DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1906

Incidents of Journey to Vermont of President Joseph F. Smith and Party.

Address by

ELDER GEORGE ALBERT SMITH.

At the Seventy-Sixth Annual Conference of the Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Salt

Lake City, Sunday, April 8, 1906.

of of the same kind attention you have the spirit of the Lord may be present spirit of the Lord may be present the me, that what I say may be ofitable, that we may all be benefited continue to enjoy the blessings that e been poured out upon us ng this conference. This is ing this conference. This is greatest gathering of the Latlay Saints upon a Sabbath ning that it has been my lege to witness. The necessity for day. ning verflow meeting this morning evithe set of the second the set of the second of President Smith has been i with. It is customary for us. struction is given, to think that iction was meant for someady elso, but I noticed that the people sitting concluded that Presiadvice was meant for and they have moved closer toand some have changed places who were standing in the I may it pleases me, because , we took the instruction to enlize I ourselves. If we will do that in all the discourses that are delivered, and keep our ears open for the sound r those truths which are declared unto us, we will be likely to conform our lives to the Gospel, correct mistakes we have already made, and try to do better. If we conclude that the insame old way to the end of our days, and discover when it is too late that he advice was for us as well as for the

desire to emphasize an assertion has been made during this confer-, that the home industries in this state have langulahed; this applied to state have langulahed; this applied to all of us. The disposition of the Latter-day Saints toward home industries has changed somewhat. To a certain degree we are responsible for the lack of em-ployment that exists in some of our communities. Let us remedy this, and patronize home institutions more fally. We should purchase home manu-factured products, for, when we do, that, the means we pay out does not go to some distant land but is retained in our own community. In this way we may largely become independent and self-supporting. It should be our rule when we go to the store to inquire for and purchase articles that are manutured or produced at home. Teach a to our families, and in that way we will assist in providing our own peo-ple with employment, build up the country, and encourage those who live mong us to invest their money in enerprises in our own community.

I believe it may be interesting to this great congregation if I shall detail to some of the circumstances connect. ed with the recent visit made by Prestdent Smith and a number of members of the Church, to the state of Vermont, shere a beautiful monument was dediated to the memory of the Prophet Joseph Smith

the 18th day of December last there t this city, in a private car, 30 souls,

I desire that while I occupy this posi-tion this morning I may have the benepeople. We appreciated all this, and every member of the party was

on every hand. It was a singular thing that last season practically no snow had fallen in that section up to that time; the wea-ther had been pleasant and mild. To my mind it was an evidence of the blessing of our Heavenly Father on the erection of the monument to the mem-ory of the man He chose to open this latter-day dispensation. On the after-noon of the 22nd, we met about thirty members of the Church, who had com from New York and Boston to participate in the dedicatory services. These visitors, with the company from Utah, and residents of South Royalton, 28sembled in the evening and were agreeably entertained by some of Zion's sweet singers, including Lulu Gates, Robert Easton and Ellen Thomas.

On the morning of the 23rd of Decem-ber, the 100th anniversary of the birth the Prophet Joseph Smith, people of the surrounding country began to gather at the South Royalton hotel, where members of the party were stopping. Be-cause of the thaw on the night of the 22nd, the snow had largely disappeared, and the result was that the people ction is meant only for somebody these vehicles were furnished gratis by we are liable to continue in the the citizens, to convey the Utah party and friends to the site of the monu. and friends to the site of the model-ment. We were duly seated in the carriages, etc., and safely reached the place where the dedicatory services were to be held. Arriving there, we beheld a beautiful monument and a lovely cottage. We were astonished to see what had been wrought within the short time that had elapsed since Brother Wells had gone down there to supervise the work. The Church had purchased about 80 acres of the land surrounding the birthplace of the Prophet Joseph Smith, including the or-chard, the old cellar, and the hearthstone of the home in which he was born. We found there had been built around and over the hearthstone, which retained the original place it had formerly occupied, a beautiful home, where will reside a care-taker of the property and of the monument. A pecultar feeling and influence came over us as we realized that we were standing on the ground where the Prophet first beheld the light; an event that we may say, marks the beginning of "Mormonism;" and that this location is now the property of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Our tears flowed freely, under the influence of the Spirit, every soul was humbled, every heart

