

we respect and who respect us. But in some instances they have sent us thieves, liars, whoremongers, adulterers and swindlers. You may think this is hard talk. I do not like to be under the necessity of using such language; but it is nevertheless true; yet it is not often these things are mentioned. What would the Government do for us? Judging from the past, if we were to ask them for bread, they would give us a stone, for a fish they would give us a serpent; ask for an egg and they would send us a scorpion. This has been too much the case. The government is just as good as ever existed; but the administrators of the government, have in many instances, been the most contemptible men that ever disgraced God's footstool. Some may say this is coming out against the Government. No, it is not, it is against wicked administrators. Now I will come back again. This kingdom is a kingdom of labor, a kingdom of people, a kingdom of territory, a kingdom that God will own, bless and sustain, and we will fight the devils until we gain the victory and turn the earth upside down and devote it to God.

Now, Bishops, when you go home do not sit down and be lazy. I like to see the Bishops active. As for myself it does not appear that I am going to have the privilege of rusting out; I have enough around me to keep me bright. Go home and organize your Relief Societies and Co-operative stores, and let the poor people take stock in these stores that they may have a chance to make a little. Gather the means due to the Perpetual Emigration Fund. If a man refuses to pay when he is able to do so, cut him off from the Church. He is not fit to be called a Latter-day Saint who will foster and hoard up his money here and let his brethren and sisters starve and suffer to death in the old country.

Excuse me for my hard sayings. I scold the Latter-day Saints and talk just as I have a mind to, and any person, "outsider" or "insider," who thinks this people are held together by flattery and smooth words, is greatly mistaken. We ask no odds of the Latter-day Saints or anybody else on earth. If we can have God for our friend and be dictated by Him, we can build up His Kingdom. Do not be scared at anything I have said. I have talked no worse about "outsiders" than I have about "insiders." I use my liberty and chasten both Saints and "outsiders."

Do you think we will sustain ourselves? Yes; if we do right. Do you think we shall be able to maintain our foothold here in these mountains? Yes; if we do right. I never had but one fear with regard to the work of God since I have been in this Kingdom, that is, that the people will not do right. But let the people live their religion and serve God and I defy all the powers of earth and hell; I ask no odds of them. They tried their best when we were in their midst and they killed our Prophet and Patriarch and a great many men and women who belonged to the Church; but the Church is not obliterated. It spreads and prospers although we have the whole world to carry on our backs. Do you think the world loves us? If it did, I should say "farewell to the Kingdom of God." The world does not love us. Do we hate them? No; we hate their actions. Do we love them? If they will repent of their sins and turn to God we will love them; but we will not love their sins, neither will God. He despises those who operate against Him. He is angry every day of His life with the wicked. Does He love their souls and delight in their welfare? Yes, and so do the Latter-day Saints, but they do not love wickedness.

It is for the Latter-day Saints to build up the Kingdom. Go forward; hold fast to the "iron rod" and to everything that is good! Hold fast to the truth which God has revealed and you will learn this one fact,—that if you will serve God with an undivided heart, it is a thousand times easier to live on this earth than it is to live in the spirit of rebellion and apostasy to God and His providences. Be reconciled to God and take the counsels given, for they lead to life. In all our counsels and business transactions we never ask the people to go blindfolded into this, that, or the other measure. Harken to reason, good counsel, true principle and you will know that the ways of the Lord are just, pure, right, righteous and that the ways of the Lord are the easiest to walk in that can be found.

It is said the railroad was built expressly to overthrow the Latter-day Saints and the work of God on the earth; but it will promote His work. It is put into our hands, we thank Him for it, and we say "God bless those who built it;

and God bless every good man and every one who speaks well of Zion. But what will be done with them that fight against Zion? We know how they are. Now is the very time spoken of by the prophet, when he says they shall say: "Let her [Zion] be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion," but they know not the thoughts of the Lord, neither understand they His counsel. They have said, "Zion, we look upon you and we say you shall be defiled." But they know not that the Lord rules in the hearts of the children of men, that He turns them as the rivers of water are turned, and governs and controls them at His pleasure. He sets up one here and another there, and pulls down at His pleasure. Kingdoms, thrones and empires come into existence by His word and will, and they pass away whenever He says the word.

