

Saturday, 16.—General parade of the Nauvoo Legion near my farm—went in company with my staff to the muster, was met by an escort, and arrived before the Legion about noon. I was received and saluted with military honors. The Legion was dismissed about 1 p.m., for two hours, and I rode home to dinner. I returned about twenty minutes after 3, attended the review, and with my staff inspected the Legion; after which I took my post and gave orders.

After the inspection I made a speech to the Legion, on their increasing prosperity, and requested the officers to increase the Legion in numbers.

I was highly gratified with the officers and soldiers, and I felt extremely well myself.

About sun-down the Legion was dismissed. I rode home with my staff, highly delighted with the day's performance, and well paid for my services.

Sunday, 17.—I was at meeting, and while Elder Almon W. Babbitt was preaching I took my post as Mayor outside the assembly to keep order, and set an example to the other officers.

After preaching I gave some instructions about order in the congregation, men among women, and women among men, horses in the assembly, and men and boys on the stand who do not belong there, &c.

P. M.—Mr. Blodgett, a Unitarian minister preached: I was gratified with his sermon in general, but differed in opinion on some points, on which I freely expressed myself to his great satisfaction, viz, on persecution making the work spread—like rooting up a flower garden or kicking back the sun.

Monday, 18.—I received a letter from Governor Ford as follows:—

"Springfield, September 13, 1843.

Dear Sir:—In answer to your letter I have the honor to reply that I will consider it my duty to prevent the invasion of this State, if in my power, by any persons elsewhere for any hostile purposes whatever.

From information in my possession I am of opinion that there is but little danger of any such invasion. It is altogether more likely that some other mode of annoyance will be adopted. My enemies here I think are endeavoring to put something of the kind on foot.

I am most respectfully

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS FORD."

I attended a council at my old house.

A conference was held at Preston, Halifax county, Nova Scotia; 1 Elder, 1 Teacher, 1 Deacon and 14 members were represented.—Robert Dixon, President; J. Jernem, Clerk.

David Greenleaf was elected Probate Judge for the county of Hancock, by a majority of 598 votes.

Tuesday, 19.—I directed brother Phelps to answer the letter recently received from the Governor, and to enclose a copy of the resolutions passed at the meeting of the mobocracy at Carthage; which he did.

Wrote a letter to J. B. Backenstos.

A portion of the Twelve were present at a general muster of the independent companies of Boston; saw a sham battle in which 35 brass cannon were discharged 7 times; one party was commanded by the Governor of Mass; and the other by the officer next in rank.

Wednesday, 20.—Visited my farm, accompanied by my brother Hyrum.

The 'Neighbor' has the following:—

"PORTER ROCKWELL.—A few short months ago it was heralded through this State, that Porter Rockwell was the individual who attempted to murder ex-Governor Boggs, of Missouri. It was confidently stated that Joseph Smith was accessory before the fact; the thing was swallowed as a precious morsel by the enemies of Mormonism; it was iterated and reiterated by the public journals, and the general expression of a certain class was, that Mr. Smith ought to be hung; there was no doubt of his guilt; he was one of the most inhuman, diabolical, dangerous and malignant persons in the universe—and when a requisition was made for him by the Governor of Missouri, it was considered worse than 'arson' or 'treason,' that he should be acquitted by the legal authorities of this State, under habeas corpus; and afterwards when Porter Rockwell was taken, it was exultingly stated that they had got the scoundrel, and that he would now receive the due merit of his crime. How stands the matter when it is investigated?—investigated by a Missouri court. The following will show:—

"The last Independence Expositor says:—Orin Porter Rockwell, the Mormon confined in our county jail, some time since, for the attempted assassination of ex-Governor Boggs, was indicted by our last grand jury, for escaping from our county jail some time since, and sent to Clay county for trial. Owing, however, to some informality in the proceedings, he was remanded to this county again for trial.—There was not sufficient proof adduced against him, to predicate an indictment for shooting ex-Governor Boggs, and the grand jury therefore did not indict him for that offence."—[St. Louis New Era.

It appears then that after all the bluster, the hue and cry about Mormon outrages, Mormon intrigue, 'blood,' 'arson,' and 'murder,' that there was not sufficient proof adduced against him to predicate an indictment for shooting ex-Governor Boggs, and the grand jury therefore did not indict him for that offence." This speaks for itself; it needs no comment. We are glad for the sake of suffering innocence, that Mr. Rockwell stands clear in the eyes of the law. Thus it seems that after exerting all their malice and hellish rage to implicate the innocent, they can find no proof against him. But yet he must be again incarcerated without proof for another hearing. This is Missouri justice. If he was guilty of breaking jail, why not try and punish him for that before that court?—

Where is the necessity of remanding him to another county for another hearing? It is evident that they wish to immolate him, and by offering him as a sacrifice, glut their thirst for innocent blood."

