

when anything is said about the settlement of these valleys by the Latter-day Saints, endeavor to be little everything that has been done. I have seen statements made by them respecting the fertility of the soil and the advantages which we possess in living here, and they endeavor in every possible way to make light of the enterprise of those who came here in the beginning. These disparaging statements evince the same spirit, and remind me very much of the incident that occurred in the life of Columbus. After he had penetrated the western ocean and discovered a new world, upon his return to Spain, when in company with a number of leading men conversation turned on the discovery of the American continent. Several who were present, in their remarks, underrated the importance of the achievement, and spoke of it as though it was one in the accomplishment of which no special difficulties had been encountered, and might have been accomplished by anybody. Columbus took up an egg and, handing it to them, asked them if they could set it on its end. Each one tried to accomplish this feat, but all failed. Columbus then took the egg and tapping it on one end a little, so as to crack the shell, he easily succeeded in making it stand, remarking that it was not difficult to do anything of this kind when the method of doing it was known.

It is an easy thing for men to cross the Plains at the present time, and for the past few years; and many seem to imagine that it was an easy thing to find Salt Lake Valley and select it as a dwelling place. It is no longer ago than last week that while a number of gentlemen from the East were in conversation with several of our citizens respecting this place, one of them remarked to me, "I do not wonder that you selected this spot as a place of residence; it is one of the most beautiful places I ever saw." I suppose he thought the water ran down the streets, and the trees grew along the edges of the water ditches; and that, when we came here, the orchards and gardens and everything we see here existed in a state of nature.

It is almost impossible even at this day, when only twenty-two years have elapsed, to conceive of all the difficulties which surrounded the people in founding this settlement. I now look back to the summer of 1848 with some degree of wonder. I was young then, and had no responsibility resting upon me. I can, therefore, account for my own feelings; but the unyielding faith, the calm, unfailing confidence which the people manifested during that year, when our crops were threatened with destruction was as remarkable an instance of trust in God as I ever witnessed. To understand our position, it must be recollected that we were far distant from all supplies; a long and weary desert stretched itself out to the eastward of us for 1200 miles and upwards, while on the west there were no settlements except the Spanish settlements in California. We had nothing to depend upon but that which we had brought with us in our wagons, which was a very scanty supply, and the sustaining arm of the Almighty. If there were any doubts or apprehensions, or feelings to desert and go back, I never knew it; and if there were any who had such feelings, they studiously concealed them from their brethren and sisters. There were hope, faith and implicit confidence that God, who had so signally delivered us in the past, and had helped us by His right hand of power, would still sustain us; and that faith, hope and confidence were not misplaced. God did sustain His people, sending, in a most wonderful manner, the gulls to destroy the crickets, and saved the remnant of our crops, which gave us food for ourselves and a little for those who should come.

This whole movement, from the days we left Nauvoo until we reached here, abounds in instances convincing to every reflecting mind that God was with this people, and that it was His design that this valley, and all this chain of valleys, should be settled by His people—those who belonged to the Kingdom which He had set up.

On the 6th of August, 1842, the prophet Joseph Smith crossed the Mississippi River to Montrose, in company with General James Adams, Deputy Grandmaster of the Free Masons in the State of Illinois, to organize a Masonic Lodge. While General Adams was giving instructions the prophet Joseph had a conversation with a number of brethren in the shade of the building. The subject was the persecutions of the Saints in Missouri, and the constant annoyance which had followed them since they were driven from that State. He prophesied that "the Saints would continue to suffer much affliction and would be driven to the Rocky Mountains, many would apostatize, others would be put to death by our persecutors, or lose their lives in consequence of exposure or disease, and some of you will live," said he, "to go and assist in making settlements and building cities, and see the Saints become a mighty people in the midst of the Rocky Mountains."

This was on the 6th of August, 1842, nearly two years previous to his death. We who have assembled together to-day, are the living witnesses that he spoke by the inspiration of Almighty God; and many of us will live to see this country filled with truth and righteousness, or with those who practice them, until we become a mighty people, and not only fill these valleys, but extend ourselves eastward and westward, northward and southward, until truth and righteousness shall fill the land

of Joseph, and Constitutional liberty prevail throughout its broad extent, which may God grant.

Music by the Tenth Ward brass band.

The following address was delivered by

HON. GEO. A. SMITH.