It is for you and me to serve God. We need have but one fear, and that is that we shall not do right. If we do right, God will be for us, and who then can be against us? We neither know nor care. We know that the devil and all who will serve him will be against Christ; and we know that the two powers will remain on the earth until one overcomes the other. Which do you think will overcome? If we are living in the last times, wherein God has set His hand to gather Israel and restore the kingdom to His people on the earth, which do you think will conquer, Jesus or the devil? I say the Lord Jesus. I hold up my hands for Him, I shall open my mouth for Him, I shall fight and contend for His cause on the earth until it overcomes sin and iniquity.

I want to say, again, to you Latter-day Saints, if you live your religion you will prove the truth of those words said to have been uttered by Jesus,—namely, "my yoke is easy and my burden is light." But let no man or men, woman or women imagine that the religion of Jesus Christ is a phantom, a scheme devised to work upon the feelings and fears of the children of men, and a system that is incapable of demonstration; if any person imagines any such thing he is entirely mistaken. As I observed here to-day with regard to miracles, "there is no miracle except to the ignorant." There is always a cause for every effect. There is no such thing in existence as an effect without a cause. There are many effects, the causes of which we do not understand. The religion which God has instituted for the salvation of His children is calculated in its very nature, and upon strictly philosophical and natural principles, to reach the condition, and to save every son and daughter, of Adam and Eve, who can be saved. Now go to, rationally, sensibly and understandingly and take hold of the religion of Jesus Christ and live according to its precepts wherever you go.

I know that some of our elders, when they come from their missions think their work is through and they have nothing more to do and they can turn to the spirit of the world; but it is not so. You will find, when you have finished your labors here on this earth and your bodies fall asleep, that your works will follow you. You will enter then upon a higher state of labor and intelligence, and there you will operate and officiate and do and deal as you are ordered and directed by your superiors until you finish your work in that sphere. And when your body is resurrected and united to your spirit again your work will not be done even then.

In reference to the resurrection, the Latter-day Saints should understand that the man whom the Lord called in this generation and dispensation, and to whom He delivered the keys of the holy priesthood, will be the first one that will be resurrected. He will be the first one belonging to this dispensation who will come forth from the tomb; and then the keys of the resurrection will be given to him, and he will go forth "from conquering to conquer," and he will resurrect his brethren and commit to them the keys of the resurrection, and they will continue the work with Jesus until the whole earth is subdued, renovated and brought back into its paradisaic state and sanctified; and then until it is glorified and the Lord moves it right back into His presence where it was when it was created. This work will continue through the Millennium. Will the work of God be finished then? No, it will not. There is an eternity of matter to operate upon, and when those who have proven themselves worthy, are crowned Gods, even the sons of God; they will enter upon their work in a more glorious sphere and will create, people and redeem worlds until they are brought back into the presence of God. Do you think your work will ever cease? No, never.

We shall never reach that point where we shall have nought to do but to "sit and sing ourselves away to everlasting bliss," our work is without beginning or end. The whole plan of creation and redemption is systematized most perfectly. But we, here upon the earth, are very ignorant of the work of God; in comparison, we know little more than the brutes. If you want a comparison, I will say we are something like the horse that the boy goes to the field or pasture to catch. To accomplish this he takes along a measure of oats, and the horse, seeing there is something to eat in the measure, is caught and managed; but he never thinks anything about where the oats came from. It is a good deal so with us. We find ourselves here, but the causes of our being here we seldom think about or try to find out.

My brethren and sisters, there is a work before us, and it will never end. Jesus will continue His work, the brethren and sisters assisting Him, until every person who can be saved is brought into a kingdom and into a glory that is fitted to their capacity. If it is not like the sun it may be like the moon; if not like the moon it may be like the stars; and if not like those bright, full and glorious stars we see in the firmament, it may be like an inferior one. All will receive glory according to the deeds done in the body.

We are about to adjourn this conference, although there are still a great many things we should like to talk about. We have not said anything about silk. We want the brethren and sisters to pay attention to silk raising. We have one of the finest countries in the world for this business. Pay attention to it! Get your mulberry trees, and when they are large enough get some worms and make your sewing silk, and silken fabrics to wear. There are a thousand things before us to which we wish to pay attention. We are not going to stop and sit down and say we are as far as we can go, we can go no further. No, we shall progress in spiritual and temporal things. But until this people progress in temporal matters better than they have done hitherto the spiritual things of God will be withheld from them.

