

## THE MANTI TEMPLE.

LAYING THE CORNER-STONES—THE PROCESSION—THE DEDICATION—THE ADDRESSES, PRAYERS, ETC., ETC.

Monday, the 14th inst., being the day fixed upon for laying the corner-stones of the Temple in Manti, President John Taylor and eight others of the Twelve Apostles, with other of the authorities of the Church left Salt Lake City on Friday, the 11th inst., and proceeded by train and teams to Nephi, where they spent the night and held meeting with the Saints. On Saturday, the Apostles, Bishops and Elders distributed themselves so as to hold meetings in all the more populous towns of northern Sanpete. On Sunday and on Monday all met at Manti.

A large concourse of Saints assembled from the various Stakes of Zion composing this Temple district, the Nephi people bringing their brass band with them.

At 11 a.m. Col. Warren S. Snow proceeded to form the procession, consisting of—

Band of Music.  
Architect, Superintendent and Temple Workmen.  
Apostles—President John Taylor, Charles C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Brigham Young, Joseph F. Smith, Albert Carrington, and Moses Thatcher.  
Patriarchs of Sanpete, Juab and Sevier Stakes.  
The Presiding Bishop, his Counselors, with other Bishops and Presidents in the Lesser Priesthood, with their Counselors.  
Presidents of Stakes and of the High Priests Quorums, with their Counselors, and High Councilors.  
First Presidents of Seventies, with Presidents of Seventies and Elders Quorums and their Counselors,

accompanied and followed by several thousand people, who, stepping to the sweet strains of music, marched up the hill rendered sacred already by the magnificent terraces constituting its front, and which have received 2,400 cords of rock in their construction. On arriving at the southeast corner of the Temple site, a brief delay was occasioned by the passing over of a refreshing shower of rain; after which the following introductory remarks were made by

## PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR.

Nearly four years ago President Brigham Young, accompanied by his counsel, a number of the Twelve Apostles, the prominent authorities of this Stake, and others, selected this ground as a suitable site whereon to build a temple to the Lord our God. About two years ago he came with his Counsel, a part of the Quorum of the Twelve, and the Stake authorities, and consecrated this spot of ground and dedicated it to the Lord for the purpose of building a holy temple wherein the sacred ordinances of the everlasting gospel could be administered. Since that time our beloved President has departed—gone behind the veil—and we are now assembled on this sacred spot to carry on and continue that labor which our late venerable and respected President commenced. We will therefore proceed with the ceremonies of this day, as contemplated, and call upon Elder Charles C. Rich to commence our services by prayer.

The following prayer was then offered by

## ELDER CHARLES C. RICH:

O God, the Eternal Father, in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ, we present ourselves before thee on this occasion, even for the purpose of laying the foundation stones of a Temple to be reared to thy holy name, upon this ground which was dedicated and set apart for that purpose by thy servant Brigham. And we ask thee at the commencement of these interesting services to let thy Holy Spirit rest upon thy servants who shall officiate in them, and also upon thy Saints who have gathered here to witness the ceremonies, that we may perform this pleasing labor acceptably unto thee, and that they may be enabled to duly appreciate the same.

We bear up before thee at this time, thy servant President Taylor and the Quorum of the Twelve, together with the various quorums of the holy priesthood as they are or-

ganized upon the earth, and we ask thee that thy servants may be united as the heart of one man in the carrying out of thy righteous purposes pertaining to the building up of thy Zion of the latter-days, and receive from thee strength according to their day to enable them to perform well and faithfully all that thou hast given them to do. And we pray thee that thy watchful care may be extended over all thy people, thy Church and Kingdom on the earth. Wilt thou Our Father, rule and overrule in our behalf, that our rights and liberties may be preserved unto us, and wilt thou cause that the wicked and ungodly who lend themselves as willing tools to the power of the adversary to oppose thy cause and people, may be thwarted in all their evil designs, that truth and righteousness may triumph and obtain a firm foothold in the earth to thy name's honor and glory?

Remember in mercy thy saints who have assisted in the labors of preparing this ground, and all those who shall aid in the erection of this House even until it shall be completed and dedicated to thy holy name.

Hear us in these our desires and accept of this our prayer and the services on this occasion; and to thee, our Father, and to thy Son Jesus Christ our Redeemer and the Holy Spirit be all praise both now and forever. Amen.