was melted, and we rejoiced in the blessings of our Heavenly Father. The people began to gather, coming in wagons, or on horseback, or walking, wagons, or on norseback, or waiking, until several hundred had assembled. The house would not hold them, so overflow services were held outside, while the dedicatory services that had been arranged for were being conducted in the house. The people rejoiced with us. They had appointed one of their number, Dr. Fish, to speak words of whom had been invited by Presi-nt Smith to accompany him to the dication of the monument. I desire (say that we all, including President people of Utah, and the Church, for having completed in their locality a monument of such exquisite beauty They were delighted and pleased, and desired us to understand that they would assist in protecting the property from vandalism, and that it would be Not , safe in their community. He said they honored us for the work that had been done. Brother Junius F. Wells made a report of his labors during the course of the meeting. While he addressed us we were gladdened in our hearts to ob-serve that he had warmed the feelings of that community towards him, and won their love and respect; they seemed to look upon him almost as one of their own. An account of the services has aiready been published, including the dedicatory prayer, and almost every thing pertaining to the occasion, but I refer to some incidents that have been printed, at least I have not seen them in print. Many people do net understand what Many people do net understand what a great task it was to get this monu-ment in position. The shaft itself weighs somewhere near forty-three tons. It is erected upon high ground, and had to be carried five and a half miles from the railroad upon a specially prepared wagon, the wagon weighing eight tons, the tires of the wheels being twenty inches wide. The county read twenty inches wide. The country road could not bear the great weight of the immense blocks of stone of which the monument is constructed, and a track of oak planks was laid upon the ground and the big wagon was rolled upon that. When the first effort was made to haul it, twenty of the best horses in that country could not move the wa-Afterwards, by means of block gon. Afterwards, by means of orceast and tackle, it was successfully moved, although sometimes only a few yards, or a few rods a day, until the monu-ment was gradually taken to its desti-nation. The people of that country said to Brother Wells, "You will not be able to get it into position because of storms and snow; the roads will be so slippery that you cannot haul it." Brother Wells said to them (evidencing the faith of his lineage) "We will get there, the Lord will open the way." So the storms held off until the monument was in place, the cottage roofed, and the doors and windows roughed in, then it began to snow. The people of that country refer to this two months of easant weather, at a time when orinarily they have snow, as Wells' weather, in compliment to the man who had faith in our Heavenly Father in carry-ing out the purpose undertaken. Another thing was called to our attention, which interested those who lived there, the railroad men were afraid to carry the heavy stone across the railroad bridge over White river, so it was un-loaded from the railroad car onto the wagon, and then it was found the wagon bridge would have to be strengthened. Investigation showed that the bed of the stream was quicksand. Brother Wells, therefore, had planks placed on

weils, insertore, had planks placed on the quicksand to sustain the heavy timbers required to strength-en the bridge, and by that means they were able to accom-plish what they desired. Thus roads and bridges were made, and the people cheerfully assisted in the work. The

cheerfully assisted in the work. The block and tackle referred to had to be

fastened to trees along the road and those who lived in that section per-

mitted their trees to be used for that purpose, although it either barked or

uprooted them. One place on the road was an especially had obstacle; it was

very marshy; and Brother Wells went to the Road Supervisor and asked if he could have it filled up. He smiling-

he could have it filled up. He smiling-ly repiled that it was a noted land-mark in the country, and it would be impossible to fix it, the oldest inhab-itant unpleasantly remembers that dis-agreeable mudhole, "but," he said. "it is the only way you can go, and I am afraid we can not do anything to help you." The same evening they got there with the monument shaft, a hay-press sunk in the mire, and they could scarcely get it out. That night our

press sunk in the mire, and they could scarcely get it out. That night our Heavenly Father was petitioned to as-sist, for the great rock had to be taken over that bog next day. During the night the temperature dropped 30 de-grees, the mud was frozen solid, and it proved to be about the best piece of road they encouncred on the trip. After the dedication services, which were attended by people who mani-

fested great interest, considerable ilt-erature was distributed to those who seemed anxious to learn something about Mormonism. A meeting was erature was distributed to those who seemed anxious to learn something about Mormonism. A meeting was held in the hall that had been pre-pared, on the night of the 23rd. Many gathered in from the surrounding towns and settlements, and we had a delightful time. The brethren pro-claimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ; told why we believed that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of the Lord, and testified to the divinity of his mission, and to the authenticity of the Book of Mormon. After the meeting the people remained to shake hands and ask ques-