I answered Gov. Ford's letter received on the 18th.

Elder Brigham Young instructed Elder Addison Pratt to go and engage a passage for himself and Elders Noah Rogers, Knowlton F. Hanks and B. F. Grouard, as missionaries, to the Pacific islands, although they had not one tenth of the means on hand to pay their passage.

In the evening Elders B. Young, H. C. Kimball, O. Pratt, W. Woodruff, G. A. Smith and J. E. Page visited Mr. O. S. Fowler the phrenologist, who examined their heads and gave their phrenological charts.

Thursday, 21.—Made affidavit with Willard Richards and William Clayton to Auditor of State, vs. Walter Bagbee.

About 11 a.m. called with my brother Samuel H. to see about getting a copy of his blessing, and wished Doctor Richards much joy in his new daughter.

About noon went on board the "Maid of Iowa" with William Clayton, Clerk of the boat. 1 p.m., the thermometer stood at 100 deg. in the shade.

Friday, 22.—The Twelve visited the Navy Yard and harbor of Boston, the "Mississippi" steam ship, the rope walk, the Bunker hill monument, the State House, and the State's prison. In the evening they addressed the Saints in Boylston hall.

Elder Addison Pratt accompanied by Elder Philip B. Lewis, engaged a passage to the Society islands at \$100 each for himself, Noah Rogers, Knowlton F. Hanks and B. F. Grouard.

Saturday, 23.—Elder Stephen Markham returned from Dixon; the trial of Reynolds and Wilson being postponed till May next.

Bishop George Miller returned from the pinery. He reports the water in Black river so low that they could not get their raft into the Mississippi.

I had an interview with Elder Orson Spencer, from whom I borrowed \$75 for the Temple.

Sunday, 24.—I preached on the stand about one hour on the 2d ch. Acts; designing to shew the folly of common stock. In Nauvoo every one is steward over his own. After preaching I called upon the brethren to draw stone for the Temple, and gave notice for a special conference for 6th Oct. next. Adjourned the meeting about 1 p.m., on account of the prospect of rain. Judge McBride, and a lawyer from Missouri were present at the meeting.

Monday, 25.—Wet day. At home—held a conversation with the Missouri lawyer.

Tuesday, 26.—Held Mayor's court and tried case "Dana vs. Leeches." No cause of action. Called at the store about 6 p.m. and directed the clerk to issue papers in the case "Medagh vs. Hovey."

Wednesday, 27.—The "Neighbor" of this date has the following editorial:—

"We find that the 'Quincy Whig' has some very righteous remarks to make concerning the Mormons, emanating from the purest principles of patriotism(?). The editor has had some 'private conversation' with some individual or individuals about certain charges bro't against the Mormons, particularly that of screening horse thieves.

We think that the Whig has not done itself much credit in advocating the principles contained in those resolutions—we leave that, however, for a discerning public to judge.

Concerning the horse thieves, however, the informant of the 'Whig' would have shown himself a better friend to society to have given information to the proper authorities and had these pests of society brought to condign punishment. And the editor of that paper would have proved himself more patriotic by telling us who these people are that are screened in our midst, than dealing thus in generals and stabbing in the dark.

Come, Mr. Whig, out with it, and let us know who it is that is found transgressing; who knows but that far fallen as we are, there yet may be virtue enough left to prosecute a horse thief. We have tried this more than once and prosecuted them as far as Carthage; but no sooner do they arrive in the jail there than we lose all track of them. The lock of the door is so slippery that it lets them all out. We presume, however, that it is on account of the honesty of the people(?). We are pleased to find that the Whig is in the secret.

Mr. Ivins, of this city had a horse stolen last week, and we frequently have occurrences of the kind. Will the editor of that paper be so kind as to ask his informant who the thieves are, and where they live, and give us the desired information and we shall esteem it a peculiar favor."

I was at home all day and gave br. Phelps the privilege of occupying the small house near the store.

Thursday, 28.—At 11.30 a.m. a council convened over the store consisting of myself, my brother Hyrum, uncle John Smith, Newel K. Whitney, George Miller, Willard Richards, John Taylor, Amasa Lyman, John M. Bernhisel and Lucien Woodworth; and at 7 in the evening we met in the front upper room of the Mansion, with William Law and William Marks. By the common consent and unanimous voice of the council I was chosen President of the Quorum.

The President led in prayer that his days might be prolonged until his mission on the earth is accomplished—have dominion over his enemies—all their households be blessed—and all the church and world.