Music by the Nephi band, "Star Spangled Banner," when President Taylor called upon

## ELDER ERASTUS SNOW,

who spoke as follows:

Time will not permit for any very lengthy remarks. We are happy to see the general interest manifested by the saints in this great and good work, as is shown on this occasion by the vast assembly of people; not only from this Stake of Zion, but from neighboring and distant places. We are grateful for the hearty response to all past calls and invitations to help forward this important work—the liberality of the Saints by which this ground has been prepared at so great an expense. I can congratulate you, my brethren and sisters, on your success thus far, and the superintendent and workmen in their operations, feel assured that the work of erecting the Temple may be counted half done, in the labor that has already been accomplished in building these terrace walls and preparing this foundation, together with rock and other material on hand.

The weather to-day seems emblematical of the journeyings of the Latter-day Saints from the commencement of our career to the present time—a mixture of sunshine and clouds, fair weather and foul. But our course is onward and upward, and whether the enemies of all righteousness oppose, whether we have the powers of earth and hell arrayed against us or not, it matters not, because it is the Lord who has stretched forth his hand to perform the "marvelous work and a wonder" in the earth, and who has called us to operate in that labor, and his hand will not be turned back until he has accomplished that work. Our course is onward, in building temples, in gathering Israel, in carrying the gospel to the nations, and in administering for our dead, thanking God for those keys revealed unto us through which we can do these things. We trust in a continuation of the union, fellowship, love and perseverance of the Saints, in the further advancement of this great work until it shall be completed. And we ask the prayers of the Saints upon all associated with this work—the Temple committee, the superintendent and architect, the chief mason and all foremen and laborers, that all may labor with holiness of heart unto the Lord, and that every stone and other material brought to this structure may be holy unto the Lord, and everything appertaining to this building become sanctified by the faith and prayers of the Saints, and that no one may be permitted in or around these premises to blaspheme the name of the Almighty or desecrate this sacred spot, that has been consecrated to the Lord for holy purposes, and that we unitedly may move forward to the glory of God, and under his approval to the completion of his work, also that blood may not be shed by accident or otherwise, that life and limb may be preserved in the prosecution of this work, that the angels of the Lord may be near to preserve each

and every one who comes to labor here with holiness of heart unto the Lord. I feel to promise this inasmuch as you will be faithful in the performance of your labors, for the Lord is watching over us continually for good, and will overrule all things for the good of those who fear him. Amen.

After music by the brass band, President John Taylor and those of the Twelve Apostles present, assisted by the Patriarchs, the Architect, William H. Folsom, and the Master Mason, E. L. Parry, proceeded to lay the southeast or principal or chief corner stone—after which President John Taylor, standing on the newly-laid stone, then said:

This principal corner stone, the southeast corner stone, under the direction of the Twelve, who are acting in the place and represent the First Presidency, is now laid in honor of the Great God; let it thus remain until this Temple is completed and while the anointed of the Lord may continue to administer the eim. May this House be speedily erected that the Saints may have a place in this Stake of Zion, and in the Stakes of this Temple district and others who may require to administer in the ordinances of the Lord's House, and the Son of Man have a place to lay his head.

A zinc case, hermetically sealed, containing the following was then securely deposited within this corner stone:

Book of Mormon; Doctrine and Covenants (new edition); Pearl of Great Price; Miss Snow's Poems, vols 1 and 2; Harp of Zion; Voice of Warning; Spencer's Letters; Catechism for Children; Juvenile Instructor, Vol. 6; Hymn Book; History of Organization of Seventies; Answer to Questions; Book of Abraham; Women of the Scriptures; Fruits of Mormonism; Bible and Polygamy; Mountain Warbler; The Mormon Question; Scandinavian Stjerne, March 1, 1879; do. March 15, 1879; Der Sterne, Vol 10, No. 12; Bikuben, Vol. 3, No. 27; Journal of Discourses, Vol. 1; Millennium Star, Vol. 17; Key to Theology; Salt Lake Semi-Weekly Herald, April 9, 1879; Salt Lake Daily Herald, April 10, 1879; Joseph Smith's Lectures; Articles of Faith; Sermon on Plural Marriage by O. Pratt; Utah Statistics; Territorial School Report, 1876-77; Death of President B. Young; Brief in the Reynolds case in the Supreme Court; Brief, Taxation of Scrip; Plural Marriage; Circular of the First Presidency; Epistle of the Twelve Apostles; Defense of Plural Marriage by the women of Utah County; Mass Meeting of Women in Salt Lake City Theatre; Woman's Exponent, Vol. 7, No. 15; Deseret Evening News, April 8, 1879; Deseret News Semi-Weekly, Vol. 14, No. 1; Ogden Junction, Vol. 10, No. 26; Beaver Chronicle, Vol. 1, No. 28; The Amateur, Vol. 2, No. 21; Deseret Weekly News, Vol. 28, No. 10; Territorial Enquirer, Vol. 3, No. 127; Nordstjernen, Vol. 3, No. 1 and 2; Resurrection.

