

earth for more than about sixty years. I can readily understand that many of our veterans living today were trained in their childhood in the sectarian belief; that it will take time for them to eradicate from their minds the impressions made upon them in their youth; and considering the fact that the Gospel has been upon the earth for so short a space of time, the Latter-day Saints are, indeed, the best, the most favored and blessed people upon the face of the earth today. What has placed them in that happy position? Nothing else than the Gospel of Christ—the principles that are taught them by the prophets of God—the Spirit which is granted unto them at the time they bow themselves in obedience to the law of God, go down into the waters of baptism and receive a remission of their sins, thereby becoming fit subjects for the reception of the Holy Ghost.

We are not, of course, a perfect people; we make no such profession; but we believe that the Gospel which we have embraced is perfect in every detail, that it is of God, that it was instituted from before the foundations of the world; and that if we live in accordance therewith and seek earnestly to know the will of God, and do it, we shall in time become perfect. It is necessary for us to listen to the counsels which we receive from those whose right it is to advise, and to obey them in that which pertains to ourselves.

Many of the Saints are often heard to testify as to their condition before the Gospel found them—that their minds were darkened, that they were benighted and laboring under error; but that when the true Gospel reached them, when the voices of the servants of God were raised in their midst, when the plan of life and salvation was unfolded to them in all its plainness, how they were led, under the enlightening influences of the Spirit of God, to know that these men who traveled among them—notwithstanding that they are looked upon by the majority of the people at large as impostors, as men who are seeking to destroy the influences of home and country—are the honest in heart, the blood of Israel, the chosen people of our Father, and they are led to know and accept them as the servants of God sent into their midst to proclaim the Gospel of glad tidings. I desire to testify to you this afternoon that this is the Gospel of Jesus Christ; this is the power of God unto salvation. I did not receive that testimony from man but through the influences of the Holy Spirit; and they who scoff at it and scorn the servants of God will most assuredly bring condemnation upon their own heads. I pray that the blessings of God may rest upon you; that the enlightening influence of His Spirit may be with you; that your knowledge and understanding of the Gospel may be increased; and that you may seek more diligently and faithfully to serve God in the future than in the past.

The choir sang the anthem:

"O, Give Thanks."

Benediction by Patriarch John Smith.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

### Edmunds Law Prosecutions.

Thomas Stirland, of Providence, who was arrested some time ago on the charge of unlawful cohabitation, was before Commissioner Goodwin on April 18th when he pleaded not guilty. William Reading, Mrs. A. B. Holland and Mrs. Harriet Noyce were examined as witnesses. Mr. Stirland was bound over in the sum of \$1000 to await the action of the grand jury. Geo. W. Thatcher and Wm. Reading signed his bonds.

Proceedings before Judge Judd on Saturday, April 20, at Provo:

Joseph Murdock has three wives living, is an old man; a spirited altercation took place between the defendant and the court, after which a light sentence of 35 days was given.

J. H. Tidwell is 60 years old, and has two wives; has lived alone for some time past; sentenced to 60 days and costs.

A large crowd of teachers and friends had gathered to hear the sentence of George H. Brimhall, who next came forward.

Judge Dusenberry stated that the defendant had separated from his second wife; that he had no intention of breaking the law in marrying her after the insanity of his first wife. The judge presented a petition signed by nearly 400 of the most respectable citizens of the county. Ten of the jury who brought in the verdict of guilty had also petitioned the court in behalf of the defendant.

After an appeal for leniency by Judge Dusenberry, Mr. Thurman also presented a petition of the Deseret University Faculty, in behalf of Mr. Brimhall, and asked the court to deal with the defendant as he would wish under like circumstances to be dealt with.

Mr. David Evans wished to say that the good character of Mr. Brimhall was not questioned, but he had understood the defendant to be a single man, that the woman was not his wife, and that so far from the wife's insanity being a reason for leniency he thought it was otherwise.

The court asked the defendant to state his own case, saying that his statements would have more weight with the courts than all the petitions.

The defendant then said that he and his second wife had made no effort to conceal their relations, and that he did not intend in marrying her to break the law. Since learning that it was against the law he and his wife had separated and expected to remain so during the life of his first wife.

Court—The court must bear the responsibility in this matter, notwithstanding these petitions. You can cut the gordian knot, however, by promising to obey the law.

Defendant—So far as we can we have already shown by our actions—Court—Stop; stop right there, Mr. Brimhall. You know what to answer.

Defendant—I am willing to do my very best to obey the law.

Court—Mr. Brimhall, you understand, if you are not willing to obey it—

Defendant—Yes, sir, I am willing to obey it.

Court—Then you go home.

Mr. Peters—I don't believe the defendant understands that he has made a promise.

Court—How is that, Mr. Brimhall?

Defendant—I understand that as long as I remain in the country I am going to obey the law.

In answer to defendant's query as to what he should do, the judge said that he was not there to answer questions, and referred the defendant to his attorneys for advice.

Thomas R. Jackson came forward to receive sentence on a charge of adultery. He was sentenced to two months and costs.

Joseph C. Stickney, on a charge of adultery, received six months and costs.

James Smuin was called for sentence on a charge of unlawful cohabitation. He received 85 days, 50 fine and costs.

John C. Harper came next for sentence on a charge of unlawful cohabitation; sentence, five months \$20 fine and costs.

United States vs. Samuel Briggs, charged with adultery; the defendant was given till Sept. 23d next for sentence.

Wm. Grant had no promise to make and on a charge of adultery was sentenced to twenty months and costs.

Sylvester Bradford, charged with unlawful cohabitation, received one hundred days, \$25 fine and costs.

In the case of John Adams, who promised to obey the law, sentence was suspended during good behavior.

### Utah Lake a Reservoir Site.

The land office in this city lately received the following notice of the selection, by the government, of Utah Lake for a reservoir site:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
General Land Office,  
Washington, D. C., April 11, 1889.  
*Register and Receiver, Salt Lake City, Utah.*

Gentlemen.—A report has been made to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior by Director Powell, of the Geological Survey, under date of the 6th inst., stating "that the site of Utah Lake, in Utah County, Territory of Utah, is hereby selected as a reservoir site, together with all lands situated within ten statute miles of the border of said lake at high water."

The said report has been referred to this office by Assistant Secretary Burney, with directions under date of the 11th inst., that you be instructed to refuse further entries or filings on the lands designated, in accordance with the Act of October 2, 1888, pamphlet statutes, page 527.