I feel thankful to our heavenly Father for the privileges and blessings which He has bestowed upon us; that He has preserved our lives and has made us instruments in His hands of bringing to pass the work which He has commenced in this our day for the regeneration and salvation of the human family. God, in His infinite mercy, revealed Himself to Joseph Smith, and at the same time revealed the principles of the gospel—the law of redemption and salvation, and in the midst of the scorn, persecution, ridicule and abuse of his fellow-men he was able to plant the standard, sow the seed, gather the fruits, organize the church, found a kingdom, and roll on the work that is now growing and is continuing to increase, and in which we rejoice this day, protected by a wise and liberal Constitution, and by laws which should have been a security against violence and persecution. He laid down his life to seal his testimony to the great and glorious work which God had revealed through him. The faith of a sovereign State was pledged for his protection, but to be violated, for the Prophet and Patriarch were murdered, and God in His infinite mercy led His people by His special providence and miraculous power into the heart of the great American desert, the Great Basin, surrounded by mountains, and has fed, nourished, blessed and strengthened them and made them what they are to-day. Praise to His holy name! It is His hand, His power, His wisdom, His greatness, His understanding that has performed this work. It is not the skill of individuals or the wisdom of man, but the inspiration and revelation of the Almighty. We have been robbed of all our possessions, deprived of our homes, our leaders murdered, and we were driven out into the wilderness to perish. But we made a movement which has resulted in what we see in these valleys, which is more wonderful and miraculous than anything to be found recorded in history. It is written by the prophet Jeremiah that it shall no more be said that the Lord liveth that brought Israel out of Egypt, but the Lord liveth that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands whither He had driven them. The miracle of gathering this people from the nations of the earth and bringing them to this spot is equal to any miracle that ever was wrought, and henceforth it should be said the Lord lives that brought the Latter-day Saints from all the nations of the earth, delivered them from their enemies and planted them in the midst of the mountains and blessed them.

When we came here this land, belonged to the Republic of Mexico; but we raised the flag of the United States, formed a Constitution for a Provisional State under the name of the State of Deseret. We sent forth our agents to petition for admission into the Union of the United States. Although the land was a desert, God, in answer to our prayers, blessed it and made it bring forth. It is frequently asked by strangers who pass through here, "How came you Latter-day Saints to find this place?" I reply, we were led here by the hand of the Lord. We had no guide, no pilot but our Heavenly Father. He was our Leader, Guide and Protector. He blessed the sterile soil; He made it productive, and caused it to bring forth, although it had been declared by all who had visited any portion of this country that it was impossible to raise grain here. Very few had ever been here. Some few mountain trappers and one or two adventurers had been in the vicinity. Capt. Fremont visited the north end of Salt Lake and the south end of Utah Lake. But so little did he know of the country that in his map he showed that Utah Lake and Salt Lake were one, and the inquiry was raised in his report, how it could be that the north end of the Lake could be salt and the south end fresh.

I wish to say to our children that they should rejoice in the blessings of the Almighty with which we are surrounded. When in the States we were robbed of our homes and inheritances, valued at several millions of dollars. We were Latter-day Saints and were not permitted to enjoy the protection of the laws and Constitution of our country. We came here and founded institutions which our fathers had fostered. We commenced the duties of civil government by the organization of a Provisional State, and continued to exercise the powers of the same, and coined money, for about three years, when Congress extended the laws of the United States over this Territory. These facts are before the world.

It is written "by their fruits ye shall know them." Pass through the settlements of the Latter-day Saints, and what do you find? Peace, temperance, order, faith, obedience to law, industry and prudence. Not long since when in conversation with a distinguished gentleman he remarked that were it not for the prejudice against our religion we should not only be entitled to but should have the gratitude of the entire nation for the great work we have done in founding flourishing settlements in and developing the resources of these mountains. This caused reflections on my part as to what kind of a people we

ought to be to enjoy the gratitude of the nation. At the present time we are industrious, orderly, strictly moral and temperate; our religion makes us so. I suppose if we had one grog shop for every hundred inhabitants, gambling houses and houses of prostitution in every principal street, loafers at every corner, the country governed with the bowie knife and pistol, the air resounding with blasphemy, and the horrible crime of infanticide so prevalent as to decrease the population, we should then have freely accorded to us the gratitude of the nation. It has been wisely said that any man who makes two spears of grass grow where only one grew before is a benefactor to his fellow man; if this be true what a debt of gratitude is due to the Latter-day Saints, for they came into the heart of a great desert where comparatively nothing grew, and under the blessing of the Almighty have made it bring forth the necessities and comforts of life in abundance. We are certainly entitled to our country's gratitude, religion or no religion. What business have men to make religion a test under the Constitution of the United States? "If it were not for your religion you would be entitled to our gratitude." Why it is our religion that has done all this; it is our faith in God that brought us here; it is the inspiration of the Almighty that has caused what we see around us, and God be thanked for these blessings.

I pray that we may be able to appreciate these things, and keep His commandments, and bear testimony to the work of God commenced upon the earth in these last days; that the Almighty did raise up Joseph Smith and inspire him as His prophet to reveal the ordinances of the priesthood and organize and set in order the Church; and when Joseph and Hyrum Smith sealed their testimony with their blood that God did inspire His faithful servant, Brigham Young, and others to lead and guide His people by inspiration and revelation.

May God continue these things unto us, and may we continue to appreciate them in my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

A vocal entertainment was then given, eliciting the warmest applause.

The following remarks were made by President

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

The first part of my address will be to those who clap and stamp. I wish to say to them, wait until you are old enough to know what you are doing. This is my exhortation and my fervent request of the youth. It is not particularly applicable to the Tabernacle, for we seldom hear it here; but to the Theatre. If, when I attend that place of amusement, this request could be granted me it would be very gratifying. I have noticed the people there applaud, and the boys whistle when there was nothing to elicit their approbation; and I will say that it would be very gratifying to my feelings if such useless, noisy and uncalled for demonstrations were discontinued.

