

Poetry.

[FOR THE DESERET NEWS.]

LINES

Written after seeing Eruther Philo Dibble's exhibition, at Springville, Jan. 8, 1867.

An edifying and instructive sight,
Designed to wile away a winter's night,
To rouse the mind to contemplative strain,
And bid the memory bring the past again;
In vivid panoramic view display
Affecting scenes which long have passed away;
To show the rising, unacquainted youth
What sacrifices have been made for truth,
What deeds of darkness human fiends have
done,
For villainess unsurpassed beneath the sun,
Are Philo Dibble's picture of the place
Where earned America its worst disgrace,
Where Joseph's blood to Heaven for vengeance
cried,
And Hyrum to the truth a martyr died;
Where blackened rioters, with hearts of steel,
Sought in disguise their baseness to conceal,
To hear him tell, with pathos deep and true,
Of circumstances only known to few—
How Joseph sought to teach and bless and save,
And for his pains received a martyr's grave.
O, who can scan each calm, expressive face
By him exhibited, but what can trace
Integrity and peace and truth and love,
Like that which actuates the Gods above?
Beside those relics of the mighty dead
And portions of their history never read,
A beautiful but mystic hand is shown,
Changed by the water to a perfect stone;
Its life unknown, perhaps its fate unwept,
Except by heaven where full records are kept.
A freak of nature in a calf is seen;
A fight with bulls, a mirth-provoking scene.
Thus much is said, but not the half is told.
How profitable both to young and old!

W. CLEGG.

REMARKS

By Elder Geo. Q. Cannon, delivered in the Bowery,
Great Salt Lake City, April 7, 1867.

[REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.]

There have been a great many excellent remarks made to us since we assembled ourselves together to celebrate the anniversary of the organization of the Church; remarks which if treasured up in our hearts, and practiced in our lives, cannot fail to make us a much better people than we are to-day. It should be clear to the mind of every Latter-day Saint, that there is an extreme necessity for us to be united. It is to our union alone, imperfect though it may have been, that we may attribute our success in the past, under the blessing of God. If we have any name or prestige in the earth, if there is any thing attached to the name of Latter-day Saint, or "Mormonism," that conveys the idea of power to the minds of the people, it has its origin in our union, obedience, concentration of effort, and our oneness of action; and the more this oneness increases, the more marked and distinct we will be among the nations of the earth. What is it that has made us the people we are to-day? It is obedience to the counsels which God has revealed through His servants. If there is anything on the earth that will continue to add distinction and power to us, and elevate us and make us strong and mighty, it is an increase of this obedience, which has already given us this distinction.

I have thought considerably since we have been together, of the counsels which have been given to us, and of the action of the people in the past. There was a time when every Latter-day Saint, who had the spirit of his religion, felt as though he wished to devote himself and all that he had to the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God. This feeling doubtless predominates to-day; but it has been partially buried up and covered by other feelings—the love of gain, the desire to acquire property, and feelings akin to these. There was a law revealed to us—the law of consecration—through obedience to which every man expected to hold all that he possessed subject to the dictation of the servants of God. It is right that we should recollect this law and continually seek to carry it out. We should feel that we are placed as stewards over the property God has placed in our hands, and that all we have is subject primarily to the counsels of God's servant; and that before we take any step of importance, it is our duty to seek counsel from him who has the right to counsel. Imagine the power there would be in this Territory, and it would be felt throughout the nations of the earth, if this entire

people, from Bear Lake Valley in the north to the settlements on the Muddy in the south, were thus united, holding themselves and all the wealth that God has so bountifully bestowed upon them subject to the counsel that God has placed in His Church. What would be the effect of this? If you will allow your minds to expand, you may be able to contemplate to some small extent, the great results that would follow such a concentration of action on the part of this people. Is it the will of God that it should be so? It is.

The Lord has placed a man at our head upon whom He has bestowed great wisdom. There has never been a time when he has lacked the wisdom necessary to guide all the affairs of the Kingdom of God. Joseph of old had wisdom given to him by which he was enabled to save Egypt. God has given to us a leader who has wisdom equal to any emergency; and if we will be obedient to his counsels we shall realize as great salvation as was wrought out by Joseph for those with whom he was associated. Herein we possess advantages not possessed by other people; we have revelation to guide us, we have the word of the Lord in our midst; we are not dependent upon man's wisdom, nor upon human plans; but we have the wisdom of eternity manifested through the servants of God to guide us. We have the opportunity of building up the Kingdom of God and of carrying out the designs of heaven according to His plan; and if we will do so, we shall fulfil the word of the Lord given anciently, when speaking of and comparing His people with the people of the world. Said he, "My servants shall eat, and you shall be hungry; my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty; my servants shall rejoice, but you shall be ashamed; my servants shall sing with gladness of heart, but you shall sorrow with sadness of heart, and howl with vexation of spirit. And ye shall leave your name as a curse to my chosen: for the Lord God shall slay thee, and call His servants by another name."

