republic did everything he consistently could to restrain our nation and keep it from entering upon war. Diplomacy was resorted to, appeals were made, and everything done that could be, consistently, so far as he and his immediate advisers were concerned, to turn away the possibility of the tide of war breaking upon our shores, or leading the sons of our soil to other lands, there to engage in bloodshed and war. But the conditions did not seem propitious for the accomplishment, in a peaceful way, of the breaking of the chains of the downtrodden people of Cuba. Spain seemed bent upon the maintenance of her rule. And while she had succeeded in times past in completely annihilating the millions of Indians that had occupied that soil, and had replaced the Indian tribes with the sons and daughters of her own soil, they in their love of the principles of liberty had sought to establish a government of their own, that they might not be under the rule of Spain, politically or ecclesiastically, but that they might enjoy liberty, such as is enjoyed but a few miles away. Their struggles and efforts are matters of history. The sons of their own soil, in some instances, lent their hands in bringing about their liberties and in destroying the force and power of the Spanish government upon that island. But years went by, and bloodshed, turmoil and trouble continued to exist. Spain seemed unable to bring into subjection her revolting colony; and as a last resort men, women and children were herded together and submitted to a species of starvation that caused a spirit of revolt to enter the breasts of every man, woman and child upon the soil of America, and the demand went forth that this condition of things must change.

From the conditions that have arisen in connection with the carrying out of the views entertained by the people of our soil, the evidences seem to bear us out in the fact that God our Father, the arbiter of the destinies of all nations has performed miracles such as never have been witnessed in the world's history before, excepting possibly the handdealings of God with a few whose record was made on this continent, and whose deeds are recorded in what is known as the Book of Mormon, where 2,000 youths went forth to battle in the interests of their country and were miraculously preserved by the Almighty. We have seen two great fleets of our enemy destroyed, with but one man killed on our side. A superstitious people, it seems to me, would be aroused to an understanding of these conditions, and to witness the fact that our people were preserved from death in the midst of a hail of shot and shell, while their enemies were mown down and their ships were sunk in the sea.

My brothers and my sisters, you will remember that from this platform, in April, a speaker said, "Spain, beware! They that raise their hand against the great Republic and fight against the land of Joseph will fall, their hopes will be broken, and their armies will be destroyed." It was as the voice of God, making the declaration of the conditions that would arise, and that have come to pass in our nation's history within the past few days. We do not

rejoice in any sense in the woes and sufferings of the people of Spain. They have fought, no doubt, with the idea that they must maintain their national honor. They were fighting for the maintenance of a dynasty, not for the homes and firesides of oppressed men and women. They were fighting to tie the chains of the latter, and to bind them more thoroughly. But the flag of the Republic, which God our Father permitted to be thrown to the breeze, has been unfurled over the Gem of the Isles, that liberty may come to those downtrodden men and women, and that the sunshine of prosperity and hope may gladden their homes, and their sons and daughters have the blessings of life and peace.

All honor to the President of the Republic! All honor to the Congress of the United States, who have supplied the means to accomplish this purpose! All honor to the administration! All honor to those heroes who, sinking the ships of a foreign country, have caught the drowning sailors by the hand and drawn them aboard our boats, and shown kindness and consideration in the midst of the storms that were beating upon their heads! May the spirit of liberty engendered beneath the flag of the United States by the fathers of the Republic, grow and increase and abound in the souls of all her sons and daughters; and may not only Cuba receive the rights and liberties of freemen, but may that spirit extend until every flag throughout the world that respects not the propositions of human liberty in the right to worship God and obey His commandments as they may deem proper, or in the utilizing of their talents to secure to themselves the blessings and comforts of the temporal life and to have part in the control of the government where they reside, shall be lowered.

May heaven's peace abound among the people of our own land. May they not become heady and proud, nor be carried away with a false and improper ambition; but, walking by the spirit of justice and mercy, guided by love of liberty for themselves and for their children as well as for the children of other lands, may the flag at the masthead, maintained and sustained by clean hands, continue to float from the east and the west, from the north and the south, the starry banner may ever be the emblem of a love of the right, and never unfurled in the interest of wrongdoing or for the hurt or injury of any of our Father's children!

My brothers and sisters, I pray that the spirit of light and knowledge may characterize the development and growth of the power which God has established upon this land of Joseph—a land where the principles of eternal truth were revealed, a land where the fathers of the republic unfurled the flag of right to the world, a land that has gone forth first among the nations of the earth with her promise to break the chains of tyranny and open the doors that are closed to starving hundreds, putting within their reach food and clothing, and offering them a home among the free of the earth.

May God's peace and blessing abound upon our country. May its ambitions never be in the line of the persecution or hurt of man; but under the spirit of love for the betterment of the conditions of all the human race, may the flag float on and on, until all shall revere it as the emblem of hope, peace and love, charity and kindness, and above all, of liberty to the sons and daughters of our God. Amen.

Sister Lizzie Thomas-Edward and the choir rendered in pleasing style, When Thou Comest to Thy Judgment, and benediction was pronounced by Elder Andrew Jensen.