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A BRIGHT AND SUNNY SPIRIT.

Though the writer (speaking of his mother, the son of his own father and mother, he knows the best of those words will affirm his words when we say that Abraham Hoagland Cannon was one of the brightest and noblest souls that ever dwelt among the earth's inhabitants. His years were far too few to let his greatness of heart and soul and mind become fully and widely known, but those who knew him intimately, and could read the magnitude of his nature and character, foresaw in him a man in good and great as to merit a place among the first of those who were born to bless their kind.

His nature was always sweet and amiable; his heart was always tender and responsive; his sympathies for all mankind were boundless. His love and reverence for his father, and for his mother in her lifetime—she is now some years deceased—were traits of a soul which feels the strongest and deepest emotions. His attachment for his parents, his regard for their wishes and obedience to their counsels, were, in his earliest years, marked traits of a noble soul. For his brothers and sisters he always felt, and by outward demeanor showed, a love that was a type of what such an affection ought to be.

In his own household, and in his bearing towards his wives and children, he was most loving, tender and solicitous; ever patient and ever cheerful; coming ever near to the fulfillment of all that is required of a husband and father as the weakness of mortality can come. Only the family of such a man can know what such a man is, and what is signified by his departure from this world.

To his intimate associates and employes his manner was simplicity, courtesy and kindness all combined; and to all with whom he came in contact, whether they were business, or religious or strangers, he showed by his deportment that every act of his life was sought to be conformed to those high and clear convictions of right that so distinguished his lofty mind.

The writer cannot express the brotherly affection that has been disrupted, or the loss he has sustained. Though the elder by two years he leaned upon him who has gone, and in the counsel and sympathy that were ever freely given, has found a new support. The loss can never be repaired until a meeting to and for eternity shall take place.

BLESSED ARE THE DEAD.

If there is one teaching in the Gospel of our Lord that above all others may be called sweet, it is that which relates to those who pass away after a life spent in the faithful service of the Master. "And it shall come to pass that those that die in Me, shall not taste of death, for it shall be sweet unto them." (Doctrine and Covenants 42:46.) Again: "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord from henceforth, when the Lord shall come, and old things shall pass away, and all things become new, they shall rise from the dead and shall not die after, and shall receive an inheritance before the Lord in the holy city." (Doctrine and Covenants 63:51.)

That the dead live who thus received by the law full inheritance in another place, the faith of those who remain here has every evidence in the words of our Lord. It is that which relates to those who have gone before that we have hope. Generally the brethren look toward the future world as one of happiness, glory and joy. They would therefore rather regard it in the world to the living than to the dead. They would rather think of it as a place where they will be joined to their loved ones. Now, friends there will not be "sorrow for the dead as those who have no hope." Neither is it so after death as the resurrection of all the inhabitants of the present, but as expressed the eternal power rather as an exchange of the unknown than sidereal and the war the general condition, until the millennial rest was made. Introduced the world "Christ is risen," and "Blessed are those who die in the Lord." The morning was resplendent. And in this day his glorious promise to the faithful constituents of the Christian faith. Life and immortality, for which all have longed and which in the love of mankind have lost to us, without being able to trace the connection between this life and another, were "brought to light" by the Gospel, making this the distinguishing mark of the mission of Jesus.

And it revealed to greatest. In the old it veiled the and immortality not seen as the rays of dawn enlightening up the hill-tops of the heights of Hope. The teachings of the Lord and the Apostles called men upon the important subject, but they were established beyond reasonable uncertainty, when if the words were offered in mortal to mortal figurative language or in metaphor and intimated that the time for a man's departure had not yet arrive. While, of course, Paul was in no vision were clearer impossible. The world then could not have received it, but the time permitted to give utterance to what he saw.

Should the dead ever return in the flesh of the world for been their on the hills in this dispensation, through the medium of revelation of the Lord, who have had sweet communion with those from the other side of the veil, the dividing between the living and the dead have been removed, and in such a case we become a mystery, and most always to relate to those on the side, yet, speaking broadly, death has ceased, in their contemplation, been "swallowed up in victory." There is to those who understand the blessed practicality go death, only a removal from the sphere of action to a higher one. "Their works follow them." All the operations of this life, springing from love, faith and obedience, continue. The life here has merged into that hereafter.

Blessed therefore the dead in the Lord! Although they have crossed the sea, they bring with them the remembrance of their loved ones. New friends there will not replace the friends here. With redoubled zeal and more power they undoubtedly labor for the happiness of those whom they left behind, and for the triumph of the cause to which they were devoted.

VIEWING THE DEAD.

It has been a prevailing custom among the Latter-day Saints, as in the world, to make the exposure to public gaze of the remains of the dead a prominent feature at a funeral. At a given juncture in the services of proceedings, held for the purpose of signalizing the last tokens of respect to the departed, the multitude is invited to pass in single file around the bier, and gaze upon the mortal remains of the one who has departed.

Characteristic of the Gospel, and of the etiquette of the house of the Lord, is a spirit of delicacy, refinement and propriety, of the holiest kind, and the exposure to public gaze of the remains of the dead, is not in the spirit of such