

school building has been fitted up with the latest improved furniture, and the necessary apparatus procured. It has been lately painted and calcimined, in appropriate subdued tints, by Brother David Milne, to whom the contract for that part of the work was awarded. Everything about the structure has been executed in a workman-like manner, reflecting much credit upon Brother Robert Patrick, who has been superintendent of construction from its beginning, and upon the committee associated with him. The interior is a model of neatness, everything being in excellent taste.

The circumstances of the people being such as to render it impracticable to open the Latter-day Saints' Seminary in the structure at an earlier date than that named, the dedication of the building was delayed until last evening (Friday, Aug. 30th, 1889) commencing at 8 o'clock.

The proceedings were opened by  
BISHOP ORSON F. WHITNEY.

After briefly explaining the object of the gathering, he said this was the first school of the kind that had yet been established in a ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It was patterned after the example of the Brigham Young Academy at Provo, the Brigham Young College at Logan and the Latter-day Saints' College in Salt Lake City. The Latter-day Saints of the Eighteenth Ward commenced this project in the summer of 1885. The people living in the ward recognized the necessity of such a step, realizing that there were many young people growing up in their midst without a knowledge of the principles of the Gospel, lacking that faith which characterized their fathers and mothers, and which had enabled them to pass through all sorts of trials and persecutions for the Gospel's sake. The Latter-day Saints of the Ward desired, if possible, to add their mite toward stemming the tide of unbelief and infidelity which in this age seemed to be surging over the world. They foresaw, also, to some extent the efforts which would be made by their political opponents to seize the property of the wards in which the schools were held. Therefore it was thought desirable to erect a building of which the Latter-day Saints themselves should be the sole proprietors. They now saw more clearly than ever they did before the wisdom of this movement. Having adverted to the purchase of the site for the school, the formation of working committees and other preliminaries in connection with the undertaking, likewise the generous support which it had received, Bishop Whitney pointed out that within two years the building was completed. Lack of funds, however, compelled them to postpone the opening of the school as originally intended, and the building had been rented to the district school, and also used by the ward for Sunday School purposes, entertainments, lectures, concerts, etc. But now, he was pleased to say, their original intention was

about to be carried out, and on Monday next the Latter-day Saints' Seminary would be inaugurated there. The speaker expressed his satisfaction at the presence that evening of President Wilford Woodruff, President Cannon, and others of the Church authorities, and remarked that the late President John Taylor, as the trustee-in-trust for the Church, was one of their most kind and generous supporters when this project was first set on foot. The building had cost about \$9500, \$1500 of which was donated by the trustee-in-trust, and the carrying out of the enterprise had been the result of the combined work of the Latter-day Saints of the Eighteenth Ward and a few generous Saints of other wards in the city.

The choir, led by Brother Horace G. Whitney, sang, "This house we dedicate to Thee."

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON

offered the dedicatory prayer, as follows: Our Father who art in heaven, we Thy children have met together this evening for the purpose of dedicating this house unto Thee, the Lord our God. We approach Thee in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, and entreat Thee to pour out Thy Holy Spirit upon us, that while we worship together our exercises, everything that shall be said, may be inspired by Thee; that Thy Holy Spirit will dictate every thought, accompany every word, and that our hearts may be solemnized before Thee; that the expressions thereof may be acceptable to Thee, and convey unto Thee those feelings and desires which we entertain. We are thankful that we can meet together, as we now do, in peace and safety, without any to molest or make us afraid that Thou hast has given unto Thy people the means with which to erect this house, and hast put it into their hearts to build it and to dedicate it for the purposes which they have in view. We are thankful that thou hast made this land so fruitful and so blessed, that Thou hast multiplied our store, that Thou hast touched the land, as it were, with Thy finger and from barrenness changed it into fertility, making it delightful unto us who have gathered here to worship Thee. Yea, Father, we are thankful for these blessings, so numerous that we cannot name them, that have been bestowed upon us.

Notwithstanding the many efforts which have been made to destroy us and the many plots framed against us, we still live and enjoy a large degree of liberty; we have increased in the land and become firmly rooted therein. We know there is no earthly power that could have preserved us against the many machinations and plots of our opponents, for they have continually sought our destruction and have been very strong while we have been very weak and few, and have only had such power as Thou hast given unto us. We feel therefore to glorify Thee this evening. Thou art worthy of all our worship, of all the devotion of our hearts, of every effort of

our being. We extol Thee and praise Thy holy name that in this day Thou hast revealed Thyself unto us from heaven, shown unto men once more who Thou art, and the relationship which exists between Thee and Thy children on the earth. We praise Thee for thy Gospel, so perfect, so full of salvation, so comprehensive, so soul-satisfying as it is, feeding us with the truth and giving unto us the bread of life. We thank Thee for the revelations of the everlasting Priesthood, by which the ordinances of life and salvation are administered unto us, that Thou dost acknowledge them and bestow Thy blessings in accordance therewith. We thank Thee also for the organization of Thy Church, so perfect in all its details, comprehending as it does everything that is necessary to make Thy people perfect before Thee, to maintain Thy power upon the earth, and the solidity of the system which Thou hast given unto us.

And now, Father, we desire to dedicate this house unto Thee. We pray that Thy blessing may rest down upon it and all who have conceived the thought of erecting it—all who have contributed their means towards its erection and all who, though destitute of means, may still have had in their hearts the desire to do so if they were able. Bless every workman who has done anything toward the erection and completion of this house; bless the Bishop, his Counselors, the committee, and all the members of the Ward who have either by their means, good will, or faith helped to establish this house and bring it to its present condition. Wilt Thou also bless the land upon which it stands. May it be sacred unto Thee in the uses for which it is designed. Bless the foundation stones, the walls, the mortar, the brick, the plaster, the windows, the doors, the floors, the joists, the rafters, the ceiling, the roof, and everything connected with the entire building—that all may be sanctified unto Thee. We dedicate it unto Thee with all our hearts, that it may be made a holy place—a place wherein true education shall be imparted unto all who come here as pupils; we pray that it may be dedicated to Thy use from this time forward, until it shall have accomplished the work for which it has been designed.

Heavenly Father, we ask Thee to bless the teachers who shall come unto this house to impart knowledge to the children of Thy people; fill them, we beseech Thee, with the spirit of their calling, so inspire their hearts that in teaching the principles which they may have in view they may do so correctly; that truth may ever prevail and the love of it animate their hearts. Grant that they may have discernment to understand the dispositions of all the children and deal with them gently and kindly, and in such a manner as shall develop their good qualities, that the treatment of each child may be in accordance with his or her natural disposition. Bless the children who