

REMARKS

By Elder GEORGE A. SMITH, delivered in the Tabernacle, G. S. L. City, October 7th, 1867.

REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.

There are, at the present time, in Great Britain, ten or twelve thousand Saints, some of whom have been members of the church for twenty or twenty-five years. They have contributed of their scanty means to feed the Elders and to help to emigrate their brethren and sisters, and in many cases many of them have gone without their meals and beds to make the Elders comfortable, and now they are without the means to gather with the Saints here in the mountains.

There are a great many brethren, probably some are here to-day, who, in years past, have been assisted to this country by the Perpetual Emigration Fund, to which fund there is now due from individuals assisted, about nine hundred thousand dollars. I wish to call the attention of this class of individuals to the condition of the poor Saints abroad. There are many Saints here, who before gathering home, have said to their brethren and sisters in the old world, "When we get to Zion if God blesses us, we will remember you and do the best we can to aid you to emigrate." A great many persons have failed to keep their promise, and their friends back feel that they are forgotten and neglected. In many instances no doubt, Elders while on missions have promised to assist those who have treated them with kindness and divided their morsel with them. I want to bring these things to the consideration of all our brethren. They should remember that our brethren and sisters in the old countries labor under the disadvantage of the prejudice against Mormonism. Employers and business men, who are under the influence of the priests of the day, are unwilling to extend the same kindness and generosity and facilities for labor to the Latter-day Saints that they do to other persons. Besides these disadvantages, many of our brethren there have to work for a shilling, eighteen pence or two shillings a day as the case may be, and out of this have to pay house rent, buy fuel, clothing and every necessary of life for their families, and in some cases, perhaps they have a sick father or mother to sustain out of their mere pittance, which is barely enough to keep life in their bodies. Our brethren, who have had the benefit of the emigration fund, should remember that their first duty, to God and themselves, is to liquidate these liabilities with the very first means they acquire after their arrival here; and that if they go on accumulating cattle, horses, houses and lands, and these debts remain unpaid, they are robbing the poor and the needy. This is a matter about which the brethren should not feel neglectful or careless. Those who will come forward and honorably discharge their liabilities to the P. E. Fund will be blessed in their substance and in their efforts. And you must remember that while you are doing this, you are acquiring experience, and gaining information that will make you more successful hereafter.

My desire is, that when the Elders go from this Conference, that they should light a fire in the breast of every person who has liabilities of this kind. Let every man in Israel, whom God has blessed, be alive and awake to this matter and respond to the call the President has made for contributions to the P. E. Fund.

I understand that over there, there are hundreds of sisters who are determined to remain single until they reach Zion, and there are men in our midst, and some of them in debt to the P. E. Fund, who are able to send for a dozen or two of these sisters; they ought to bring them to this country and place them where they can marry according to their wishes. May the blessings of Heaven be upon us that we may be able to gather all our brethren and sisters from the old world.

I appeal to the sons and daughters of Zion to be awake to this subject: Amen.

REMARKS

By Elder ERASTUS SNOW, delivered in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, October 8th, 1867.

REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.

I am persuaded that the subject last referred to by President Young—the

prolongation of life and the preservation of health can not be over rated. This is one of the subjects relating to our temporal welfare that received the early attention of the Prophet Joseph, and the revelation commonly called the Word of Wisdom has been before the people for over thirty years. I feel assured that a word on this subject kindly spoken by our President is a prompting from on high, and I believe that every true elder in Israel will bear witness that this is the word of the Lord to us at this time. I exhort every bishop and presiding elder in this city as well as throughout the country to lay this matter to heart as one subject requiring their special attention. Not to make it a hobby to the exclusion of everything else, so as to disgust the people; but in the true spirit of the gospel seek to bring this matter home to the hearts and understandings of the people of their respective wards and settlements. Feel after those who may be stupid and ignorant, who do not come to meeting and do not receive the spirit of this Conference. Let the bishops and others in authority endeavor through their teachers and otherwise to search out such individuals and dig round about them and prune them that they may perchance bring forth fruit.

