

ward magazines and shell rooms, four were empty, namely: B. 3, B. 4, B. 5, B. 6.

A. 15 had been in use that date and A. 16 was full of new river coal. This coal had been carefully inspected before receiving it on board. The bunker in which it was stowed was accessible on three sides at all times, and the fourth side at this time on account of bunkers B. 4 and B. 6 being empty. This bunker, A. 16, had been inspected that day by the engineer officer on duty.

The fire alarms in the bunkers were in working order and there had never been a case of spontaneous combustion of coal on board the Maine.

The two after boilers of the ship were in use at the time of the disaster, but for auxiliary purposes only, with a comparatively low pressure of steam and being tended by a reliable watch. These boilers could not have caused the explosion of the ship. The forward boilers of the ship have since been found by the divers and are in a fair condition.

On the night of the destruction of the Maine, everything had been reported secure for the night at 8 p.m. by reliable persons, through proper authorities, to the commanding officer. At the time the Maine was destroyed, the ship was quiet, and therefore the least liable to accident caused by movements from those on board.

3.—The destruction of the Maine occurred at 9:40 p.m., on the 15th day of February, 1898, in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, being at the time moored in the very same buoy to which she had been taken upon her arrival.

There were two explosions of a distinctly different character, a very short, but distinct interval between them, and the forward part of the ship was lifted to a marked degree at the time of the first explosion.

The first explosion was more in the nature of a report, like that of a gun, while the second explosion was more open, prolonged and of a greater volume. This second explosion was, in the opinion of the court, caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the Maine.

4.—The evidence bearing on this, being principally obtained from divers, did not enable the court to form a definite conclusion as to the condition of the wreck, although it was established that the after part of the ship was practically intact, and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the destruction of the forward part.

The following facts in regard to the forward part of the ship are, however, established by the testimony:

That portion of the short side of the protective deck which extends from about frame 30 to about frame 41, was blown up aft and over to port. The main deck, from about 30 to 41, was blown up aft, and slightly over the starboard, folding the forward part of the middle superstructure over and on top of the floor part.

This was, in the opinion of the court, caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the Maine.

5.—At frame 15, the outer shell of the ship, from a point eleven and one-half feet from the middle line of the ship and six feet above the keel, when in normal position, has been forced up so as to be about four feet above the surface of the water, therefore about thirty-four feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured. The outside bottom plating is bent into a reversed V shape, the after-wing of which about fifteen feet broad and thirty-two feet in length (from frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled back upon itself like the continuation of the same plating extending forward.

At frame 80 the vertical keel is broken in two, and the flat keel bent into an angle similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plating. This break is now about six feet below the surface of the water and about 30 feet above its normal position. In the opinion of the court this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at frame 18, and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

6.—The court finds that the loss of the Maine, on the occasion named, was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of the crew of said vessel.

7.—In the opinion of the court, the Maine was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines.

8.—The court has been unable to obtain evidence fixing the responsibility of the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons.

Signed.) W. T. SAMPSON,  
Captain U. S. N., President.

A. A. MARIX,  
U. S. N., Commander, Judge-Advocate.  
The court having finished the inquiry, it was ordered to be adjourned at 11 a.m., to await the action of the convening authority.

W. T. SAMPSON,  
Captain U. S. N., President.  
A. A. MARIX,  
Lieutenant-Commander, U. S. S., Judge-Advocate.  
U. S. S. flagship New York, March 22, 1898, off Key West, Fla.

The proceedings and findings of the court of inquiry in the above case are approved.  
M. SICARD,  
Rear-Admiral, Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. Naval force of the North Atlantic.

### SUNDAY SERVICES.

Religious services were held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, March 27, Elder Angus M. Cannon, president of the Stake, presiding.

The choir sang the hymn:

All hail the glorious day  
By Prophets long foretold.

Prayer was offered by Elder Henry P. Richards.

The choir further sang:

How beautiful are their feet  
Who stand on Zion's Hill.

Elder Byron D. Nebeker, a returned missionary from the Indian Territory, was the first speaker. His remarks were full of expressions of gratitude to his heavenly Father for the privilege which he had had in going out into the nations of the earth to preach the Gospel. Elder Nebeker bore his testimony to the truth of the same, for he had gained a testimony, while laboring among those who knew not the Gospel as it had been revealed in these latter days.

Elder John Gallacher was the next speaker. He, too, had labored in the Indian Territory mission, where, said he, the Elders were receiving every encouragement, the people, with few exceptions, receiving them with open arms in the promulgation of their message. The speaker exhorted the young men of Zion to prepare themselves for future usefulness, for be assured, if they remained steadfast to the truth, they would be called upon to help carry it along.

Elder Walter J. Sloan, whose missionary labors had been in the state of Tennessee, next addressed the congregation. He spoke of the open-handed hospitality extended to the Mormon missionaries by the people of the Sunny South and paid a glowing tribute to the Elders who had labored so assiduously in that part of the country to break

down the barriers of prejudice and plant a crop, which was now being reaped in a glorious harvest. Elder Sloan testified to the truth of the Gospel and felt to thank God that the privilege had been accorded him of going out into the world to preach it.

Elder Heber J. Grant of the Council of the Apostles was the next speaker. In beginning Elder Grant referred to the promises made by the Father concerning the Gospel of Jesus Christ, its divinity, and how a testimony of the same could be obtained. Hundreds and thousands of people, said the speaker, had tested God's promises and found their fulfillment in testimony, and his prayer was that the Saints would so live as to enjoy the blessings of the Gospel, for therein was true happiness and an ample reward for their faithfulness.

President George Q. Cannon next spoke. He referred to the calling of young men as missionaries to the nations of the earth and the great good resulting therefrom, and expressed the hope that those who had been so favored would keep on the armor of righteousness and give the Saints the benefit of their experience in the ministry. In doing this the Lord would bless them, for He had promised to look after His servants inasmuch as they would seek after Him.

President Cannon spoke of the advantages the Latter-day Saints possessed over other religious denominations. The male members of the Church had received the authority of the Holy Priesthood and in its possession they were privileged to call upon the Lord for blessings and invoke divine assistance in behalf of their families and all others who would exercise faith in God the Father. His prayer was that all would remain firm and steadfast to the truth that they might experience all the joy and happiness the Gospel was capable of producing.

The choir sang the anthem:

Hosanna.

Benediction was pronounced by Patriarch John Smith.

### UINTAH STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Uintah Stake quarterly conference was held in the Stake house at Vernal, February 13 and 14, 1898, Elder Bennion presiding. After the usual opening exercises Elder Bennion made a few appropriate remarks, and was followed by Elder Collett who gave a brief report of the Stake, which was, he said, in a more prosperous condition than it had ever been. Elder Owen Woodruff said he felt especially well this morning in listening to the reports of the brethren. He felt to prophesy that if the brethren were united and keep the commandments of God, inside of ten years there would be ten times as many people in this Stake as there are today.

Referring to the building of the Stake house, he said, build one four times as large as the present one and as sure as God lives, in ten years it will not accommodate the people. He was grateful that the disputed water suit had been successfully settled, and felt it was through the Spirit of God that this had been accomplished.

After singing benediction was pronounced by C. E. Bartlett.

At the 2 p. m. session Elder Bennion was the first speaker, and Elder Wm. O'Neil followed, speaking on the Gospel as looked upon anciently and in our day. He spoke at some length upon the first principles as taught by Christ and His Apostles.

Elder O. Woodruff was the next speaker. He read the eleventh article of our faith and commented thereon. In the course of his address he stated that our Elders sometimes come in contact with the Re-organized church who