I have thought a great many times, I would like to ask the sisters a question upon another subject entirely,—that subject they are always thinking about,—namely, plurality of wives. I have thought a thousand times I would ask the female portion of our community whether, if it were left to their option, they would retain the practice of this principle in our midst, or whether they would have it obliterated. I want to tell them a little about it,—namely, it is a principle that always has existed and that always will. Have we any reasons to assign for this? There are many that might be given. If from the days of Adam until now every man that has lived on the earth had been a righteous man he would have fulfilled the first commandment, and have got him a wife and have done his part towards replenishing the earth, and subduing and making it like the Garden of Eden; and he would have planted the standard of righteousness in his habitation. If this had been the case, the millions and millions that have been killed in battle could have taken the fair daughters of Eve to wife. But men have not been righteous, they have been just about as they are now. They are the lords of the earth, and they will do evil and gratify the lusts of the flesh, and they will not serve God. But provided it had been otherwise we would not have had the wars that have been, and all the fine young men that have died through them might have had families, and there would not have been much reason for any man to have had more than one wife.

Another argument used by men and women against plurality of wives is that there are about as many men as there are women. Suppose that to be so! Acknowledge that proposition to be true, and say that there are no more women than men and that every man should have a wife. What of it? Men will not be righteous, and women are left to desolation and destruction. Read the statistics of such matters in our eastern cities. In New York, for instance, from eleven to fourteen thousand young women, from sixteen to twenty-one years of age, perish annually in the gutters, on the side walks, on door steps or in the hovels around. This is no worse than it is in other places where prostitution prevails. Many would like to prostitute the women of Utah, but I pray they may never be able to do it. So far as the mere number of wives is concerned, I

do not care whether I have one, a dozen, or forty. A great many ask me how many wives I have, but to tell the honest truth I never thought enough about it to stop and think. But I will get up the facts in the case and tell everybody so that they may stop asking me these questions. I suppose I have a dozen or fifteen that I am taking care of, perhaps a few more, I do not know, and I care nothing about it. I try to do good and try to save the people, and I say do not let a lady come to destruction. It is grievous to me to think that, right in this city, there should be any necessity for ladies to marry wicked men, which they would not do, if the "Mormon" elders would do their duty. It looks as if our young men are indolent and slothful and do not understand the principles of life. As an excuse, however, they will say "My dear friend and brother Brigham, I can not get married; why, if I get me a wife she wants a carriage to ride in, a hired girl to wait upon her, and a piano in the parlor to thump upon when she pleases, and I can not sustain it." I am sorry to say there is too much truth in this. Now, you young women, tell the young men you will work and help them to live; tell them so that they may marry you. There are a great many single men in our midst who ought to have wives, and a great many young women who ought to have husbands. There is a radical wrong somewhere.

Young man, go and get you a partner; get you a little house, then plant out your shade trees and fruit trees. Land is plenty here, you can get it "without money and without price." You have the privilege now, if you are a citizen of the United States, of taking up 160 acres, and it will only cost you ten or fifteen dollars. Can not you get a home? Yes, you can, right here in the midst of the Saints. Then go and do it, and do not neglect the first commandment given to Adam and Eve,—to replenish, subdue and beautify the earth.

Now, sisters, what shall we do? Shall we take more wives than one, or shall we not? If we do not, it will not help the case with those who do not take any; they will not get any because we have only one; and we should see hundreds and thousands of our females with no home, nobody to protect them, nobody that they can call husband, and they would wander off. Shall we do this or not? If the men will be righteous all will be right.

They have said a great deal in Washington with regard to our having more wives than one. I have said in public, and have written, that if they will cease their whoredoms, and each one get a wife and be true to her and strictly virtuous, and then will cause the nation to take the same course, we will submit to their wishes and will have but one wife. Here is a bargain,—if you will have no more than one woman we will not. But the thing is here,—they want women but no wives. We take many women but we make wives and mothers of them and they are not cast off; and their children have the privilege of bearing the names of their fathers instead of being cast off. As I saw an advertisement, not long since, of a young man, hailing from the West, who claimed to be a son of a certain gentleman, in Congress; but the gentleman advertised that he had no son of that name in the West. No, he cast him off, rejected and refused to own him. I say God will damn the man and the nation that will act so; God will damn the nation in which women, with no arm to shield and protect them, are seduced and left to mourn over their lost, fallen and degraded condition. God bless you. Amen.

COURTESY OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE.—We are under many obligations to His Honor Chief Justice Wilson, for furnishing us a copy of his elaborate ruling in the Brannigan, Lavelle and Howard murder case, which appears in to-day's issue.

ESTRAY.

I HAVE in my possession One Sorrel MARE, 6 or 7 years old; white face, three white feet, branded on left hip. The owner is requested to prove property, pay charges and take her away. DANIEL PETE, Poundkeeper, s30-2w18-1 American Fork City.

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