

come here, that when they enter this house the Spirit of the Lord may rest down in power upon them, that their hearts may be softened under its heavenly influence, that they may become tractable, patient, quick to receive instruction, that their minds may be developed so as to perceive principles and understand aright the teaching which shall be given unto them, that in all the branches of education they may make progress beneficial to themselves and satisfactory to their parents as well as those who teach them. Let Thy Holy Spirit be upon all who shall come here at any time to afford amusement or instruction to Thy people; and grant, O Lord, that every spirit that is not of Thee may be banished at all times from this building and have no power or place herein.

Forgive us all our sins; we pray Thee look with mercy and tender compassion upon us, deliver us from every evil, and grant that the feet of Thy people may be made fast in these mountains. May we perform all our labors with an eye single to Thy glory; accept those labors and preserve this land to us, to be a refuge for Thy people from this time forward, till Zion shall be fully redeemed; and notwithstanding plots and designs may be indulged in to deprive Thy people of their inheritance and despoil them, grant that all such may fail, that this may be a land of liberty unto all who desire righteousness, that righteousness may reign and truth prevail.

While we thus pray for ourselves and Thy people in general, we ask Thee to remember Th servant whom Thou hast chosen to hold the keys. Be Thou with him and preserve him from the hands of his enemies; bless his counselors, all the Apostles, every officer in the Church, and every member thereof. These blessings we ask of Thee, Father, dedicating this house, all that we have, and ourselves unto Thee, the Lord our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

The anthem, "O sing praises," was beautifully rendered by the choir, the strong bass solo part by Brother Thomas Crawford being a marked feature.

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

addressed the assembly. He expressed thankfulness to God that his life had been spared to join in the proceedings of such an occasion, and rejoiced to witness the accomplishment of such a work as had been undertaken in this instance by the Latter-day Saints of the Eighteenth Ward. It was certainly a most worthy cause, one which God would approve, and which would bring many blessings to the people by whom it had been carried out. After dilating upon the subject for which schools were organized, and pointing out the manifold advantages which would accrue therefrom, President Woodruff spoke strongly against the spread of infidelity in the world, urging that every possible means should be employed to check its further progress. He offered some excellent counsel to the young, and

earnestly exhorted them to be faithful to the commandments of God. Let it not be charged against the Latter-day Saints that they were weak in their faith or belief, but in the face of all persecution and opposition serve and honor God continually.

A solo and duet, "O, My Father," by Brothers George D. Pyper and Heber Goddard, greatly delighted the assemblage by the excellent rendition. It was sung with marked feeling.

DR. JAMES E. TALMAGE

then made a few pertinent observations, dealing mainly with the subject of education. He pointed out the close relationship which should exist between parents and teachers, and illustrated the importance of home culture as affecting the future life of the child. No teacher, however skilful, prayerful or careful he might be, could take the place of the parent in training and educating the mind of the child. The two must work together if great good was to be done and the Lord was to be pleased with the result.

An instrumental trio, mandolin and guitars, Brothers Browning, Clayton and Whytock, afforded the audience much entertainment, the performance being decidedly skilful.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON

spoke on the cause of education, which he said had always been dear to him. He warmly approved of the object for which they had met that evening, having felt for some years that their educational interests, as a Church, were being neglected—that they had not been doing their duty toward the young as they should. The change, therefore, which had latterly taken place in this respect was most gratifying, and he anticipated the grandest results, notwithstanding that the beginning was a small one. The Latter-day Saints possessed every qualification to make them a great people, and such they would become if they only remained true to the principles which God had revealed. There was no reason why they should not have amongst them the finest and most cultivated intellects in the world, and he looked forward to this as the outcome of that system of education upon which they were now entering; but there could not be a perfectly developed character without religion. Their children would emerge from these schools well equipped to face the world, with all its learning, and come off creditably and victoriously. In wishing this movement God-speed, he hoped to see the day when there would be established in this Territory institutions which would be a credit to any part of the civilized world, and second to none. Among those in Utah who had made a mark in the colleges of the east President Cannon mentioned with satisfaction the names of Willard Young, Richard W. Young and Dr. James E. Talmage, and alluded to others that might be named, each of whom competed successfully with

those who had all the advantages that eastern culture could afford.

The next musical exercise was a male quartette (Brothers Pyper, Whitney, Goddard and Spencer.) It was a pleasing feature of the proceedings.

APOSTLE HEBER J. GRANT

confessed that if he possessed any one hobby it was with reference to the proper education of the youth of Zion. He enumerated some of the duties and obligations resting upon parents in the proper training of their children and in teaching them the principles of the Gospel, and showed that the education of the intellect and the development of the body did not necessarily make a perfect man. A complete education required spiritual training as well. These schools would be calculated to stimulate young men and young women to do their duty, and if they only followed out this line of conduct they would gain the knowledge and testimony that they are engaged in the work of God.

Miss Lutie Thatcher gave an admirable performance on the piano.

PRESIDENT ANGUS M. CANNON

spoke upon the obligations resting upon parents, and especially enforced the importance of personal example both on the part of parents and teachers. Let them teach the young to look with reverence upon holy things and to regard with contempt such worldly affairs as would tend to draw them from the object of true worship.

The choir and congregation sang, "O Zion."

Elder Charles W. Penrose pronounced the benediction, and the assembly dispersed shortly after ten o'clock.

THE telegraph informs us that the Pope is actually about to leave Rome and take up his abode in Spain. Such an occurrence will denude the chief city of the iron empire of the middle ages of much of its prestige. The move is one of importance.

There are over 80,000 more widows than widowers in England. In France for every 100 widowers there are 194 widows. These facts lend the *Westminster Review* to treat the glowing disposition of men to marry late in life as a very serious evil of modern society. Such men usually marry younger women, who, in the natural order of things, may be expected to survive them.

PENNSYLVANIA can undoubtedly claim the heaviest rainfall this season, and she has suffered most from the excessive supply of water from the heavens. The State weather service has calculated that, if gathered in one place, the rainfall in the State this year would form a lake 1000 miles square and thirty-five feet in depth. At the time of the Johnstown flood 7,000,000 tons of water fell upon the mountains and plateaus of Northern Pennsylvania.