## DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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By President D. H. Wells, Delivered in

## REPORTED BY DAVID W. EVANS.

After our usual custom we have met in a general council of the church to remountains. We come here to be intaught in the ways of the Lord and that we may learn to walk in his paths.

We can see a glorious future before us; we can dwell upon the words of the holy prophets and picture to our-selves great things in time to come concerning the beauty and glory of Zion, when she shall be built up. We can talk of exaltations in the Kingdom of God, of thrones, dominions, principali-ties and powers, but how are we going young man a draft for a certain amount to attain to these things? It seems as though, when we receive the gospel and our hearts are lit up with the spirit of truth. we expect, without any particular effort on our part, at some time in the future, to attain to these great ex-cellencies and glories. We are a good days of Brigham? No; it would have been impossible. I remember hearing him talk, and seeing his endeavors to establish merchandizing on a similar footing to that which has been recently introduced among the Saints; but there

get what he wanted without paying the money for it. It was a good deal so when we first came here. Let a brother commence the mercantile business and the first thing he knew his whole capital stock was credited out to the brethren. He could not refuse to credit a brother. O, no! if he did it was said at once that he was selfish and was no friend to the poor. I have never seen the time when co-operation could have been established in the midst of the people until the present. Some will doubtless find fault with it now; but we do not expect to be clear of fault finders. We have to be instructed; and the Lord has been merciful and kind. He has sought all the day long to train us in the way we should go. We never can learn the principles pertaining to the building up of the Kingdom of God seem to think that trading or merchan-dizing is more genteel, and that it is more gentlemanly not to learn some profitable trade or business. A considerable number who have been engaged in mercantile pursuits, owing to this change in our system of business, will no doubt be thrown out of employment; they will have to seek other avocations. Some persons who possess capital will have to seek other avenues in which to invest that capital. In a new country like this there is a variety of ways open to them for its safe and profitable in-A man may invest hundreds of thous-ands of dollars in goods and put them

ed to produce something for his own

had had in his employment a long time, who had received some encouragement, and had large expectations from him, that when he had attained his majorith, that when he had attained his majority, come into possession of these things as If the people would seek after the Lord he would set him up in business. When naturally as a child, by constant in- and be content to walk in His ways, do that time arrived, instead of giving the young man a draft for a certain amount of money, he told him to go and serve an apprenticeship to some useful trade, by which in case of a reverse of fortune, by item, by living our holy relig-ion day by day, hour by hour and all of the total the diversities in regard to re-ligion that now exist would be known? By no means; we should all come, then, to a unity of the faith. by which, in case of a reverse of fortune, the time. he would be enabled to earn his own subsistence. The young man went and bound himself to a cooper and learned that trade. In a year's time he went dollars to set him up in business.

city will be built in the location desig-nated, unless a different class of people go there than is to be found in such places generally. I have no doubt that the soil is rich and that by industry the elements necessary for the building up of a great city could be developed. But be scattered to some other places,

duce will keep until he can obtain re-munerative prices, and he is more free and independent than the merchant; for the earth being his banker, he is not called upon to meet his bills and obligations by any particular and speci-fied time as the merchant is. By turning our attention in these directions our capital may be safely and profitably incapital may be safely and profitably in- kingdon of God as any of us, and He pects this stream to be checked or REMARKS. Wested, and many who are now but lit-the better than idlers in Israel might be the better than idlers in Israel might be there are some who are not righteous in our midst. Because the wicked and snatched as brands from the burning. mote their own independence; this is incumbent upon all. No person should be above learning some useful occupa-tion, trade or business that is calculat-is should be so. Let us endeavor to us together and He is seeking to instruct eradicate from our own bosoms all sin. us, that we and our children after us may in a general council of the church to re-ceive instruction in those things which are necessary for the government and well-being of the people, and to be in-structed in that which is calculated to well-being of the people, and to be in-structed in that which is calculated to promote our best interests. At our con-ferences a general interchange of thought and feeling in the midst of Israel takes place. At these meetings we receive great blessings; rich trea-sures of knowledge and understanding are opened up, and made known to the people, throughout the valleys of the himself, who has the capability of going cellence, greatness and power in our and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, structed; we gather from the na- forth, and, by his own industry, draw- midst. By pursuing these paths we "whom to know is eternal life;" and tions of the earth that we may be ing from the elements those things shall grow in every virtue and excel- another evil is, they do not try to know

