

Him, that we should "see Him as He is," and be exalted with Him.

When we looked back on the history of the world and saw how few had been prepared in this life for the life to come, we might draw our own conclusions as to the vast work that remained yet to be done in the spirit world, in bringing those who had passed away to a knowledge of the truth. The Gospel taught us, then, that this mortal existence was a preparatory one. It was one of the important links in the life of God's children. It was absolutely necessary; for if it had not been, God would not have so ordained it. It was a part of the economy of God, a part of His great design—the great plan of redemption and exaltation, of eternal increase and power. We had to sojourn here or else become the sons of perdition, like Satan and the one-third of the hosts of heaven that were cast out and denied this privilege of becoming like God and Jesus His Son, of becoming qualified and capable of enjoying all the blessings and glory and exaltation of the Son as well as of the Father. From the days of the flood until now a great mass of the people had died without a knowledge of God, the principles of the Gospel and its saving ordinances, which were necessary to prepare men to enjoy the fulness and presence of God the Eternal Father; and those good and righteous men who had received the holy Priesthood in this life, who had received the gift of the Holy Spirit, the gift of the Holy Ghost, were qualified in this existence to preach the Gospel to those in the flesh; and when they went hence they would go and preach the Gospel to the dead, that was, dead as to the flesh, but living in the spirit world. If people imagined for a moment that this was a simple and trifling work—they were certainly deceived, for there were millions and millions who had never heard the Gospel; the Gospel must be preached unto them, and they must be brought out from darkness into the light, from ignorance to knowledge, from destitution to the possession of the riches of eternal life, which was the greatest gift that God could bestow upon man. To this end the Lord had revealed this great and glorious principle of vicarious work for the dead; and in this we saw the scriptures fulfilled—that the hearts of the fathers should be turned to the children and the hearts of the children to the fathers, lest the earth be smitten with a curse. This great work had been begun in this Gospel dispensation, and from now henceforth it would be continued until it should have been consummated.

There were no people in the world that could oppose or contend against the principles of this Gospel if they only knew and understood them, because in such a case they would be opposing that which was for their own good; that which was intended for the salvation of the human family. His belief was that there were many persons living today who knew that Mormonism was true; but they were opposing it because their deeds were evil and they loved darkness rather than light. Therefore they were under condemnation.

He felt thankful to God his Heavenly Father that He had permitted him to live in this age of the world when he

had an opportunity of knowing for himself that he lived before he came here; that he was here for a purpose, and that a wise, glorious and righteous one; it was the only purpose for which man could exist in reason and with any kind of consistency. If he were here for the mere purpose of eating and drinking, making merry and enjoying the temporalities of life he would then say, "O, how vain it was that I were made at all." If his object were simply to exist in this present life and then pass beyond, to cast his crown at the feet of Jesus Christ, to sing praises unto Him, and that alone, he should say that the design and purpose of God were not very exalted. But when he understood, as he did through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that they had all come here to form relationships with the living and with the dead that should unite them together as a band of brethren for time and for all eternity, to lay the foundation for eternal progress, growth and development in knowledge, understanding, power, and in glory—then there was something before them—there was something grand to live for.

He thanked God his Heavenly Father for this knowledge which came from Him by revelation and by inspiration of the Holy Spirit. He felt thankful that he was associated with the people of God and that they had the most glorious prospects before them of any people that had ever lived. This work would not fail, for the Lord had undertaken it, and He would not leave it to another. He had chosen the weak things of the earth to bear off His message and to accomplish His work, in order that His name might stand out before the people as the Redeemer and Savior of the world. God would have the honor, and it was our duty to acknowledge Him and render unto Him that which belonged to Him, and not be lifted up in the pride of our hearts.

Great responsibilities rested upon us as a people. It was true he had been called to an Apostleship in this Church, to be an especial witness of the Lord's work; but it was no more his duty to be righteous, to be just and honest, pure and upright, than it was the duty of the most humble member of the Church. If, however, any man was more humble than himself, had more implicit faith and confidence in God, was more virtuous, honest, and upright, he wanted to form his acquaintance and emulate his example and good works. But Jesus Christ was the Great Exemplar; they should follow Him, and whatever He commanded that do. Then they would receive the reward and glory which awaited the faithful.

God help us to be true to the covenants which we have made with Him, and to the testimony which He has given to us of the truth of the Gospel in this dispensation, and may He finally bring us to His everlasting Kingdom in my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The choir sang the anthem: "Praise ye the Father."

The benediction was pronounced by Patriarch John Smith.

London, Jan. 12.—Cardinal Manning is ill with congestion of the lungs and bronchitis.

## THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce January 13, Colonel John W. Donnellan was elected president for the ensuing year to succeed President Fred Simon.

Heber M. Wells was unanimously chosen first vice-president, and S. W. Morrison second vice-president. The following eight directors were unanimously elected: Messrs. W. H. Rowe, W. H. Shearman, N. A. Empey, R. H. Terhune, J. M. Ricketts, A. E. De Ricqlès, C. P. Mason and M. J. Gray.

### PRESIDENT SIMON

read his report for the past year. The following is the gist of it:

To the Members of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce:

Gentlemen:—The year just passed, whether taken from a financial or commercial point of view, will undoubtedly be remembered by our business community as one of the closest ever experienced in the annals of our commercial history.

It is but natural that the depression in the money market which, having its beginning in European money centers, then affecting the money centers of the east, would very soon assert itself in our own city and Territory, and that no greater losses and failures have taken place than those of which we have a record during the year, is indeed a great cause for congratulation, and speaks well for the solidity of our banks, our business houses and our real estate interests.

With such a beginning, the chamber of commerce found it very hard work to start upon its labors for the year, in order to make that showing which was strongly desired by the board of directors.

Mr. Simon then urges the importance of faithful and detailed committee work, and continues:

Upon the return of the chairman and commissioner from the East, a plan was formulated which had for its object the consolidation of all the business interests, and after working for almost a year upon this matter, a sufficient number of business men were found who concluded to join their issues and pledged themselves by the signing of contracts to stand unitedly together until freight rates were reduced to reasonable charges, and passenger rates were made equally favorable with the other points in the North and West. A test case on the rates charged on cotton piece goods was made by the Z. C. M. I., and the interstate commerce commission, under the chairmanship of General Veasey, gave the case a hearing in this city, and so anxious was the railway company to get this case settled that a compromise was effected almost instantaneously.

### COMMISSIONER SEARS.

From January 1 of this year the services of Mr. S. W. Sears, a most able business man, who is also very competent upon railway and freight topics, has been engaged, and henceforth active work may be expected from the transportation bureau, but I warn the business men of this city again, that unless they stand united and present a solid front, like the Macedonian phalanx of old, they will continue to pay the same high rates for their incoming freight and battle with