remained to shake hands and ask ques-tions. We felt again that we were in the society of friends. The monument stands in a beautiful location. The newspapers of that sec-tion made the statement that it is the monument of the bind in the greatest structure of its kind in the state of Vermont; indeed, it is the largest polished shaft in America, and is characteristic of almost everything else in the way of building that has been done by the Church since its or-

been done by the Church since its or-ganization. On Sunday, the 24th, we want to Boston, where two meetings were held with the Saints. On Christmas day we visited the old home of Robert Smith, the first ancestor of the Smith family in this country. We drank water out of the well that was, no doubt, dug by Mis own hands or by his family. We visited the home of Grandfather Asael Smith, who moved from the state of Massachusetts to the state of Ver-Massachusetts to the state of Ver-mont because he had been imprisoned and fined for entertaining the unpopu-lar Quakers, evidencing the disposition of the man to do what he believed was right regardless of popular clamor. The records disclosed that Grandfather Smith was the first moderator of the Universalists' church in the town of Tunbridge. President Joseph F. Smith and some other members of the party were entertained in the home of one of the foremost men of the Universalists' Church in America, and ate Christmas

dinner with him. We boarded the train on Christmas night and were taken westward. On the morning of the 26th, we arrived at the little station of Paimyra. There we found carriages awaiting us, and we began a tour of that section of the country, visiting places of much inter-est to the Latter-day Saints. We went to the former home of the father of the Prophet Joseph Smith, where Joseph came with the plates after he had re-ceived them from the hand of Moroni, and where, it is said, he received the manifestations of the angel, who ap-peared to him three times in one night. We went into the grove where Joseph We went into the grove where Joseph had kneit down and asked the Lord to inform him which one of the churches he should join. We were impressed to sing, in that hallowed place, the beautiful Mormon Sunday school hymn, "Joseph Smith's First Prayer." Mr. Chapman, who owns that property, and who accorded us every possible courtesy, informed us that the grove we went into never had a tree cut down. The property had fallen into the hands of his father af-ter our people had moved away, and he had held those woods sacred, and ter our people had moved away, and he had held those woods sacred, and they took their timber from other groves around there. We were taken inside the house and shown the room where a part of the Book of Mormon had been translated. We drank water out of the well that was supposed to have been dug by the father of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The house was built by his brother Alvin. Every kindness and consideration possible was extended to us by Mr. W. Avery Chapman, who now owns the proper-ty. In the stream of water in the ty. In the stream of water in the pasture, near the house, is a place that ty. had evidently been dug out, making a pool sufficiently large for baptisms, and

we were informed that some of the first baptisms of the Church, after those in Seneca Lake, were performed in that little pool. It has been left as it was, and they have never straight-

Sampson, who before his death owned

held it we felt that there was one sa-cred building that had passed from the cred building that had passed from the hands of the Latter-day Saints. I hope the day will come, if it be the will of our Father, that it will again be pos-sessed by the Church that built it. It was there that the Prophet Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon saw the Savior upon the breastwork of the pulpit. It was there that Mass committed to them

the breastwork of the pulpit. It was there that Moses committed to them the keys of the gathering of Israel, and that Elias and Elijah came in the power and majesty of their great call-ings, and delivered the keys that had been committed to their care in the days of their ministry on the earth. We were received very kindly by Mr. U. S. Green, one of the apostles of the Reorganized Church. He took us through the various rooms of the of the Reorganized Church. He took us through the various rooms of the building, and many or us were made to feel in our hearts grateful to the Lord that we were permitted to stand upon what had indeed been holy ground. When we realized that the building was constructed by people in our new powerty how coursered is people in extreme poverty, how courageous men worked during the day to lay the foundations and build the walls of that structure, and then at night stool and defended it with weapons against those who had sworn that the building should never be completed, we could not help but feel that it was no wonder the Lord received their offerings and blessed them as few people have been blest upon the earth. We saw the little town of Kirtland and some of the houses that were built in early days by the men who lived there, among others the home where the Prophet resided, and home where the Prophet resided, and where the Patriarch had lived. The old home of Sidney Rigdon, and some others are still standing, but are fast going to decay. Practically no new structures are being erected, and it is only a little village, while the people who moved from that section of coun-try out into the wilderness of the Rocky Mountains have builded a com-monwealth, and have taught hundreds and thousands of our Father's children to honor and glorify His name. Then we resumed our journey home-

