

their lives for a bare subsistence. If we were one we would build up the kingdom of God as the bees build in their hive; and then if we were attacked we could alight on the enemy's neck and invite him to leave. How can we go on to salvation unless we unite in keeping the laws of God?

As to some of our people uniting to secret societies, it is not wise. We should have nothing to do with them. There will come a time among us when there will be no strikes, but all will receive their quota of the dividends arising from our labors and business. What we have now in our business capacity is a great improvement on what has been, but I hope to see a much greater improvement in the future. I hope that the hungering after riches will be removed from our midst.

Young men and women, the day will come when we will be called on to unite in temporal and spiritual things. That is a celestial law. I expect to see greater opposition waged against us from this time forth until we do conform to that principle. I believe that financially, politically and spiritually we shall be at a standstill until we have taken this step. May the Spirit of Zion rest upon us, that we may live by every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God, until we become perfect as He is perfect, through each succeeding probation. Worship not man, but worship God and keep His commandments. Fear not the opposition of the world, for Zion will arise and shine and become the joy of the whole earth, when it will be said that the Lord liveth that gathered His children from the north, and the south, and from all the lands whither He had driven them.

The day is coming when God's power will rest upon His people, and Christ will come and reign with His Saints forever. May we be numbered with those who have our lamps trimmed when the Bridegroom comes. Be not ashamed of the truth. We have it with us, in the sunlight of eternal revelation flowing unto the Church of Christ. I know this work is of God. May you all enjoy the testimony of Jesus, that you may glorify the name of God. I feel like blessing you all my brethren and sisters, and may the Lord pour out His rich blessings upon you.

Bro. Jos. J. Daynes rendered a solo on the grand organ.

SENTIMENTS.

The sentiment, "Religion vs. Fanaticism," was responded to, in the absence of a representative from the Snowflake Stake, by the following improvised by the committee, and read by Elder M. H. Hardy:

Religion, an engine of power, its headlight revelation, consistency the engineer, draws the train of happiness laden with profit up the plane of progress; fanaticism, a fiery steed unreined, dashing madly along the path of ruin. Religion strengthens even as wholesome food; fanaticism excites as an intoxicant. Religion is of God and teaches a common brotherhood;

fanaticism is of man and rushes on to desecration, persecution and mobocracy. Religion lights and leads; fanaticism darkens and drives. Religion guards virtuous liberty; fanaticism grants illegal license. Religion leads to God; fanaticism to self-justification and hence to destruction. Religion teaches the essential principles of Divine interference; fanaticism curtails the Supreme authority. Religion is harmonious and ennobling; fanaticism is inharmonious and confusing. Religion hath two constant companions, justice and mercy; fanaticism walks arm in arm with passion and prejudice. Religion courts criticism; fanaticism delights in fault-finding. Religion provides government; fanaticism creates despots. Religion leads to loyalty; fanaticism to anarchy. Religion is mutual improvement, and fanaticism must give it place.

Criticism vs. Fault-finding was responded to by Elder Marvin E. Pack, of Summit Stake, as follows:

Although one is confounded with the other, there is a vast difference between criticism and fault-finding. Criticism is a critical review by which one judges the beautiful in and the faults of a performance or production, while fault-finding, as the word implies, is merely seeking and finding fault.

He who looks with fault-finding eyes sees only imperfections, where the true critic, judging more justly by the laws of reason, finds truth and light.

Paul's admonition, "Prove all things, hold fast to that which is good," contains an excellent interpretation of the province of criticism; and criticism made with other purpose degenerates into mere fault-finding.

That we may render a critical and just judgment, our minds must be free from pride, envy and prejudices; where these exist their certain tendency is to warp the judgment.

We have inherited many of our prepossessions and opinions, and the natural spirit of man seems to be to measure principles and actions by his own individual standard, imperfect though it may be. This narrowness of mind leads many to regard with aversion any doctrines or beliefs that are different from those which they have embraced, and they verily believe they are doing God's service when they lay heavy censure on those who believe and practice them.

The advocate of any new or unknown truth is at once assailed by a host of such carping critics, who, had they broadened their souls to the touch of reason, rather than arrayed their vanity and prejudices on the side of fault-finding, had been constrained to acknowledge its beauty and worth. Such are they who meet the Gospel message with the weapons of envy, vituperation and slander, and when these fail to silence the voice of truth, are ready for violence and bloodshed, the strongest reasons of the bigot.

The true critic weighs the evidence according "to the law and the testimony," with a desire to recog-

nize truth, be it among friends or foes. The fault-finder, without any other evidence than his own prejudices and opinions, is often ready to reject a whole production because of some real or fancied error it may contain. He judges by the wholesale, and throws the same reproaches over the whole of a valuable treatise, because of error in some unimportant detail.

It is a sign of narrowness of soul when such cavil is considered sufficient reason for pronouncing against a whole work. Yet this is the position of many would-be critics of the Holy Scriptures; they pride themselves in a disbelief in the Bible, Book of Mormon, or other divine record. Many of them never read a dozen chapters, perhaps, in either, or, if they did it was only to find fault. Some again, influenced by the company they keep, condemn from mere hearsay; and when their stricture turns on persons it becomes mere back-biting.

Ere we plume ourselves as critics let us be sure we understand the subject, and are capable of weighing the evidence justly, lest by our errors in judgment we dishonor the God who made us reasoning beings, and who will hold us accountable for the use we make of the powers with which He has blessed us.

The next sentiment, "Latter-day Saint Loyalty," was responded to by Elder J. G. Kimball, of Bear Lake Stake, in the following words:

The Latter-day Saints are a loyal people. It matters not what others may say, we have only to peruse the pages of history to know that they are a loyal people. Their course through life bears up the truth of this statement. We have simply to refer to the record of the Latter-day Saints to know that they have been respecters of the laws of their country, and that they have been true to the Constitution of the United States; for they believe that the Constitution is an inspired instrument; and if they are not a loyal people, they are not a people of the faith which they represent. I claim—and with truth—that the Latter-day Saints are a loyal, law-abiding, virtuous and patriotic people. Their career up to the present time has proved it. I claim also that the spirit of loyalty which is in the hearts of the Latter-day Saints is infused into every one with whom they come in contact. We appeal to the courts of the United States in all our grievances. Instead of rising up in rebellion and denouncing the constituted authorities and the constitution of the United States, we appeal to the highest tribunal and there our cases are adjudicated, by the spirit of justice with which God inspires those men who stand at the head of this government. We do receive justice from time to time, and the time will come when the true loyalty of the Latter-day Saints will be recognized throughout the earth.

The Glee Class sang:

Nearer, my God, to Thee.

Benediction by Elder Lyman R. Martineau.