

In this and in the assurance your knowledge of the Gospel gives—of an eternal companionship with him, and a glorious reunion with the greatest spirits of this greatest epoch of the world, and association with Christ and God the Father of all—in the worlds to come, you have the surest promise of most glorious rewards, which so far outweigh the deepest trials of this life that they will be forgotten, or, if remembered at all, only as the purifying flames of the furnace which help to consume the dross and purify the gold.

Annt Bathsheba, we wish you many, very many, most happy returns of this day. Not only so, but that every day between shall be full of peace and joy and honor for you and yours.

You have our confidence, our prayers, our love. We know you to be worthy of all, and more than we can give, or offer you: and all is yours; we feel that you have made your calling and election sure.

God bless you in this world with health, judgment, peace, joy and plenty, and in the world to come with all that has been promised you, and more, are the sincere desires of your affectionate kinsmen and, I trust, unfailing friend,
JOS. F. SMITH.

After the reading of the above Mrs. Alice Merrill Horne, a granddaughter of Sister Smith, read a sketch of her grandmother's life, citing all the points of interest in her career from the date of her birth up to the present time, after which Mrs. Clarissa Smith Williams gave a sketch of Sister Smith's work in the Relief Societies. A touching tribute from her own daughter, Mrs. Bathsheba Smith Merrill, was the next on the program, following which came speeches from Sisters Zina D. H. Young, E. B. Wells, Emily P. Young, Julia Smith and Bishop John R. Winder and Patriarch John Smith. To these remarks the guest of honor responded in appropriate terms, heartily thanking those assembled for the spirit of love manifested in her behalf. The party came to an end after the serving of refreshments, the rendition of a musical and literary program, in which was included the singing of the popular song *Hard Times* by the entire gathering, and the showering of congratulations, gifts and flowers upon Sister Bathsheba.

Bathsheba W. Smith is one of the early settlers of this valley and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, who, with the NEWS, will feel to congratulate her on having reached the 75th milestone in the journey of mortal life. Sister Smith was one of the original members of the Relief Society organization, and she, together with President Woodruff are the only persons living who received the ordinances of the house of the Lord in the days of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

President Angus M. Cannon presided at the regular services held in the Tabernacle Sunday afternoon, May 9, 1897.

The choir sang the hymn:

All hail the glorious day
By prophets long foretold.

Prayer was offered by Elder George A. Smith.

The choir further sang:

Behold the great Redeemer die
A broken law to satisfy.

Elder George D. Pyper who has been

laboring recently as a missionary in the Eastern States was the first speaker. He expressed surprise at being called upon to address the Saints in view of the fact that he had not completed his missionary labor, having left the city only ten months ago. His labors thus far had strengthened his faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and he made his reappearance among the Saints at home feeling a renewed vigor and determination to press on in the work of the Gospel. While away he had done service in some of the larger cities of the East and had experienced much satisfaction in tracing the path of duty. Elder Pyper bore testimony to the truth of the Gospel, and in conclusion urged the Saints to diligence in assisting in the building up of the Kingdom of God.

Elder Fred Nicholls, who recently returned from presiding over the London conference, spoke next. He referred to the success which had attended his labors and the labors of the other Elders in that part of the vineyard. While considerable prejudice existed against Mormonism, as it was there known, the Elders were pressing forward with great diligence and here and there converts presented themselves for baptism and were added to the Church membership, generally remaining true and firm to the religion that they had embraced.

The London conference, said the speaker, was flourishing, in that those belonging to the Church were faithful and were surrounded by a corps of active and energetic missionaries. The conference was placed at slight disadvantage, however, owing to a lack of meeting places, but it was the hope and prayer of the Elders that these conditions would soon be overcome, thus giving them a greater chance to do a more effective work.

Elder Nicholls urged upon the young men of the Church to study the Gospel and become acquainted with its principles, that they might be useful instruments in the hands of God in helping to roll on His great work.

Elder Peter Anderson, formerly president of the Norwich conference, was introduced to the congregation. He said that his second mission since arriving in these valleys was that which he had just completed. He had had much joy in it and brought from the Saints of that locality kind greetings to those residing in the valleys of the mountains. The Gospel work was gaining ground in that land—a condition which had not always existed there. In earlier years the Elders found it extremely difficult to preach the Gospel, as not much freedom was accorded them. At present, however, the conditions were much different and the prosecution of the work there was fraught with far better results than formerly.

During the speaker's recent journeyings there the Elders had succeeded in holding 2,600 public meetings, 1,400 of which were held in 1896. In that time also, about 18,000 tracts and books had been distributed among the people and in this way the Gospel was being opened up and investigated so much so that in the two years last past 273 persons had been baptized into the Church. The headquarters

of the Norwich conference were at the city of Christiania, there being eleven branches of the Church throughout the Norwich dominion. In the city mentioned a Sunday school, Mutual Improvement association and other necessary Church auxiliaries had been organized, and financially the conference was in splendid condition. Years back the additions to Church membership were from the poorer classes of people, but at present the middle classes and more intelligent part of the population were being baptized and made valiant devotees to the cause of truth.

In conclusion Elder Anderson bore his testimony to the truth of the Gospel, and urged the Saints to faithfulness in the discharge of their respective duties.

Elder Angus M. Cannon was the next speaker. He had been delighted in listening to the remarks of the preceding brethren, and was pleased at all times to hear the voices of men and women who were trying to do God's bidding. In the Salt Lake Stake, said the speaker, there were thousands of people who had been baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ. A large portion of these had left the lands of their nativity and had given up all for the Gospel, knowing full well that it had been restored to the earth to these latter days, and that obedience to its principles would bring blessings untold unto them. Yet in the face of all this, parents were becoming negligent in teaching their children, and the result was that many were falling into by and forbidden paths, disregarding the laws of chastity and that in the very face of the Holy Priesthood.

These conditions were becoming glaring, said the speaker, and largely because of a lack of attention by parents to children. Those who resorted to the conduct referred to must shortly repent of their sins and walk in paths of virtue and honesty or God would kindle His wrath against them as a just judgment for the sins committed by them while in the flesh. Vice and immorality were becoming lax among the young and rising generation and it was high time that such conditions were brought to a halt, especially among the children of the Latter-day Saints. God had revealed Himself unto His people and had called them to repent of their iniquities that they might enjoy His blessings the more. It was a commandment unto them to be virtuous and chaste, and it behooved all true worshippers of Him to honor and respect His commandments, for therein, and therein only, were the Saints in safety. They should pray to the Father for His Spirit to guide them at all times, that they might gain communion with him and dwell in perfect peace and unity.

Choir sang the anthem:

We give thanks to Thee.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Charles W. Pentose.

Orchardists in the vicinity of San Leandro, Cal., claim that the cherry crop has been greatly injured by the hot winds of the last few days and that the crop will not be over half what was estimated a short time ago.