Points

Then we resumed our journey home-ward again, receiving everywhere on our return trip the same courtesles as we had before. At Chicago we were we had before. At Chicago of taken met by people from Kenosha and taken in a special train to large manufactur-ing establishments in that town, and in Bacine. Everybody extended to in Racine. Everybody extended to President Smith the right hand of fel-lowship, and kindness without stint were extended to him and to his party wherever we went. After holding a delightful meeting with the Saints in the city of Chicago, we continued westward. I must tell you that every night before we retired, from the time we left until we returned. President Smith gathered his little family around bim (he treated us as such), the hymns him (he treated us as such), the hymn of Zion were sung as we sped across the plains, or through the citics, and prayer was offered before we retired to our beds. The last night on our return journey, as the old year was passing away and the new year being ushered in, we crossed a section of country where our people had wandered many weary steps. We were called together by President Smith, and after singing several of the songs of Zion, each member of the party was permitted to testify of the goodness and mercy of our Father unto us. The Spirit of the Lord was poured out upon us, and we shed tears of joy and happiness. We thanked God that we had been permit-ted to go upon this journey. Only one regret entered into our hearts, and that was, that more of the sons and daughters of Israel had not been able to avail themselves of the same blessed avail themselves of the same blessed privilege. On the morning of the first day of January, 1908, after a journey of two weeks without sickness, accident or delay, with no unkind word, and with nothing but brotherly love from our Father's children wherever we met them we were we incomed hume by our them, we were welcomed home by our families, and ate our New Year's din

ened up the ditch bank. We visited the Hill Cumorah and were accorded the courtesy of going thereon by the wife of Mr. George Sampson, a brother of Admiral Wm.

Junius F. Wells; and the c



to the Great Lakes, Mackinac Island, Canadian and St. Lawrence river cities, Buffalo,

Time Table IN EFFECT June 17th, 1906 and Denvey No 14 - From Maryarille, St. Anthony, Idaa Volla, Black-foot Recatella, Orden and In-termediate Paints No. 8 - From Ogden, Portland Butte and San Francisco... No. 6 - From Ogden, Cache Val-ler, Malad Paints No. 12 - From Ogden, Cache Val-ler, Malad Paints No. 13 - From Chicago, Onaba, Ogden and Intermediate Points No. 2 - From Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaba, Denver and San Francisco... No. 10 - From Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaba, Denver and San Francisco... No. 10 - From Ogden, Cache Val-ley, Butte, Portland, and San Francisco... DEPART. 5.15 a.m. 7:10 a.m. 10:30 a.m 1:30 p.m. 4.95 p.m. 1:55 p.m.

COLORADO



paid our own expenses. I have heard that some people were fearful we had received some special favor from the tithing fund of the Church. I had charge of the finances and the business management of that party. I therefor know what I am talking about. Not many Latter-day Saints have felt susus about this matter, but some do not pay tithing seem unduly ous for fear someone else shall t by the tithes other people pay, the kindness of the railroad coms, the car in which we journeyed taken from place to place with rapidity and without unnecessary All along the road, from the we left the depot at Salt Lake until we arrived at South Royal-. Vermont, the railroad officials ted after the welfare of the party, nd many general officers of the vari us railroads came aboard to see that very possible convenience and comfort were provided. We arrived at our des-ination without difficulty. after a plendid journey across the continent. It was a great change for some mem-bers of our party, who had crossed the plains in early days with ox teams, d some with hand-carts, when it was series to travel because of the In-ns. Some had known the privations I difficulties of frontier life, having aded their way to this country durthe planeer peopling of the valleys. they were permitted to go over he same route on a great railroad, in palatial car, with all the comforts nd conveniences that could be furnish-

INCIDENTS OF VERMONT TRIP.