Friday, 29.—Elder Brigham Young started from Boston for Nauvoo. The Twelve were

now scattered among the branches in the Eastern States.

Saturday, 30.—Rainy and strong west wind. Elders Young and Woodruff staid at Elder Foster's, in New York.

## REMARKS

By President Orson Hyde, Tabernacle, Dec. 21, 1856.

[REPORTED BY GEO. D. WATT.]

Being requested to make a few remarks this afternoon I rise to comply with the request. I can say like those that have spoken, and as I have spoken myself, I feel thankful to the Lord for the privilege of once more standing in your midst to speak to you of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. It is true we have had rather a cold time in coming through from the western portion of Utah, and I thought before we arrived within the borders of the settlements we had had a pretty severe time; but after we arrived and ascertained what kind of times our brethren had had here in the eastern mountains I concluded that we had had pretty fair times and nothing to complain of. We are sound in body, limb and joint; and none of us suffered materially; and what any of us might have suffered last year in the snows of the Sierra Nevada mountains those injuries are fully repaired, and I believe we are all fit for service, and I feel thankful to God our Heavenly Father for these blessings. I have the privilege of meeting once more with my friend; I have met with friends and with enemies both since I have been gone.

I simply rise to relate a dream I had a few nights before I arrived within the borders of our settlements. The old Prophet says, "He that hath a dream let him tell it, and he that hath my word let him speak it faithfully." We had the word faithfully spoken in the former part of the day by br. Kimball.

I dreamt that I had a very large pile of wheat thrashed, but in the chaff, and also a good deal in the bundle stacked away that had to be thrashed, and there seemed to be a portion of the floor on which the wheat lay that had been removed, but there was quite a quantity of wheat that lodged on the beams or sleepers, and this was excellent wheat but there was considerable dirt with it. I went to work with a shovel and wing to save that which was lodged on the beams and to separate the wheat from the dirt and threw it into the pile. But it seemed to be quite a task for me to clean that wheat. I threw it, by the shovel full, in the air, with the expectation as usual for the chaff to blow away with the wind, but a portion of the chaff would come down and settle with the wheat all the time, and I kept to work at it in this way. It seemed, however, to get clearer and clearer of chaff and dirt, but all I could do a portion of the chaff would come down with the wheat. I thought it was excellent wheat and good.

You can judge for yourselves of the interpretation. At any rate I feel disposed to contribute my mite and what little strength I have to save and clean the wheat that it may be prepared for the use for which it was intended.

The remarks made in the former part of the day are worthy to be indelibly written upon every heart; that they were made in truth and in power there is no doubt, and for one I have decreed to set about the work of repentance and reformation right off. I have tried to reform and live about as well as I thought I could; but when I come to look into the glass and see myself I own there is room for improvement, and that improvement I intend to make, God being my helper, with all the speed in my power.

I think it was in August last that I wrote to my family, and told them I thought there was a day of trial near at hand and that my feelings were that it would be general throughout the church; I presume they have the letter now. These were my feelings back yonder, these are my feelings all the time. Well, it matters not how soon it transpires. But let me here, brethren and sisters, admonish and caution you all and myself too, that while we have the opportunity to right every wrong that is within our power, or that is within our control, that we do it forthwith, and that we right ourselves before the Lord. It is not necessary to say many words, the subject with me is too deep to spend much time in multiplying words about. I feel that plainness has been the characteristic of the remarks by br. Kimball this morning, and truth also, and in order that we may be benefited let us cherish his words in our hearts and reduce them to practice, and square our lives according to the circumstances portrayed before us, and if will do this we shall have reason to hope in the mercy and favor of our God, that in the midst of tribulation there will be a way for our escape.

And with regard to my time, my talents and every thing I possess on earth, it is at the service of this church and the building up of the kingdom of God; whenever I or anything I possess can be used to further the work of God on earth, I say, with all my heart, let it go; and furthermore, I feel proud of the opportunity of doing all in my power to build up this church.

In fact, I will mention one little circumstance with regard to the consecration law. We heard a good deal about it in the early part of its agitation. I preached the principle; I believed in it. Yet business not having been arranged with me to make it exactly convenient as I thought, I did not subscribe to it, but put it off to a more convenient season. The Indians are hostile a portion of the way between here and Carson valley, and we did not know how we might fare in passing among them, and again it had got to be late in the season and the snows were coming thicker and faster, and more of them, and it was pretty difficult to tell whether we should get through safely or not. Thought I, what evidence have I ever given that I have made a consecration to God and his church of that which I possess, suppose it be our misfortune not to return? In the resurrection what evidence will appear on record that I have consecrated to God and his church? What can I

produce? What will the books show? I prayed that I might, with my brethren, be spared to return and be allowed the privilege of consecrating to God my earthly goods, and felt a pleasure in dashing ahead, be the consequences what they might. Our prayers were answered, and I have, in part, complied with the dictates of conscience touching this thing, so that when the books shall be opened, and another book opened, and the dead judged out of those things that are written in the books, I shall rejoice to see that the records will show my feelings towards the church. Whatever earthly goods I possess and what I am at the service and disposal of my brethren to advance the interests of the kingdom of God.

