DESERET EVENING NEWS, SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1904.



by brethren and sisters, it is very in-ring to me to observe the congregat-of the Latter-day Saints at a general ference of the Church. It increases faith and causes me to rejoice, bethe love that is in the

come up hither to worship the our God, and to be taught in His

munity that so generally believes God, those who have been called and t concourse, not only in this buildthe center stake of Zion, that

dence.

Now, the Gospel teaches us to love esty on every hand, will be trusted, and

pointed out by Elder McMurrin here, and I was very much pleased with the testimony he bore. Such a testimony can be enjoyed by all of us. How grate-ful we ought to feel to our Heavenly Father, we who have been born under Father, we who have been born under the new and everlasting covenant, for the great privilege we have had, and for the blessings we enjoy. I, too, am grateful that my parents embraced the Gospel and came out to the land of Zlon; and that they sacrificed all they had in the world and identified themselves with the people of God. I am proud of the fact that my father yielded obe-

have come through the inspiration of Spirit of God, "For no man know-the things of God but by the the eth Spirit of God that is in him." A few days ago I was conversing with a brother, a good Latter-day Saint, at least I had always considered him a good Latter-day Saint, and he is generally reputed to be one-and he told me, much to my astonishment, that he was rather skeptical as to the Latter-day Saints having a knowledge that this is the work of God. He said, "we get up and bear testimony that we know that this is the work of God, that we know Joseph Smith was a Percent of God, but Law a little skept Prophet of God; but I am a little skeptical on that point." He further said, "When I went on my mission I made it point never to say that I knew these things to be true." I said: Well, brother, some men have come to an absolute knowledge of those things. "Well, possibly," said he, "but I hardly think they have." We got to talking of the sons of perdition, and he said he did not believe that Judas knew that Jesus was the Christ. I said, Perhaps not: but Peter knew it, because our Father had revealed it to him, and if Feter had done what Judas did, there is no question but what he would have become a son of perdition. Then, I there was also the Prophet Joseph Smith who saw the Father and the Son. He said, "I am a little skep-tical about that." I was astonished, This man, claiming to be a Latter-day Saint, felt that he could not believe that with all his heart. He said that when he was on his mission he only testified that these things were true; he said he could not help himself on that occasion. He stated to me that he believed with all his heart that this was the work of God; that he was willing to die for it, if necessary, and to do anything on earth to further it; but he said he would not say he knew the Gospel was true. On the occasion referred to he said he could not help it; he felt in his whole being that if he did not declare that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God he would be damned. I told him he would have been damned if he had not borne this testimony, and that the reason he felt and spoke as he did was because he had the Spirit of God, for no man could know that with-out he had the Spirit of God. I took it for granted he would thus learn that



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