

done and regarded as quite regular, by society, as he asserts they are in the state where he makes his home.

AN IMPRESSIVE EVENT.

The scene which was presented in Tabernacle on Sunday, when the children of the Sunday schools in the Salt Lake Stake of Zion assembled to celebrate President Willford Woodruff's birthday, and again today, Monday, when the general public were invited to the reception given by Brother and Sister Woodruff upon the anniversary of their birth, was a deeply impressive one to all those familiar with the genius and progress of the great work to which the worthy couple have devoted all their lives. Large as our world-famed auditorium is, yet it was far from being sufficient to fully accommodate those desirous of participating in the proceedings of the occasion.

It was a heavenly inspiration which filled the minds of the children on the bright and beautiful Sabbath day when their share of the exercises was to transpire in the Tabernacle. There was no need of urging from parents or teachers for the youth to be present and be prompt. Their hearts were filled with an enthusiastic eagerness to engage in the services; and wherever circumstances prevented this, there was sore disappointment. The desire to attend was universally from a feeling to honor a humble, diligent, faithful man, fully trusted and deeply beloved as a Prophet of God divinely appointed to the holy Apostleship instituted by the Lord Jesus for the feeding and care of His flock.

Whatever may be the fancy of other people, with the assembled thousands of Sunday school children on last Sabbath the leading thought was of honoring the anointed of the Lord, of whose divine calling they have knowledge in the witness they have received through the blessing of the Almighty. Therefore it was with an intensity of devotion deeper than words can express, and which springs only from the realization of the fact, that the vast throng burst forth in the opening song of praise to the Holy One, "We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet." The Saints of today, not less than they of olden time, have reason to praise the Almighty for the personal ministrations of His Prophets, in as close communion and association with them as with the people in any age of the world; and the sense of this reality permeated every feature of the Sabbath day program, giving joy unspeakable to all who received of its spirit. The occasion was the event of a lifetime to those in this part of the land occupied by the Latter-day Saints.

The proceedings Monday partook in general of the same nature, in the spirit of the program rendered. Everything that occurred was of the most pleasant nature; and all was characterized in a marked manner by the fact that it is in the capacity of a faithful follower and servant of the Lord Jesus Christ that President Woodruff has attained the prominence in which he is placed today, both of a Pioneer of this State, and as a leader among his

fellowmen. At the reception Monday, people of varying shades of religious opinion, of different nationalities and races, molded in the kindest feelings in congratulating President and Sister Woodruff upon the auspicious event, and the mutual exchanges of courtesies were cordial and sincere.

It may be remarked at this time that President Willford Woodruff is an example of the fruits of Mormonism. He is peculiarly one of its products. A system is not to be judged by the men and women who have set at naught its rules, disregarded its principles, or ignored its spirit. Its true test is the result it has produced in the lives of its faithful adherents—those who conform to it in their conduct in private life as in a public capacity. In this respect President and Sister Woodruff are among the latter class. They are exemplars of Mormonism. They have observed its instructions, heeded its advice, conformed to its laws, partaken of its genius, and in their lives have set forth the effects of obedience to its principles as nearly as may be through such fairly diligent efforts as mortals may make. The work which has made them what they are may be judged by what it is known to have produced in those whose lives have been in harmony with it. And in this case there are none who can say it is not good. On the other hand, its godliness is manifest in the testimony of all.

The impressiveness of this birthday observance will be far-reaching in its effects among the people, not only those who reside in Salt Lake City and county, but wherever news thereof shall go; and great good shall come of it. It is a momentous event in the history of the great work for which Brother Woodruff has labored so long and so well. And in years to come, they who participated in the exercises of the occasion will find joy and satisfaction in the fact that they were numbered among those who honored the venerable and respected Pioneer as a beloved Prophet of the Most High.

POLITICAL SITUATION IN SPAIN.

The rumor that our government in all secrecy has been preparing plans for the rapid transportation of troops to southern seaports, in case their presence there should be required, may or may not be correct, but the wisdom of a similar arrangement will hardly be doubted. Weak dynasties sometimes have recourse to extreme measures, by which they hope to nate the contending factions in a common cause and thereby strengthen their own position. It is not easy to foresee the length to which the directors of the Spanish government might go in their present difficulties. They might even as a last resort throw the country into a foreign war.

A contributor to Harper's Weekly gives a fair review of the political situation in Spain. He is of the opinion that defeat in Cuba or the Philippines would result in the overthrow of the present dynasty, which now is tolerated by the republicans and Carlists, but only until a favorable opportunity presents

itself to make an assault on it. Of the parties supporting the queen-regent the liberals under Sagasta have been very successful by lightening the burdens of militarism and causing a certain degree of prosperity. They were ousted, however, when the Cuban insurrection was commenced and the conservatives under the leadership of Canovas assumed control. The military party now reigns supreme. Expenses formerly covered by loans have to be met by increased taxation and the deficiency in the treasury already amounts to \$30,000,000 and is growing daily. The resources are taxed to the utmost. Even if the colonies finally are subdued, they will require much outlay for years to come instead of being a source of income to the national treasury. And if the government should not succeed in putting down the rebellion, an insurrection at home is expected before long.

The writer expresses the hope that Spain ultimately will emerge from the clouds that obscure her horizon, but the facts he states are not encouraging. They seem to give small foundation for the supposition that a clearer day will dawn before the storm has spent its full force.

WATCH THE CHILDREN.

There are very many parents who almost entirely fail to realize the influence of early school training upon their children, and who learn, when too late to recall that which has been done, that they have allowed to come into the life of a son or daughter a prevailing force which they vain would have kept far away. An instance illustrating this is given in a case reported from New York. A will filed a few days ago, by the late Frederick Taylor, brought the story to light. Mr. Taylor made his will seven years ago, and in it directed that his niece should have \$25,000 provided she should not become a sister in a Roman Catholic convent, which she then proposed doing. Her uncle said he did not desire to disinherit her because of her religious faith, but did not want any of his property to go to the Catholic church, hence this provision.

The young woman is now an inmate of the convent of the sacred heart in St. Louis. She is about twenty-five years of age. She was eighteen when the will was made. Despite all protests and arguments, the young lady, Miss Jewell, left her family and entered the nunnery, where she now remains and which it is not believed she will leave in order to secure the money. Now, as to the cause of her having become so attached to the Catholic faith; the Colorado Catholic says:

It was regarded by her relatives as an accident. She had been sent to a Catholic school when a mere child, and had there fallen so deeply in love with that faith as to determine, early in life, to devote herself to it entirely. Strong pressure was brought to bear upon her to prevent her from becoming a nun.

Her early school training was the potent force. That parental care which was so inefficient in its practical operation as to allow a child to go to a religious training school where ideas