When this had been done, Apostle Lorenzo Snow, standing on the stone, offered the following prayer:

O God, the Eternal Father, in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ, we ask thee to look down upon us in tender compassion, and fill us with thy Holy Spirit, receiving our grateful acknowledgments for the privilege we enjoy this day of assembling ourselves together for the purpose of laying the corner stones of this sacred building to be erected to thy most holy name on this consecrated ground, by the faith and labors of thy servants and handmaidens who have listed to obey thy holy will, and who desire to honor thee in complying with the requirements of the gospel thou hast been pleased to commit unto us through the ministrations of heavenly messengers. Accept, O God, our sincerest thanks for blessing thy people as thou hast done through all the vicissitudes of our eventful career, and for inspiring the saints dwelling in this part of thy vineyard to labor and toil as they have done in the construction of this beautiful and commanding site under thy divine approval. And we now ask, Holy Father, that thou wilt accept of this labor and this work which has already been done, and also of that which we are now attending to, the laying of this chief corner stone of the building to be erected to thy holy name, that thou mayest have a place in the earth in which thou canst minister to thy children, a house that shall be dedicated to thee, and made holy through the sanctification of the

material that shall be employed in its construction, made so through the prayers and faithfulness of thy servants who shall be engaged in its erection.

And with uplifted hands and hearts to thee, the Most High, we ask that thou wilt look upon thy servant Brother Taylor, and fill him with the power of the Highest, revealing unto him thy will with regard to thy children, that he may be qualified to lead thine Israel as thy servant Joseph and as thy servant Brigham led thy people, agreeably to the revelations of the Almighty, leading them to honor, leading them to victory, to glory and exaltation, that thy people may have in thine own due time, the righteous dominion of this thine earth. And bless thy servants the Apostles, with a rich portion of thy Spirit, that they may labor with all their hearts and with all their might for the good of thy Zion, yea, that they may labor in connection with thy servant Brother Taylor, with their whole souls; and in like manner all thy holy priesthood whom thou hast called and organized in the midst of the earth. Bless, we pray thee, thy servants the seventies, and thy servants the high priests, also the presidents of stakes with their counselors, and all the Bishops with their counselors throughout Zion, that their lives may be devoted to thee, and that they may labor whole-souledly in the interest of thy cause and people.

And, Holy Father, we remember before thee thy ministering servants who are traveling to and fro in the earth, bearing the message of glad tidings to thy scattered Israel; clothe and endow them with power from on high, that they may be able to present thy word, even thy revealed word, to the convincing of the honest in heart, whose ears may be saluted with the sound of the same. And pour out thy spirit upon the honest, the virtuous and the honorable of the earth, and upon all those who administer to the wants of thy servants, remember them in mercy, we pray, and also all those who have at any time befriended or ministered to the interest of thy people.

We ask Thee to bless him who is the superintendent and architect of this building, and also him who is the master mason, and all those engaged and who shall be engaged in anywise in its erection; pour out upon them the spirit of this holy work, even the spirit of temple building, and also upon all thy Saints who are required to contribute of their means, that everything may be done cheerfully and with pure motives, that their labors may be crowned with success, and accepted of thee. And cause, our Father, that the lives of thy servants may be precious in thy sight; that no accident may befall them to injure their bodies or to destroy life. And wilt thou, Holy Father, bless the labors of thy servants, even from the laying of this stone, yea, this principal corner stone of the building, to its erection and completion?