When I heard this morning the remarks that were made, all worldly interests looked like trash to me. I have labored hard to lay a good foundation in the west for a settlement, but if what we have done must fall a sacrifice, so be it. We did what we thought was right, and tried to do considerable of it. The fact is, I count an inheritance in the kingdom of God greater than anything that this world can afford.

Let us remember what has been said to us today and not forget it; and let us make our calling and election sure, and ask God Almighty to save us from every ill, except what he gives us strength to endure, that we may be accounted worthy to be crowned in his presence, which may he grant in the name of Jesus: Amen.

## DISCOURSE

By Elder W. Woodruff, Tabernacle, February 22nd, 1857.

[REPORTED BY GEO. D. WATT.]

I feel it a privilege to bear testimony before the Saints to the exhortations we have heard this morning from brs. Richards and Wells. We have had good teachings, good counsel and good doctrine taught us. And I presume I feel in a measure like the rest of my brethren when I rise to speak to this people in the Tabernacle, where such large congregations of Saints assemble; I have a desire that what I say may do the people good, may edify them, my brethren also have the same desire.

We realize that the minds of this people need feeding continually, and we all have to depend upon the Holy Spirit and the Lord to feed our minds from that inexhaustible fountain of intelligence which comes from God, for we cannot obtain food from any other source to feed the immortal mind of man. Here are a large assembly of minds who are reaching forth to receive light and truth before the Lord.

I realize that we have a great many lessons to learn in the school we are in, and myself as a teacher in connection with my brethren have also a great deal to learn. I feel that I am yet in my alphabet, and feel sometimes that I am incapable of teaching this people when I realize they are in the road which leads to celestial glory—to eternal life and eternal exaltation. I know I am dependent as I know my brethren are upon God, upon the Holy Ghost for all the light, truth and intelligence which we have to impart unto you.

The words which br. Wells quoted, and which br. Samuel Richards referred to, furnish as strong a proof as can be furnished as to the true principle of prosperity touching things temporal and things spiritual. I refer to the words of Jesus Christ which he spoke to his followers: "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all other things shall be added unto you." I will tell you, brethren and sisters, we may try it all the days of our lives, we may try every path and every principle in this world and we as Saints cannot prosper upon any other mode of proceeding than by first seeking the kingdom of heaven and its righteousness; when we do this there is no blessing, there is no good, no exaltation, gift, grace, desire, or anything that a good man can wish that is profitable, and good for time and for eternity, but will be given unto us.

A great many people have tried to seek for happiness independent of first seeking the kingdom of heaven, &c., but they have always found it an uphill business, and so shall we if we try it.

We as a people should have learned by this time, after having the experience we have gained, to make up our minds to take hold and build up the kingdom of God, and it should be the first thing before us, for if we build up the kingdom of God we build up ourselves, and if we do not we never shall be built up. This is the truth. There seems to be something connected with the kingdom of God and that is righteousness; we are exhorted to seek the righteousness that belongs to it as well as the kingdom itself.

The kingdom of God is a righteous kingdom, all its laws are righteous, its government is a righteous government, and the king who governs and controls it does so upon righteous and eternal principles, and we must act upon the same principles of righteousness. Who cannot see that if a man seeks first the kingdom of heaven and its righteousness that he will become righteous and hence he will be blessed and justified in all of his acts.

With regard to the feelings of the people that brs. Wells and Richards have referred to, touching the consecration of their property and dedicating themselves to God, I will say, if we build up the kingdom of God we should be in that kingdom, and all we have should be in it, and we should have faith enough in the Lord to know it is in a safe place.

I am a good deal of the opinion of old Captain Russell, who was an extensive ship builder and paid thousands of dollars yearly to the gentiles as insurance fees. After he embraced Mormonism, he began to reflect, "here am I paying thousands of dollars yearly to the gentiles to insure my ships and I have to trust to the God of heaven after all to save my ships from sinking and to prosper me in all my undertakings; this is not right." So he went to Liverpool where the insurance office was, to settle his insurance bills and close up his business with the firm.

The gentlemen of the firm asked him when he