To my brethren and sisters in the Church and Kingdom of God upon the earth I will say we have met here this day to celebrate the twenty-second anniversary of our entrance into these valleys. We often say to the people we came here because we were obliged to go somewhere. Not of our own free will and choice did we take up the line of march, and leave our houses, gardens, orchards, green fields, farms, cities and towns. We had comfortable homes, and we were as industrious before we took up our line of march for these mountains as we have been since. We forsook our possessions, our pleasant places, without anything in return for them except our hope in God. There is credit due to us for what we have accomplished since our arrival here; but I look forward to a day when there will be much more credit due to this people than there is to-day. Many principles have yet to be taught to the Latter-day Saints to bring them to the standard where they will see and understand what is for their best good. Idleness, waste of time, slothfulness, or neglect of work or of any duty brings mischief. It has been truly said, many times, that the idle brain is the workshop of the devil; while industry, prudence, frugality and faithfulness are calculated to make any people wealthy, healthy and intelligent. You will almost invariably find that people who are industrious in the common pursuits of life are industrious in improving their minds as far as they have opportunity.

I have an opportunity now of saying a few words to those who are intelligent, and who reflect and understand for themselves; and I say to them look well to the path you walk in; mark your ways and your steps; let wisdom direct them continually that you may meet the approbation of your Father in Heaven. I frequently ask myself the question, "are the people so ignorant that it will not do to let them exercise the freedom and liberty of their own minds uncontrolled?" We are like the rest of the human family: we need teaching

and instruction. Let a child grow up without any instruction from his parents and teachers, and he wanders through the world in ignorance, slothfulness and neglect. Teach and instruct the mind when it is young in the way it should go; and do the same to the middle-aged and the aged, for it is much better to do this than to let them take razors and cut their own throats. Let the elders of Israel cease teaching the people who inhabit these valleys with regard to the principles of self-preservation and they would soon be destroyed. There are very few who can foresee the results of their own acts, and who understand that they would bring mischief upon themselves and break themselves up.

I shall take the liberty on this occasion of saying to every Latter-day Saint, sustain the Kingdom of God, for that sustains you; sustain those principles that have sustained us and that have united our hearts together. Sustain those principles that do away with and destroy this feeling of nationality that is in the hearts of individuals, and that brings the people together and makes them one in their faith and hope and in the pursuits of life, and in all the ordinances of the house of God; one in their politics, in their morals, in their education; follow those principles and they will lead you to eternal life. I will speak plainer, so that there will be no misunderstanding. I saw on those little flags and banners that were borne in the procession to-day many mottoes. Among them was the following: "Holiness to the Lord, Zion's Co-operative Institution." I make a request of all Latter-day Saints to remember this motto, and not only remember it but carry it out in their lives. If we sustain those who are not of us we shall find, sooner or later, that we have sustained our deadly enemies. They may speak with silken lips, and present themselves in our midst in a fair and gentlemanly manner; but sound the depths of their secret designs we should soon be scattered to the four winds. Sustain Zion's Co-operative Institution, no matter what that may be, whether in our Female Relief Societies, in our schools, merchandising, trading, mechanism, or in whatever we pursue, and let us be united in it and sustain those who sustain the Kingdom of God. All persons professing to be Latter-day Saints, who do not do it will sooner or later go out of the Kingdom here on the earth, and though they may anticipate going in at the straight and narrow gate, yet the further they march the further they will find themselves from it. A person to enter in at the straight gate must lead one of the most righteous lives it is possible to conceive of.

I do not particularly desire to make a religious discourse on the present occasion, but I should like to instruct the minds of the brethren and sisters, and have them teach their children to sustain the Kingdom of God. If we do not do this it will not sustain us; if we do not use all the influence we possess, and all the ability and power that God has given us to sustain His Kingdom, by and by we shall find that we have missed the object of our pursuit. Then sustain the Kingdom of God, and never seek to sustain those who are not members of that Kingdom. Be not deceived by their air professions; we, who have had an experience, have known them from the beginning. Though I never saw Joseph Smith until after the Book of Mormon was written, yet he was one of my neighbors, and I knew his course of life, and that of the people who believed his testimony. I knew they had to leave one town and go to another, and had to go from county to county and from State to State. For what? Because they did not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ? No. Was it because they infringed on their neighbors' rights, or took that which was not their own? No, they had to leave place after place because they believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and because they tried to practice His doctrines; and I recollect well where much of the Book of Mormon was written, at father Whitmer's house. And they had to get up and leave, and they went to other places and finished the book. After that they came back again, but they had to leave again, they were not considered fit to live among the people. Were they morally wrong? Not by any means. Did they pray, keep the Sabbath day holy and observe the laws of the land? Yes. Were they in the habit of gambling or swearing? No. What, then, was the difficulty? The difficulty was they believed that the Lord was about to set up His Kingdom and that He had revealed His priesthood through Joseph Smith, and the people said