In relation to matrimony—one of the texts before the Conference, perhaps there is not so much a lack of disposition on the part of the ladies as there is on the part of the gentlemen. The latter sometimes feel themselves unworthy or unprepared; and in many instances, perhaps, they are so. And if you ask why they are unprepared to assume these responsibilities as husbands and heads of families, it is mostly because they have neglected the word of the Lord which they hear from this stand. They have not given their hearts to prayer sufficiently; they have not read the scriptures and educated their spirits; they have not drunk in the spirit of the gospel. Every young man who has been taught by his parents to pray in secret, to mingle with the family in devotion, to attend meeting and receive the counsels of the servants of the Lord, has grown in the spirit of the gospel, and this has given them a disposition which has impelled them, as soon as they arrive at a suitable age to move forward in the duties and responsibilities that they have been called upon, during this Conference, to assume. And they will meet with a like response everywhere from the opposite sex who are living their religion. If there is any lack of disposition on the part of the ladies it is because they are not living their religion, for the neglect of one duty leads to the neglect of another, and if our young men and women fail to make themselves acquainted with the law of God they are liable to be led away. Young men or women seeking the society of the wicked are soon befogged and led to destruction. If the young men of Israel are not alive to their duties, the young ladies may be left to wander in the society of the ungodly. This happens many times through the neglect of parents to impress on the minds of their daughters the value of the kingdom of heaven and the value and importance of salvation, exaltation and glory. Through the neglect of parents in properly educating their children many of them are now, perhaps, unable to discern between saint and sinner, and they would as soon associate with the wicked and unbelieving as with the righteous. It is a grievous sight to those who have labored twenty-five or thirty years traveling over the world to preach the gospel and to gather the people to see the rising generation without that culture they so much need to develop within them a love of righteousness, truth, and every holy principle. There is as great a field for missionary labor in Utah, as in any part of the world. There is as great a necessity for preaching here at home in our settlements, even in some parts of Great Salt Lake City, as there is in any part of the world. There are those here who neglect the opportunities offered them and they need to be felt after personally.

The subject of education is another of the texts given by our President for the elders of Israel to preach upon. I have already touched on it in a few words. I will say that our school teachers should not only be men qualified to teach the various branches of education, but they should be men possessing the spirit of the gospel, and who, in every look and word, and in all their discipline and intercourse with their pupils are influenced by that spirit. They should govern and control, not by brute force, but by superior intellect, sound judgment and the wisdom that the gospel teaches, that they may win the hearts of their pupils, and so be able to

impress their minds with those principles they present before them.

I can not speak too highly in favor of those good books that have been recommended to our schools—the Bible, Book of Mormon, Book of Doctrine and Covenants, and all other good books; but especially those that contain the history of the dealings of God with his people from the beginning of the world to the present time, as well as the teachings of the prophets and apostles; for the foundation of all true education is the wisdom and knowledge of God. In the absence of these, though we obtain a knowledge of every art and science and acquire what is termed by the world a first class education, we but obtain the froth and lack the foundation on which to rear a proper education.

In relation to the missionaries south, I will say that I have heard some say when referring to this subject, "what is the use of the southern mission? what good can result from our going or sending there?" I will say to all such querying, grumbling, fault-finding, growling spirits, just wait a few years and we will show you the good of the southern mission. I do not know but time would fail me to bring argument in favor of it, but I will say just wait and by the help of God we will show you.

The subject of home production and becoming a self-sustaining people is another text, and this will probably guide me right back to "Dixie." I will ask the question, How are we going to become self-sustaining unless we avail ourselves of the elements around us and provide ourselves and families with what we need to eat, drink and wear, and our implements of husbandry and other things of a like nature? We need iron ware and machine shops. Our sons need teaching the various mechanical arts. Instead of raising them all to be farmers or mule drivers, we want a goodly portion of machinists, painters, artists, smiths, school teachers, and all other useful professions. We shall also need lawyers. I do not mean dishonest contemptible pettifoggers; but statesmen—lawyers in the true sense of the word who understand the principles of justice and equity, and who make themselves acquainted with those general principles of jurisprudence, that wise statesmen have recognised throughout the civilized world, that they may not only be competent judges in the land, but be able to thwart the wicked efforts of this ungodly set of pettifoggers. The southern country affords us facilities for raising many things that can not be successfully raised in the north. We have had one four years of internecine war that has almost entirely prevented the raising of cotton—perhaps the most essential of all productions for articles of clothing. Will we as a people be blind to this fact, and now, that the first woe is past, lure ourselves to sleep and forget that there is another coming. Saint George, though the centre of our present operations in cotton raising is only on the borders of the cotton district. From three hundred to five hundred acres is the most that we can water from one dam and canal in that district of country, while lower down, the same labor would encircle a field of six or eight thousand acres of better land; but a little handful of people cannot grapple with so great a labor. We have commenced some small settlements on the Muddy. The settlers there were mostly substitutes,—Bro. Henry Miller calls them destitutes. Most of them got discouraged and came back, the rest stick and hang like a dog to a root—but they scarcely know what to do. The question is shall we allow this little handful to be worn out, or shall we strengthen their hands, and so keep moving and progressing, and hold what we have and get more.