We had beautiful weather while going ur destination, until the evening o 21st, when we encountered snow first we had seen since leaving We arrived at South Royalton, broad station at which we were leave the train, on the morning of 12nd. There we found that about oring the night, and this provided exelient sistshing for the party, most i whom went to Tunbridge, which was he home of the grandfather of the rophet Joseph Smith. We examined town records there, and were treat-with kindness by the people. I have stated that, on arrival at Wells, who had been in ment, and found that he had made all nocessary arrangements for us at that end of the line. The people of South Royalton were waiting to make us wel-ome: they had decorated, festooned, and seated a comfortable hall, where

Church Chronology 1805 to 1905 A record of important events Pertaining to the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints, compiled and arranged chronologically by Elder Andrew Jensen and published by the Church.

The book is an invaluable work of reference that should be in the hands of every officer and member of the Church. No progressive Elder or Saint can afford to be without it. To them it should be indispensable.

As the 1905 edition is limited you should order now. Postpaid. to any address for \$1.25.

Address Joseph F. Smith, Jr., Historian's Office, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sampson, who before his death owned the property. When we went up there and looked around, we felt that we were standing on holy ground. The brethren located, as near as they thought was possible, the place from which the plates of the Book of Mor-mon were taken by the Prophet. We were delighted to be there. Looking over the surrounding country we re-membered that two great races of peo-ple had wound up their existence in the ple had wound up their existence in the vicinity, had fought their last fight, and that hundreds of thousands had been slain within sight of that hill. Evidence of the great battles that have been fought there in days gone by are been fought there in days gone by are manifest in the numerous spear and arrow-heads that have been found by farmers while plowing in that neighborhood. We were fortunate enough to obtain a few of the arrowheads. Upon the hill, near a little grove of timber, the party stood and sang that glorious hymn: An angel from on high

The long, long silence broke; Descending from the sky, These gracious words he spoke; Lo! in Cumorah's lonely hill. A sacred record lies concealed.

And then, under the inspiration of the Lord, President Smith offered one of the most profound and beautiful pray-ers I have ever listened to. Everyone present was melted to tears. We fei the presence of the Spirit of our Father and all who were there can testify that it was one of the most supremely happy moments of their lives. After that memorable experience we returned in the carriages to Palmyra and were en-tertained by some of the prominent cit-izens of that town. We were shown by Pliny T. Sexton a full set of the original sheets of the first edition of the Book of Mormon. We saw the old printing press upon which it was print-ed; and were received with much kind-ness and courtesy by everybody whom

we met. That night we took train and re-sumed the journey westward, arriving the next morning in the city of Cleve-land, from whence we went by street car to Willoughby, and proceeded by other conveyances from there to Kirt-land, the old home of the Church of

ONE

NIGHT

OUT

Both Phones No. 245.

G. W. MARTIN,

General Agent,

Denver, Colo.

structure is a credit to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Many of our Father's children will re-ceive the testimony of the work of the Lord from meeting those who will labor and minister in that section of country. What has been done there is a be ginning of the building up the wast-places of Zion. In New York, Chicago places of Zion. In New Tork, Chicago, Denver, Chattanooga, Milwaukee, In-dependence, and many other places, there will be mission homes reared for the Latter-day Saints, and places for the worship of the Lord, Zion will i redeemed, and the world, which no redeemed, and the world, which now-misunderstands the world, which now-ism," will live to know that it is the power of God unto salvation to those who will keep the commandments of our Father. My testimony is that the work grows apace, and that ihe chil-dren of men are receiving "Mormon-ism" in their souls: that it is the work of our Father. We may be puny and weak of ourselves, but if we will be vir-tuous and pure in our lives, if we will do what we know to be right, men and work of the Lord, until our Father's work will have been done in the way that He desires. Those who misunder-stand us now will know us better. Those who believe we have selfish mo-tives will be undeceived, and our broth-ers and sisters of the world, who desire the truth and wish to know what the truth and will be noted the misunderstands the work of "Mormoners and sisters of the world, who desire the truth and wish to know what the Lord wants of them, will be pricked in their hearts and accept the Cospel. Zion will rise and shine, and will be-come the glory of the whole earth, the Lord God of Israel has so decreed. May God bless you Amon God bless you. Amen.

PLEASANT WAYS FOR SUMMER DAYS.

Grand Trunk-Lehigh Valley Double Track Route, Chicago to New York via Niagara Falls; Grand Trunk-Cen-tral Vermont-Boston & Maine Route from Chicago to Boston and the Grand

