

peace which, according to divine assurance, finally is to change all earthly systems of government and render plow shares more important implements than swords and rifles. The time may appear slow in approaching and still far off to all who count only on laws of evolution for the regeneration of mankind, but it is near enough to inspire hope and energetic work in those who remember that the accomplishment finally rests with the Almighty—with Him who sometimes in one day performs what would appear to be the work of a thousand years.

PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG.

Nearly a score of years have passed away since President Brigham Young was called from this sphere of action, and during that time the appreciation of his life's labors has been growing steadily among enlightened people, until now there is a very strong contrast in this respect between the present and the past. Brigham Young was born ninety-six years ago today, June 1, in Whitingham, Vermont. His early life was not unusual for boys of his time and age in that locality. As he advanced towards manhood he developed the practical nature of a vigorous intellect which marked him as a leader among his fellows. It was notable in his ability to control others, that power being manifested in his control of himself, thus inspiring confidence in his companions. The superiority of his intelligence was displayed in the restraining of his appetites and desires according to his conviction of what was right. This order of control made it practicable for him to make any sacrifice of apparent temporal advantages and comforts in the line of duty. It was the rule of principle over passion or expediency, and marked him as a fearless, determined leader whose supreme reliance was upon a God whom he trusted to vindicate him in every good act and aim.

As a young man, Brigham Young recognized the force, afterwards exemplified in his life, connected with the principles taught by Mormon Elders; he recognized the superior power possessed by the Prophet Joseph Smith; and though the Prophet and the Mormon people were despised and persecuted, he joined with them with his whole heart, confident that God would bring victory to their labors. And in a few years, when he had just entered the prime of manhood—in his forty-fourth year—he became the chosen leader of the Mormon people, under the Divine guidance which he and they looked to as above all that is in mortality.

Less than three years later—fifty years ago today—President Brigham Young was performing the mightiest task devolving upon any man then living—a task the accomplishment of which challenges the admiration of the civilized world today, as being without a parallel in its particular sphere in the world's history. He was transferring a whole people, scattered and peered by their enemies, and struggling against the dire poverty into which a ruthless and a bigoted persecution had plunged them, into a

new land—a land that was looted upon as desolate, an sterile, and unfitted for civilized inhabitants; a place to enter which was to court death, not life, with its liberty. But the faith of the Mormon leader and his people was well grounded, and God gave to them in their new home that life, peace, prosperity and liberty they had not known before.

At the time of the pioneer journey across the plains, and up to his death, there was no man of his time so bitterly spoken of generally; no people so maligned as those who looked upon him as their leader under the divine guidance of heaven. The leader and the people were misunderstood; they were misrepresented by designing persons, and the misunderstanding and misrepresentation placed upon them a grievous burden. Now, misunderstanding is being swept away to the discrimination of knowledge, and misrepresentation hides it head from the rays of the light of truth.

Today the name of Brigham Young is honored wherever his real character and works are known. His career was a pronouncement of Mormonism, and what he did for a vast body of people and for the great West is now being heralded to his praise. Yet the appreciation of that work has but commenced, and its fruits are just beginning to be realized. It was a work, not for a few, but for all mankind who would accept of its benefits, and all may join in their honor of the great Utah Pioneer.

DURRANT MUST DIE.

The last hope of Theodore Durrant is gone, the governor of California having declined to interfere, and without some providential intercession not at all among the probabilities the youthful murderer will end his career on the scaffold on Friday of next week. His has been a most remarkable case, the most remarkable part of it being that intervening between the jury's verdict and its execution. No trial in the annals of American history, perhaps, has gone through more different and distinct phases; all the procedure, incidental, or relative, dictatory, technical and substantial known to the criminal practice of law, has been expended in the vain effort to save Durrant from the scaffold, the only effect of which has been to lengthen out by some little time his span of life. But the efforts previous to pronouncing the final judgment were untiring and in many instances unusual, those made subsequent to that time have been simply remarkable. First an inmate of San Quentin takes an affidavit that Durrant could not have slain Bessie Lamont because he, the said prisoner, killed her; then comes an inmate of the soldier's home in Colorado with a statement not well stuck to that the murderer was the minister to whom suspicion was thought to be attached by the defense during the trial—this new witness having seen the minister coming out of the church immediately after the time of the murder. A woman of San Francisco also contributed to the post-conviction fund of

evidence in a similar vein to the one last spoken of.

There is an appeal pending in the Supreme Court of the state, but as this does not operate as a stay of judgment, its practical utility is not to be seen; and as a last resort, it is reported, the attorneys for the condemned will apply to the Federal court for a writ of superseas until the case can be determined. Without knowing the grounds upon which such proposed action is predicated, and judging the case from a distance, it seems a safe conclusion that such court has no jurisdiction.

Durrant's days are undoubtedly few to number. If he is not as guilty as the guiltiest, he is the victim of one of the most unaccountable networks of circumstances that ever enmeshed a human being, and the methods in vogue for the ascertainment of crime are in such cases painfully ineffectual.

ELDER GRANT IMPROVING.

The NEWS is highly gratified in being able to announce to its readers that a steady improvement has continued since the surgical operation, and yet continues, in the case of Elder Heber J. Grant. On Saturday, from all natural appearances, chances were decidedly against his recovery from the severe ordeal through which he had passed, although hope never faltered in anticipating a favorable result. Today the chances, if such they may be termed, are in his favor for an early restoration to good health. The operation made necessary by his serious illness was performed with great care and skill, and from that time the course of the patient in recovering has been wonderful in the progress toward recovery. This afternoon Brother Grant is without pain, rests quite comfortably, is able to take light nourishment, his color is good, and his temperature and pulse are normal. While his condition is yet serious and all danger is not passed by, the situation is of such a hopeful nature as to justify rejoicing in the prospect of Brother Grant's soon being well again.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS.

The medical journals have resumed the discussion of college athletics, in view of the fact that the season for summer games has arrived. The contention of the profession is that while exercise judiciously taken is conducive to the health of the student, the prevalent games in which the young men attending colleges and universities engage are altogether unnecessary to the end of attaining health, and are distinctly brutal in their tendencies. The disposition to gain public applause at exhibitions by an effort to excel in rough-and-tumble struggles for the ball, to strain wind and muscle in the distance, and to test endurance to the utmost in running-matches, is condemned; and it is advocated that the managements of higher educational institutions should take active measures to see that there is preserved a decent medium in all such exercises, place a responsibility of