

land. God has given us an organization by means of which this can be done, if we will only listen to counsel.

Suppose anarchy were to prevail in this Republic, where would you find a people outside the Latter-day Saints who can hold themselves together? No other religious or political organization can be held together as we are. We came to these valleys and we lived in peace. We created a government for ourselves until, in response to our appeals for admission into the Union as a state, our government gave us an organization as a Territory, and we could have lived here forever in the same way, because of the principles we believe in and practice. And every man and woman on the face of this broad land could live with us and enjoy their rights to the fullest extent. We love the country. We love the Constitution. We love the institutions of the country. We know that God established this government and we are determined to uphold it. But wicked and corrupt men have tried to destroy it, and corruption, venality, bribery, and many other evils have crept into almost every branch of the government.

Latter-day Saints, before you engage in anything that is questionable, or concerning which you have the least doubt, go to your closets, bow down before God, and ask Him in the name of Jesus, to give you His Holy Spirit and to show you that which is right. Do not get entangled and mixed up with improper influences and thereby lose your faith and all that has prompted you to come here to mingle with the Saints of God. Bewarned, all of you, and let us be careful in all our movements and our associations. Let us uphold liberty; let us do wrong to no human being; let us defend the right everywhere, no matter what the cost may be; but do not let us trample upon anyone else's rights. God bless you, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

WITH THE OLD FOLKS.

No more beautiful summer morning could be than that which dawned for the Old Folks' excursion of 1894. A few fleecy clouds hung around the mountain tops, and the atmosphere was stirring gently, scarce reaching the dignity of a breeze, but just sufficient to give a sense of coolness in the shade. The old folks were up bright and early, and by 7 o'clock were gathering in from surrounding settlements in carriages and wagons. Before 8 o'clock the street cars, headed toward the Salt Lake & Los Angeles station began carrying their loads of veterans, to whom every courtesy was shown by railway men and passengers. Whenever the cars were crowded, young people, men and women alike, surrendered their seats to the aged, and vied with each other in doing them honor.

During the hour before the starting of the train, the railway station was thronged with people, young as well as old. Some of the veterans had attendants, but most of them relied on themselves. A glance over the throng revealed many red badges, a lesser number of blue badges, and a fewer still of white rosettes. When the train drew up to the platform the old folks quick-

ly found places in the cars, and soon were ready for the trainmen's signal. All went merry as a marriage bell.

There was very little delay in getting the train started. Nine o'clock was the hour to go, and at 9:10 the train moved out over the smooth road-bed. Locomotive No. 1 of the S. L. & L. A., driven by Engineer Heber Hawkes and fired by John Liddle, drew the train, which was gaily decorated with the national colors. Conductor Wheeler was in charge. There were ten excursion cars and seven day coaches, seventeen in all; carrying sixteen hundred people. Of this number about two hundred were comprised in the committee, aids, and attendants of those who were so aged or infirm as to be unable to travel alone in safety. This made the number of excursionists who had passed three score and ten at fourteen hundred.

As the train arrived from the station and sped on its way down South Temple street there were many groups of children, down to the little tot that could scarcely walk, who stood at convenient places on the sidewalk, and waved hats and handkerchiefs at and cheered the veterans as they passed. The greetings of the little ones were responded to by the waving of hands and handkerchiefs.

On sped the train through the gardens and fields till the Jordan was reached and crossed, then amid the farms and lucern fields of Brighton and beyond to the stretches of prairie and among the saleratus lakes and salt water ponds. The rate of speed maintained by the engineer was just right to make the ride delightful; it was not too fast, the run being made in 25 minutes. On the way the veterans indulged in reminiscences, some relating how that more than forty years ago they toiled their wearisome way across the Plains with ox teams, and contrasted that with the present rapid and pleasant manner of travel; others told of their feelings when, in those comparatively remote times, they emerged from Emigration canyon and beheld the great lake shimmering in the sun, when no one dreamed that less than half a century would witness the building of such a magnificent structure as Saltair; still others told of the enjoyable hours they had spent at former Old Folks' excursions, recalled faces which were there but were now across "the silent river," and wondered who of their number would be called to the mansions of the spirit world ere the Old Folks' day of 1895.

Arrived at Saltair, the cars were emptied quickly, and a happy throng filled the platform. There were many handshakings and warm greetings of those who had not met since the last occasion of the kind. The people soon distributed themselves over the various parts of the building—some to the great hall, others to the luncheon floor, and still others to the nigher stories and the wings. Some of them had never visited Saltair before, and eagerly scanned the wonders and extent of the place, which certainly appeared at its best as a glorious monument of Utah energy and enterprise. The people mingled together as brothers and sisters in a great family, and though there were Mormons, Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians and those of other re-

ligious beliefs, and white and colored people, there was not the slightest appearance of exclusiveness on the part of the guests or of discrimination on the part of the attendants. The spirit of courtesy and kindness permeated the entire throng.

At a few minutes before 11 o'clock the veteran George Goddard called the attention of the audience, and announced that nineteen years ago, in 1875, the first Old Folks' excursion was held, when they came to the Lake by the courtesy of John W. Young over the Utah & Nevada railway. On that occasion there were present 180 persons over 60 years of age, and the average age of the company was 72 years.

The program commenced by the Old Folks' choir singing "Jerusalem, My Glorious Home."

Prayer was offered by Elder William Naylor, and this was followed by a selection by the Old Folks' choir.

George Goddard, the oldest member of the Old Folks committee, greeted the Old Folks' assembled in a brief address. He drew a comparison with the assemblage in 1875, at Clinton's, at Lake Point, and the nine miles' voyage on the City of Corinne. The oldest person there was Father Merrill, 96½ years. In 1875 the old folks went to Provo. The oldest person there was Father Vincent, 101 years. His wife was 99. They received blessings under the hands of Apostles John Taylor, Orson Pratt and Wilford Woodruff. He advised that no persons over seventy attempt to bathe in the lake today. He then announced a few remarks by the worthy pioneer, Pres. Wilford Woodruff.

President Woodruff said sixty years ago this season he traveled with the Prophet Joseph a thousand miles in Zion's camp. There were three of that camp here today. Forty-seven years ago he entered this valley with the Prophet Brigham. He did not then expect to see such a place as this built by the Latter-day Saints. He blessed the people and expressed the hope that they might have the privilege of associating together on the other side of the veil, when they were called hence.

President Geo. Q. Cannon called attention to the fact there were more aged people and more children in Utah in proportion to the population than anywhere else. Perhaps those who were delicate had been killed off by the hardships the Saints had had to contend with. The average of human life was growing longer, because people were being taken better care of through better understanding of sanitary science. He advised the people to live so they would have strong bodies to preserve in usefulness. He asked the blessing of the Lord on all present.

President Joseph F. Smith was the next speaker. He called the attention of the aged fathers and mothers to the fact that Presidents Woodruff and Cannon were the main movers in building Saltair, that the people might have a suitable place for recreation at the Lake. It had been mentioned that there was a bar-room at the place, and if the people wanted it closed it would be done. It was under strict control. He welcomed the Old Folks to Saltair, and trusted that while there nothing