I like the idea of sending young men down there. It struck me as a decided hit when I heard the names read out yesterday. We can do with a number of young men who have small families or who are about to get them, and I say God bless them and speed them and their wives on their way and by the help of God we will help them.

By Telegraph.

Washington, 2.—The Supreme Court has continued all the cases involving the constitutionality of the legal tender act till December.

The government detective reports that the nitro glycerine purchases in New York, was by an agent of a Canada house, and has never been in the United States.

New York.—The *Henry Chauncey* has arrived from Aspinwall with a million and a half in specie. There were a hundred and fifty shocks of earthquake at La Union, Salvador, in February.

The Buenos Ayres *Standard* says the deaths by cholera average one hundred and five daily, and the disease is rapidly spreading over the whole country.

Washington, 2.—*Senate*.—After the presentation of a few petitions and memorials, the Senate proceeded to consider the impeachment rules, Anthony in the chair. Several amendments, mostly of a verbal nature, were offered and considered. A proposition to increase the time allowed for the speeches on parliamentary questions to two hours was rejected.

(Note by Reporter.—It is impossible to send reports of all these amendments, which really amount to little. The Senate intends to sit to-night and adopt all the rules if possible. A great snow storm interferes with the working of the wires east.

The House session commenced at ten o'clock; technically it was considered as belonging to Saturday. The regular session commenced at twelve, all the time being spent in committee debating on the impeachment articles.

Butler offered the following additional article: That said Andrew Johnson, President, &c., unmindful of the high duties of his office, and the dignities and proprieties thereof, and of the harmony and courtesies which ought to exist and be maintained between the executive and legislative branches of the government, designing to set aside the rightful authority and powers of Congress and attempt to bring it into disgrace and ridicule and the contempt and reproach thereof, to impair and destroy the regard and respect which all the good people of the United States have for Congress and the legislative power thereof, and which all officers of government ought inviolably to preserve and maintain,—to excite the odium and resentment of all the good people of the United States against Congress and the laws by it duly and constitutionally enacted, and in pursuance of his said design and intent, openly and publicly and before divers assemblages of citizens of the United States, convened in divers parts thereof to meet and receive Andrew Johnson, as chief magistrate of the United States, did on the 18th of August, 1866, and on divers other days and times, as well before as afterwards, make and deliver with loud voice certain intemperate and scandalous harangues, and did therein utter loud threats and bitter menaces as well against Congress as the laws of the United States duly enacted thereby, amid the cries, jeers and laughter of the multitude then assembled and in hearing, which are set forth in several specifications hereinafter written in substance and effect;—that is to say, the article is supported by three specifications giving extracts from speeches by Andrew Johnson, in Washington, August 18th, in Cleveland, Sept. 3, and in St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 8, 1866. The specifications conclude, "Which said utterances, declarations, threats and harangues, are highly censurable in any, and are peculiarly indecent and unbecoming in the Chief Magistrate of the United States, by means whereof the said Andrew Johnson has brought the high office of President of the United States into contempt, ridicule and disgrace, to the great scandal of good citizens, whereby Andrew Johnson did commit and was there and then guilty of high misdemeanor in office."

Ferris, Kountze and Perham spoke against impeachment; Hubbard, of Conn., and Ashley, of Nevada, followed on the other side.

Chicago, 3.—The House rejected Butler's amendment, 50 against 74.

Stevens then, after making a lengthy speech in favor of the articles, said, "By some unaccountable misunderstanding, the article which I hold in my hand and which we may call one and a half, has been deciphered out, for I do not find it in the articles in distinct language. I promise it as an amendment. It is that, on the 12th of August, during the recess of Congress, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, did suspend from office Edwin M. Stanton, and that while the Senate was considering the sufficiency of the reasons reported, Andrew Johnson formed a deliberate design and determination to prevent said Edwin M. Stanton from forthwith resuming the duties of his office, thereby committing a high misdemeanor in office; and then, when he was defeated in accomplishing his design, by the integrity and fidelity of the Secretary *ad interim*, he sought to arrive at the same end by giving a letter of authority to Lorenzo Thomas,