

speaker. Spoke of the immortality of man—the resurrection of the dead; salvation for those who are in the spirit world, and who have died without hearing the Gospel in this life. He also spoke of temple work, and the signs of the times which indicate that the coming of the Son of man is near at hand. He exhorted the Saints to be faithful in all things.

Benediction by Elder E. D. Wade. In the afternoon, after singing, the opening prayer was offered by Elder Joseph Parry.

President Joseph F. Smith occupied the time in a most interesting discourse.

Benediction by Elder C. F. Middleton.

Monday morning Elder John H. Smith and John W. Taylor were present. The opening prayer was offered by D. M. Stuart.

Elder John W. Taylor addressed the conference. He related a number of very interesting and instructive incidents of his late mission to Colorado. He said the Elders should put their trust and confidence in God for all they need while in the missionary field.

Elder L. W. Shurtliff made a few closing remarks.

Benediction by Elder Amos Hawkes.

In the afternoon the general authorities of the Church and those of the Stake were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elder John H. Smith was the first speaker. He contrasted the present feelings of the people of the world towards the Latter-day Saints with what they were a few years ago. The Lord has caused this great change among the people; said the Saints should guard the rights and liberties of all men whether religious or otherwise, as sacredly as they would their own.

President Joseph F. Smith made a few remarks, closing with an earnest exhortation to all to cultivate truth, integrity, honesty, virtue and fidelity to God and His work.

Benediction by Elder F. D. Richards. JOSEPH HALL.

AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,
April 15, 1897.

In June will be the diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria, under whose reign England has prospered so greatly.

While in London, with thousands of people we one day stood near the Naval Exhibition waiting to see Queen Victoria come out. Soon the gates were opened and a number of guards came riding on horses, double file. Then followed the queen with one of her granddaughters in a fine carriage. In another carriage were the prince and princess of Wales. As they rode past the multitude hats were taken off and handkerchiefs waived, while the shout "God save the queen" went up from the vast throng.

About a week after this we went over to Windsor, twenty miles from London, to visit the castle, the home of the queen. Windsor is a picturesque town, but of course it is dominated by the castle. This is a beautiful building which has played an important part in the his-

tory of England. Most events and personages of note have been in some way associated with it. It witnessed the doughty deeds and pompous pageantries of the days of chivalry; and now after more than 700 years it is the grandest residence of the sovereigns of England. The great structure was founded by William the Conqueror. On reaching Windsor we obtained permission to go through the castle. From the town the view of the castle is pleasing and striking, for on ascending Thames street the castle rises above the town in all its massive and majestic proportions. Just think, the buildings are nearly a mile in circumference, being 1,480 feet long from east to west; so that it is quite a large show place. We went into the castle and through the magnificent state department. These include the Van Dyck room where are hanging some of the finest paintings of that noted master; the Waterloo chamber, said to be the noblest apartment in the castle, adorned with the portraits of the distinguished soldiers and statesmen who were in that famous victory—of course chief among them is a full-length portrait of the great Duke of Wellington; the grand reception room, and the guard chamber, with many others of almost the same size and splendor. While passing through the last named room we saw a piece of the Victory's foremast, pierced by a round shot at Trafalgar; the Russian muskets and cannon balls of the Crimea, and many other curiosities.

We went up on the north and east terraces to see the magnificent views described by the poet Gray in his familiar lines, "On a Distant Prospect of Eton College." The view from the round tower is grand. In the distance can be seen Eton college, a large, fine building—the students of which rarely number less than a thousand—and the playing fields, where, as is well known, the Duke of Wellington uttered his significant remark, "Here the battle of Waterloo was won," meaning that the courage and energy there acquired by the youth of England's families prepared them to encounter in subsequent days the stern realities of war.

It was a clear day, and we could see twelve counties. The broad landscape with the silvery Thames gliding between its green banks, presented a very attractive sight. I couldn't help but think of the wondrous passages of history associated with the great pile of buildings beneath me. Within Round Tower was enacted a romance of love worthy an abiding record. There Prince James of Scotland was imprisoned for nineteen weary years but there he first saw, through the window of his cell, the fair lady who afterwards shared his throne. She was walking in a garden at the foot of the keep, and her beauty won the heart of the royal captive.

The castle has been the birth-scene and burial place of many of England's kings and queens. There Queen Victoria spends a great deal of her time.

While going through Windsor castle we were told of the marriage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. It was a simple love-match. Albert and Victoria met for the first time when both were seventeen years old. Albert was

the son of a German prince. He and his brother went to England to pay a visit to their aunt and cousin, and so the young people were brought together. Albert then was rather short and heavy but good looking and simple in his manners, and quite cheerful in disposition. He took much interest in everything around him, and spent much of his time in playing on the piano with his cousin Victoria, then a graceful, interesting girl. She fell in love with him; but though he liked her, he was not so quickly impressed. He wrote to his uncle, "Our cousin is very amiable," but gave ear no stronger praise. Albert went back to the continent and traveled some years, writing occasionally to Victoria, and she to him. The next year William IV died and Victoria, in her eighteenth year, ascended the throne. The year after this event the young prince made his next visit, and this time his object was to plead the hand and heart of the young queen. Shortly after his arrival Victoria made up her mind, and sending for the prime minister, told him she was going to marry Prince Albert. The following day she sent for the prince, and in an outburst of heartiness and love she told him he had gained her heart and would make her very happy if he would become wedded to her. He responded with love and affection, and thus they became engaged. In the winter of 1840 the young couple were married. According to Macaulay, "In Queen Victoria her subjects have found a wiser, gentler, happier Elizabeth." Her enlightened policy has been that the powers of the crown are held in trust for the people, and are the means, and not the end of government. In the practice of every domestic virtue the queen and her late consort have set a beneficial example to the English people.

JOHN C. CUTLER JR.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,
April 20, 1897.

During the week ending April 19th the weather conditions in Utah were all that could be desired for general farm operations and the growth of vegetation. The days were warm, dry and sunny, the nights moderately cool with light frost in some of the more elevated districts during the forepart of the week.

The high temperature and abundant sunshine at the close of the week dried the soil rapidly and put the fields in good condition for plowing and seeding. In portions of the northern and northeastern sections farm work is somewhat backward on account of the wet condition of the soil resulting from the melting snow, and but very little has been done so far towards putting in grain and garden crops. In other sections of the State, however, the land is reported in fine condition, and the work of plowing, seeding and garden making progressed uninterruptedly during the whole week. The warmth and sunshine were beneficial to wheat, which is looking well, and to the lucern fields, pastures and meadows, which are showing quite green. In the more southerly counties vegetation is