It seems as though the day had come when God will slay the wicked, and when He will call His people by another name. How will these words of the ancient prophets be fulfilled? By our listening to the counsel of him whom He has placed to preside over us, and being guided in wisdom in all things. When we do this we will be a mighty and a powerful people, and President Young will be what he ought to be to-day, the head of this people, the mouth-piece of God in our midst; and when his counsel is given it will be listened to by all Israel; no one will disobey from one end of the land to the other. How much good could be accomplished if this were the case! What mighty labors could be achieved if this people were in this condition to-day! What hinders it being so? Nothing, but the disposition within us to be careless and indifferent to the principles taught us.

This condition of things will be brought about, and it might be more rapidly than it is if the people would be obedient and diligent in carrying out the counsels given to them. All within the sound of my voice, probably, have read that Israel, in the days of Moses, were commanded to sprinkle their doorposts with the blood of a lamb, that they might escape destruction; now if we had been told that Israel were destroyed because they paid no regard to this instruction, who among us would not have said, How foolish Israel must have been to have suffered destruction rather than do such a simple thing as this! Yet what has God said to us in these days with regard to the Word of Wisdom? He has said that "all Saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, and walk in obedience to My commandments, shall receive health to their naval, and marrow to their bones, and they shall find great treasures, even hidden treasures of wisdom; and they shall run and not be weary, and walk and not faint; and I, the Lord give them a promise that the destroyer shall pass them by, as he did the children of Israel, and not slay them." Here is a promise that the Lord has given to us, on condition that we obey this requirement, or rather this counsel. It is wise counsel; we have proved its wisdom. What has disobedience to this counsel done for this people? It has made us in many respects, to a certain extent, subject to our enemies. How many called Latter-day Saints, through disobedience to the Word of Wisdom, have been led away to California and other places where

they could obtain these things which they thought so necessary to their comfort, but which God had counseled them to forsake? A great many have been led away through this; and every time we disobey this counsel we bring ourselves more completely under bondage to our own appetites, and to the enemies of the Kingdom of God.

As a people we should arise, and with one effort say we will follow the example, in this respect, of him who leads us. Does President Young drink tea, or coffee, or liquor, or chew tobacco? No; his life is exemplary, and we should copy after it. There is no man among us more exemplary in these things than he is; and it is a shame to us, as a people, if we do not follow his wise example. The Lord is bearing testimony to us through His Spirit, that we should carry these things into effect; and I trust that the people, from one end of the Territory to the other, will manifest by their future course that they will observe the counsel that has been given at this Conference, and thus seek to be one with the President. There is no need to disguise the fact that he is anxious to have us subject to him in these matters. He is anxious that his power should be felt through the length and breadth of this Territory, sufficiently to control and govern the people for good. Why? Because he knows that God has revealed principles by which they can be led back into His presence, if they will only be obedient to His counsel.

Short sermons are the order, and I will not lengthen out my remarks. My prayer is, my brethren and sisters, that God will enable every one of us to see these things aright, and to understand the obligations resting upon us; and that union may pervade the bosoms of the Saints from the lowest to the highest, from the least in the land to the Presidency of the Church; which may God grant for Christ's sake. Amen.

REMARKS

By President Brigham Young, delivered in the
Bowery, Great Salt Lake City, April 7, 1867.

[REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.]

I confess before the Latter-day Saints that like others who live in the religious and political world, or the world of history, or any other world you have a mind to name, I really want power and influence. I confess to the Latter-day Saints and to the world that I want power to prevail on all the inhabitants of the earth to embrace the gospel of the Son of God that they may be saved in the Kingdom of Heaven. I want influence in the midst of the Latter-day Saints, sufficient to get all men and women to sanctify themselves before the Lord and to sanctify the Lord God in their hearts, and that they may be of one heart and one mind in all things, that they may be the disciples of the Lord Jesus. This comprehends a great deal.

