

the Temple today. April 6, 1858, arrives and Brigham Young assisted by his counselors presides at the laying of the corner stones; thirty-nine years later Willford Woodruff lays the capstone of the building, and one year afterwards, assisted by his counselors, dedicates the building unto the Lord. Surely there has been more than human design in the connection of our venerable President with the work now at its consummation!

Deserving of detailed description as is the scene that was witnessed that lovely April day forty years ago, we are permitted to dwell upon it lightly as we pass. It is a rare, sweet story, but it has been many times told. "The sun, the sky, the atmosphere, the earth," writes one who was present, "appeared neither too cold nor too hot nor lukewarm; all seemed filled with life; adapted to each soul, to cheer and make happy every individual of the many thousands of ages, middle-aged and youth, who had assembled from the near and remote parts of the inhabited valley." There was music in plenty from the three bands in attendance; there were flags and banners, military companies and guards, presidency and patriarchs, apostles and seventies, bishops and elders, architects and workmen. The procession moved from the tabernacle (the old building long since removed) eastward across the block, and, passing through lines of guards, halted at the southeast corner of the Temple ground. President Young and counselors with Patriarch John Smith laid the corner stone, the former delivering the oration and President Heber C. Kimball offering the prayer. The southwest corner stone was laid by Presiding Bishop Edward Hunter, his counselors and the presiding authorities of the lesser priesthood; Bishop Hunter delivering the oration and Bishop Alfred Gordon offering the prayer. The northwest corner stone was next put in place by the presidency of the High Priests' quorum, and the presidency and High Council of the stake. John Young delivered the oration and George B. Wallace offered the prayer. The Twelve Apostles, the presidency of the Seventies and the Elders' quorums officiated at the fourth corner, the northeast, and Parley P. Pratt delivered the oration and Orson Hyde offered the prayer.

The work so well begun that day has gone on with but few serious interruptions until the present. Circumstances have conspired at times to retard it, and during the earlier years almost insuperable obstacles made its progress slow. But when in place of three or four yoke of oxen being necessary to the transportation of a single stone from the quarry twenty miles distant, there came the change of conditions wrought by the railroad, the walls grew with greater rapidity; and when at length the time came for the laying of the capstone, the event so auspiciously celebrated a year ago, the anxiety of the people to complete the structure seemed to burst forth like a pent-up flood. Since the 6th of April, 1892, there has scarcely been a household in all Israel in which there have not been daily thoughts and prayers concerning the completion of the Temple. The whole people, from the highest to the lowest, from the

oldest to the youngest, from the richest to the poorest, took the matter earnestly to heart; and to the faith and energy of a united people the building stands forth to lay a finished and time-defying monument.

We may not omit here an allusion to the ceremonies of April last, when by unanimous vote the assembled thousands pledged themselves to furnish the means for the completion of the Temple so that the dedication might take place a year later. As on the same date thirty-nine years before, the day was beautiful, and the services were impressive in the highest degree. They took place in the presence of the largest assemblage ever gathered in the Territory, the number on the grounds being estimated at about 40,000, besides many thousands more who crowded the adjoining streets and covered every building in the vicinity. As before, the Priesthood in procession moved out eastward from the Tabernacle and took places upon and around the stand arranged for them. A copper plate, inscribed with historical data, was exhibited to the multitude; and this, with various Church publications and photographs, was laid in with the capstone. President Joseph F. Smith offered prayer, after which there was music from the choir. President Woodruff then stepped forward and said: "Attention, all ye house of Israel, and all ye nations of the earth! We will now lay the topstone of the Temple of our God, the foundation of which was laid and dedicated by the Prophet, Seer and Revelator, Brigham Young." President Woodruff then pressed a button, opening an electric current to a contrivance connected with the capstone, the latter being thus released and placed in position on the top of the central east tower. The immense concourse of people, led by President Lorenzo Snow, shouted the hosanna in concert: "Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, to God and the Lamb, Amen, Amen." This was done three times, each shout being accompanied by a waving of handkerchiefs, except when the names of God and the Lamb were uttered. Then there was more singing by choir and congregation and by the glee club, remarks by Elder Lyman, music by the band, an anthem by the choir, and the benediction by President George Q. Cannon. Immediately after these ceremonies the work of surmounting the capstone with the figure representing the angel Moroni was proceeded with. Before night the figure had been placed in position, and its drapery, the flax which enveloped it as it was hoisted into place, was removed. The lacing of the ornamental spires on the other towers was continued until all were in place, each being provided with electric lights; the tower walls were washed, pointed and received the finishing touches, and gradually the scaffolding was removed, leaving the building completed and with nothing to mar the sight and study of its magnificent beauty.

With the following figures we close our account of the exterior of the building. The whole length, including towers, is 186½ feet, and the width 99. There are six towers, three on the east and three on the west end of the structure. Other measurements may be summarized as follows:

	To end of rock-work.	To top of spires.
Height of central east tower.....	210 ft.	224½ ft.
Height of central west tower.....	204 ft.	219 ft.
Height of side east towers.....	188 ft.	200 ft.
Height of side west towers.....	182 ft.	194 ft.
Height of walls.....	167½ ft.	
Thickness of walls at bottom.....	9 ft.	
Thickness of walls at top.....	6 ft.	
Thickness of buttresses.....	7 ft.	

The whole resting upon a footing wall 16 feet thick and 16 feet deep. The building covers an area of 21,850 feet. The figure of the angel Moroni, which surmounts the central east tower, is of gigantic proportions, being twelve feet five and a half inches in height. The idea conveyed by the statue is that of a herald or messenger, in the act of blowing a trumpet, an embodiment of the fact of Moroni bringing the Gospel to the earth in this latter-day dispensation. The figure is admirably proportioned and its pose is graceful. It is made of hammered copper, is gilded with pure gold leaf, and surmounting its crown is an incandescent lamp of 100 candle power.

THE INTERIOR.

The stability and grandeur of the building as noted from the outside are found to be supplemented on the inside by the qualities of richness and convenience. Nothing that could contribute to its comfort and elegance has been neglected. It amazes by its massive solidity, and charms with its exquisite beauty; by the ingenuity and completeness of its appointments it delights the most practical, and in its perfection of taste and harmony it dazzles the most artistic and refined.

Enter with us its portals, and let us lead you along the broad corridors and through the stately rooms, following the route that will be taken by probably fifty thousand Saints during the next two weeks.

We approach from the west across the broad esplanade beneath which is the machinery room, containing four engines and dynamos with a capacity of two thousand electric lights as well as the pumps, boilers, etc., and the motive power for the two handsome elevators that operate in the central west tower directly in front of us. To our left, a hundred yards distant, is the boiler house, from which a twelve inch pipe connecting with the building supplies a most perfect hot water system of heating. We learn also that equally complete are the arrangements for ventilation during warm weather; the pressing of an electric button throws open various transoms and starts sixteen fans, each of one-half horse power.

With less interest in these details because of our anxiety to cross the threshold of the building itself, we hasten up the broad flight of stone steps leading to the southwest entrance. The massive doors which open to us are of heavy, solid oak, with beveled plate glass in the transoms and upper panels, and graceful grills in the form of beehives on the lower panels. The hardware here as in the entire building has been made specially to order.

Turning to the right we reach the circular stairway in the southwest corner tower, and follow its winding steps to the basement. This stairway,