And now, Holy Father, we dedicate ourselves with all we possess—our time, our talents, our substance—unto thee, praying thee to fit and qualify us for the service that is required at our hands, and asking thee to watch over us through the various scenes through which we are called to pass, and that when we have finished our course here below, we may be prepared to dwell with thee and receive a fullness of celestial glory, and we will ascribe all praise, honor, power and dominion to God and the Lamb, for ever and ever, Amen.

The band discoursed appropriate music and the choir sang:

"How Beautiful are thy Towers."

The procession, as formed, then proceeded to the southwest corner.

The Presidency of the Aaronic Priesthood, namely, Bishop Edward Hunter and Counselors, and several of the local bishops, presidents of quorums of the Lesser Priesthood, assisted by the Architect and Master Mason, attended to the laying of this stone, in the same order as before, which being accomplished precisely at one o'clock, Bishop Edward Hunter stood upon the stone and said: I pronounce this southwest corner stone duly and properly laid. I hope and desire, and expect that it will be connected with the first corner stone—the principal corner of the building. And I am happy to see the willingness manifested by the people of this district to assist in building this house. It appears that you sense that it is in your

power to become "Saviors on Mount Zion," to save yourselves and your dead to the glory of God. Thus may it be done. And may these blessings be upon the architect and the masons and carpenters and all workmen, that this house may be erected properly, fitly and promptly, and the Holy Spirit be and abide with it. These privileges are within our reach—things that are too glorious for mortal to conceive of. May it be our happy lot to save ourselves and our dead through the merits and atonement of our Great Redeemer; and may we realize and appreciate the great blessings that are within our reach, and not abuse the glorious opportunities afforded us. Be prompt in paying your tithing and offerings, and God will be true to his promise—he will open the windows of heaven and pour you out blessing beyond your room to contain. And that you may live to participate in the blessings of this House when it shall be completed, is my desire and prayer. Amen.

Bishop L. W. Hardy, standing on this, the south-west corner stone, offered the following prayer:

O God the Eternal Father, in the name of thy son Jesus Christ, we again present ourselves before thee in supplication for thy blessing to rest down upon us. And as this the south-west corner stone of the building has now been declared properly laid by the Aaronic priesthood, in connection with the Melchisedek priesthood, we ask thee, the Lord our God, that every connecting stone of this building may go up in its proper place, and that they who shall do the work of laying the stones may have the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ abiding in them, that they may be able to fully sense the nature of the important work they are to perform, even the erecting of a Temple, a holy house, to the name of the Most High God, here upon the earth, in this the 19th century, an age in which darkness filled the earth until thou didst again reveal the gospel of thy Son, Jesus Christ, in its fullness for the salvation and exaltation of thy children in the flesh. And we ask thee O, our Father, to pour out thy spirit upon all who may labor on this building, and those who may impart of thy substance for its erection, that they may labor and give not grudgingly but with liberal hearts, so that when the time shall come for the building to be dedicated to the name of the Lord, they may be privileged to enter therein with pure hands and clean hearts to receive the blessings of salvation for themselves and on behalf of their dead; that we may do the work assigned unto us here upon the earth in that way that shall be pleasing and acceptable in thy sight.

We ask thee, our Father, to bless thy servants, the holy Priesthood, whom thou hast organized again upon the earth; especially would we pray for thy servant Brother Taylor, with thy servants of the Twelve, who stand at our head, to lead and guide thine Israel according to thy mind and will. Wilt thou let them be preserved in the earth, to live in peace and comfort, to see the fruits of their labors, and have joy therein, until thy kingdom shall come and thy will be done on earth even as in heaven.

Bless, we pray thee, our Heavenly Father, the Aaronic Priesthood, who are so closely connected with the Melchisedek Priesthood in their special calling and station, that we may act wisely and well the part we are called upon to perform under thy direction and guidance?

And we call upon thee in behalf of the lives of all who may labor on this building, that the same may be precious in thy sight, and that no accident may befall thy servants, but that thy watchful care may be over them until the cap stone shall be placed with shouting to the Lord our God.

We dedicate ourselves and all our interests unto thee, asking thee to accept of our labors on this solemn occasion, and to watch over us through life, and finally receive us into thy kingdom, to enjoy a full salvation in thy presence, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Ever so, Amen.

"Hail Columbia" was then played by the band; when the choir sang the following song, composed for the occasion by Sister Eliza B. Snow:

With joy and thanksgiving, the Priesthood this day,  
The four corner stones of the Temple site lay;