

one ever yet labored for the welfare of man but was himself benefited. We should be Latter-day Saints in every act of our lives. May we live so that we may do all in our power for the establishment of God's Kingdom, and be found among the successful workers.

#### ELDER JOHN NICHOLSON

was the next speaker. He said he had been unexpectedly called upon to address that large congregation during the short time they would remain together. He would greatly have preferred to continue as a listener until the conclusion of the services, but he made it a point always to respond to any proper request made of him. During the few moments while I engage your attention I trust that the same spirit will animate me that has moved upon the previous speaker, who has very lucidly presented to us principles of great importance and worthy of our consideration. I was struck very forcibly by one of the figures that he applied in reference to the work in which the Latter-day Saints are engaged—or, rather, it applied to mankind generally, and in presenting it he quoted the words of the poet:

"All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players."

He went on to show that some of the noblest spirits among men occupy the humbler walks of life, while many who have been inferior and performed an ignoble part have occupied positions of prominence among their fellows.

It struck me that this statement was markedly illustrated in the instruments that the Almighty has chosen to perform His work among men. The most conspicuous instance of this kind on record is the Redeemer himself, who was meek and lowly, and came into the world under the most humble conditions that can possibly be conceived, having been born in a stable and cradled in a manger. He did not come with the pomp and circumstance of royalty; and so has it been with almost all the prophets from the beginning.

Why should it be so? For numerous reasons. The spirit of the world is more widely diffused amongst mankind than the Spirit of God, and the things of the world are more sought after than those of a divine character. Had the Savior come envroned by regal splendor, surrounded by affluence and wealth and its conditions, no doubt Israel would have prostrated themselves at His feet and received Him. But when Christ is received, and His message is accepted, it must be because He himself is estimated for his worth, and because of the heavenly character of His mission. Therefore in the wisdom of God it was necessary in His economy to strip the Redeemer of everything that would attract toward Him the spirit of the world. And so was it in relation to His ministers whom He chose. He went not among the wealthy and the noble, according to the estimation of the world, but He made His selections from among fish-

men, and those classes of workmen that have been described by the previous speaker. Had He gone among the upper circles of society, because He was lowly, because He was not like unto them, they would have rejected Him. As it was, He was spurned by all that class save in the cases of a few noble exceptions. According to the language of the Church of England service: "As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be evermore," or something to that effect, so has it been in this day and generation in which we live.

Allusion has been made to the founders of this work, their sterling character, their achievements under the Divine blessing—that they must have been men of courage as well as devotion in order to have grappled with and overcome the formidable difficulties that surrounded them on every side. And were it not so with those spirits that have been chosen and are special instruments in the hands of the Divine Father to accomplish His work, they would not gain the experience that is necessary to enable them to hold properly their positions and commensurately exercise their callings.

This brings to mind the reflection that there is a philosophy in poverty, and I state it as a proposition that to have some connection with its conditions is a necessary element in the experience of humanity, and instead of those who are brought into the world surrounded by wealth, and its conveniences, and by worldly power, being proper subjects of envy they are entitled to sympathy. However inconvenient poverty and its concomitant perplexities and difficulties may be, they are often blessings in disguise, for without them there is no education of the most forcible kind. What is the situation of those who do not know by actual experience, the conditions and trials of the poor? Do their sympathies reach them? Not to as great an extent as they otherwise would; for there is no factor that will cultivate the sympathetic sentiment of the noble spirits among men like that of experience. They must have been in a similar condition themselves as those that are worthy objects of their solicitude; else they are unable to sympathize with them in the full sense of the term, not being able to grasp the situation. Hence there is a principle of salvation, a principle of exaltation in being placed at some point on the journey of life in lowly and humble circumstances. Hence it is said regarding the Redeemer that "He descended below all things that He might rise above them." And why, and how, could He thus rise above them? Because He could thus comprehend what is beneath Him.

So it is with the difficulties that we are confronted by in the progress of this work—opposition from every side, and of various characters. If adversity and perplexity will develop the character of an individual, it will develop the character of a community. Hence we necessarily have here a strong, formidable community, evolved out of diffi-

culties. Trials, instead of, as a general rule, being exhibitions of divine displeasure, are frequently the highest indications of divine love, because they are educational and corrective. Therefore let us be satisfied, place our feet upon the rock of truth, and battle with wrong, to abolish it, that right may be supreme, and truth triumph, as it surely will, for truth and justice are eternal, and are normal conditions of the universe of God.

The choir sang the anthem:

We will give thanks.

Benediction by Elder H. P. Richards.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

### Edmunds Law Prosecutions.

At Ogden on Jan. 29, Thomas Palmer was arrested on a charge of unlawful cohabitation. He pleaded guilty, and sentence was set.

Bishop Henry Ballard of Logan went before the Commissioner January 29th and gave bonds for his appearance in the First District Court when wanted. An indictment was out against him on the charge of unlawful cohabitation. He gave bonds also for the appearance of the second wife. N. W. Kimball and Joseph Morrell signed the bonds.

James Miekke, of Smithfield, who was arrested some time ago on the charge of unlawful cohabitation, was before Commissioner Goodwin on Jan. 29. James T. Hammond appeared as his attorney. Lavinia Noble was placed on the witness stand, but owing to the sickness of other witnesses the examination was continued.

Jorgan Johnson, of Richmond, had an examination on the charge of unlawful cohabitation, in that town, on Jan. 24. His case was taken under advisement.

Frank Whitehead's examination was concluded at Richmond Jan. 25. He was bound over on the charge of unlawful cohabitation to await the action of the grand jury.

In the Third District Court on Feb. 4, the following business was transacted:

W. F. Reynolds was arraigned on a charge of unlawful cohabitation with his wives, Edna and Christina, from Sept., 1883, till Dec. 31, 1883. He pleaded guilty. Mr. Moyle stated that the defendant was in poor health, and that if the court could postpone sentence two or three weeks the weather would probably be more moderate by that time, and imprisonment less dangerous to the defendant. February 23d was set for passing sentence.

Jens Hansen, of Mill Creek, was arraigned on a charge of unlawful cohabitation with Bertha Hansen and Christina Jensen, from Dec. 2, 1886, to April 1, 1888. He pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Peters stated that the defendant in the case of the United States vs. Henry Arnold, charged with unlawful cohabitation, was dead,