I will now take the liberty of telling you what I do not want. I do not want influence or power over any nation, people, family or individual on the face of the earth to do them an injury or lead them astray, to promote strife or corruption in their hearts, or direct them in the way that leads to death. But I would like to have power with the people to induce them to accept those principles which would put them in possession of life, liberty, peace, joy, and all the blessings that can be enjoyed by the children of men, and that are promised in the gospel of life and salvation. I wish you ever to remember this when you think of yourselves, your brethren, or of any man that wants influence in the world. Always learn what an individual wants influence for. If he wants it for good, to promote peace and righteousness, never hinder his efforts, but promote them if you can. But when men try to gain influence for evil, to lead their fellow creatures in the way to death, exercise all the power you possess to abridge such influence; destroy it if you can. I calculate to take this course myself.

There are a few of the Latter-day Saints here to-day; only just a few, scarcely any from the country. You know we are estimated variously, some say 80,000, some 100,000, some 150,000; but to tell you the secret I do not want anybody to know our numbers. I do not want to number Israel yet. I am very frequently asked the question by political men, "How many do the Latter-day Saints number in the mountains?" My invariable reply is that we have enough to make a Territory. I

wish the Latter-day Saint to increase and multiply. It has been said to me "Why do you not call men to go on missions to preach the gospel in order to swell the ranks of the Saints." I will tell you what my feelings are with regard to the Latter-day Saints increasing. One of these young men or girls around me here to-day, born and brought up in the Church is worth, as a general thing, far more than those who come into the Church with all their traditions when we go preaching. I recollect the stand I took when I was in England, or whenever I was out preaching. Whenever a man would transgress we would talk with and persuade him to forsake evil, and he would confess and say "I will do so no more;" but by and by we would have occasion to call him up again and I felt and said that "I would rather convert two men or women who never heard the gospel, than attempt to make righteous men or women of those who know the way but will not walk in it."

We wish the brethren to understand the facts just as they are; that is, there is neither man nor woman in this Church who is not on a mission. That mission will last as long as they live, and it is to do good, to promote righteousness, to teach the principles of truth, and to prevail upon themselves and everybody around them to live those principles that they may obtain eternal life. This is the mission of every Latter-day Saint. I talked to the sisters yesterday; I can talk to the brethren to-day on the same principle—there is not a man in this Church but what is capable of doing good if he has a mind to do so. Here are elders who say "I want a mission; I want to go and preach; I want to be ordained a Seventy, or a High Priest," or something or other. I will tell you what you really need: you need eyes to see things as they are, and to know your standing before God and the people. This is what the elders need. To go and preach, or to be ordained into the quorums of the Seventies, does not make good men of them, if they are not so before. The ordination of a man to the High Priest's quorum does not make him a good man. Let every elder, priest, teacher and deacon set that example before his family, his brethren and the world that the nations of the earth will hear of the good works of the Latter-day Saints, that the honest in heart may be constrained to say "we are going up to Zion to join this people of whom we hear nothing but that they are honest, upright, industrious, frugal and intelligent. Let us go up and join this people against whom so much has heretofore been said."

Will you do this, priests, teachers and deacons? will you do this, Elders of Israel, Seventies, High Priests and Apostles? will you live so that the report may go out from this time from Utah Territory that the Latter-day Saints are perfect example for the nations of the earth? This will be the loudest preaching we can do. We have a good deal to say yet to this Conference, if we have the time, and the people attend. We will bring our meeting to a close now.

[Special to the DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

New York, 22.

It is said that a New York national banking house recently sent out circulars assessing all the national banks one-sixteenth per cent. on their capital, to form a fund to buy up Congress and defeat the opposition of the monopoly; should all the banks respond, the fund will amount to over \$2,000,000.

The President has requested General Sheridan to extend the time of registration in Louisiana to August 1. The total number of voters registered in Louisiana, up to the 16th inst., is 69,111, of which 44,779 are colored, and 24,525 are white. This number largely exceeds the vote polled in that State at the presidential election in 1860.

Paris, 22.

The Corps Legislatif has adjourned. Debate on reforms was postponed by the Emperor to November.

St. Louis, 22.

Omaha dispatches state that General Sherman arrived there to-day from North Platte. Sanborn also reports the establishment of friendly relations with the Crows, and thinks the troubles can be settled with all the tribes except the Cheyennes. Gen. Augur is on his way from the Black Hills to Laramie, and would be at the latter place to-day.