who can retain, from youth up, a good, all other people. They are learning the holy and righteous influence; who have ways of the Lord; and more blessed are never committed an overt act, preserve they still, if they follow in them. They are deal like children. We tell them of back to his patron with a barrel of his ing themselves righteously before the laying a foundation that will stand for reading and writing, but they will own make. The old gentleman examin- Lord in all good faith and conscience all ever. There is no principle of virtue, never be able to do either, unless they take the trouble to learn. We often hear it said that if we wish to have a dollar each." Mr. Girard said it was a overtaken in liquor; but in Zion we heaven we shall have to create it for ourselves. There is considerable truth good article, and worth the money, and if he could make as good barrels as that far greater extent than in the world. It sand, and their superstructure will be for that price he had insured to himself is to overcome the evils that exist in the washed away when the tempest comes in this. In the days of Joseph could he have accomplished with this people what can now be accomplished in the pen. For his obedience in going and pen. For his obedience in going and pen. For his obedience in going and the pen. For his obedience in going and the pen at the days of Joseph could he have accomplished with this people a living in any event that might haplearning a trade as the old gentleman had directed him, he was rewarded with a check for twenty-five thousand the state of things that exists in the now talk about. the state of things that exists in the now talk about. world would soon be established here. In case of any reverse of fortune this and the object of the Lord, in gathering depended upon. God is their author: man had something to fall back upon. His people together, would be frustra- He is at the helm. He is our Father were difficulties in the way. In those days there was a tendency of feeling that each should share alike in everything, so much so that it was impossible for any man to do business in which would produce for them an hon- the world in their own estimation! He kingdom on the earth if we will serve the mercantile line. A good brother orable living by their own industry; came here to do His Father's will, and him and keep His commandments. We and if they acquire this in early life, in His greatest agony He prayed that the may come to Him on His own platform, selfish if he could not go to a store and habits of industry and order become cup might be taken from Him, if it were on Hisown terms, but not on our own. ossiblenot By industry we thrive; industry, in my will, but Thine be done." His own and the world at large; They are trying the mechanical and agricultural pur-suits is the foundation of our indepen-dence, and they who obtain a livelihood by habits of industry are far more hon-we will do as we please," if anything orable members of society than they is brought forth by the inspiration of the who live by their wits. I heard recently of a city that the out- Are we a band of brethren, standing siders are endeavoring to start, called Corinne, which it is said is to be the great city of the interior West. Who are going there to expend their labor? Can cities be built without labor? I think not. I have no idea that a great while scattered abroad; hence, the ne-cessity of gathering together that we may be instructed in the ways of the Lord. There is a great tendency among the people to go into the business of trading, and to shun the more laborious pursuits and avocations of life. A great many seem to think that trading or merchan-dizing is more genteel, and that it is more gentlemanly not to learn some things as reformations in the midst of Can men be industrious and follow the people of God, I suppose because of the various avocations and pursuits of life and still be servants of God? Yes, such things are conducive to good mor-als. It is said than an idle brain is the workshop of the devil, and it is far, more likely to be so than the brain of a person who is computed, with some use person who is occupied with some use-ful employment. Can a person work on the railroad, for instance, and be assoc-iated with the wicked without being contaminated by them? O yes, if he is so disposed. An Elder of Israel should wrap himself as with a mantle, from world are blind, they cannot see the king-

which are necessary for his own subsis-tence. I remember reading an anecdote of Stephen Girard and of a young man he The Latter-day Saints have great cause

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H. B. CLAWSON.

Blessed is that person, man and woman, to rejoice, because they are blessed above

These principles are true and can be depended upon. God is their author: yah and overturn His power and king-dom. Could He exist if the world could have their own way? A great many called Latter-day Saints feel a little the same way; perhaps they do not know it, but it amounts to no less. I have known people come for counsel when they had GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS. their own minds made up about the course they intended to pursue, all they wanted was to receive counsel that cor-responded with their notions. If they received that, all right, otherwise it would not do. All the world is after is to try to make the Lord come to their terms; He can not do it. It would be well for us, sometimes, if we could see a few of our own inconsistencies, and what we require of the Lord. The plan of salvation is amply sufficient to save to the uttermost. How? In our own way? No, in the way that the Lord has devised. If we are saved in His king-dom we shall have to bow to His laws; dom we shall have to bow to His laws; we cannot be saved without. He has a right to dictate; He has done so, and it is for us to do His bidding. We are blessed in having the living oracles in our midst, and in having a standard erected around which we can rally. The Bible is good, and we believe in it more than any other standard we believe in it more than any other people. The Book of Mormon and the Book of Doctrine and Covenants are the word of God, and and Covenants are the word of God, and they contain many precious gems; every line is full of knowledge, intelligence and truth, and is calculated to be a bene-fit to us; but yet, above and far beyond all, we have the living oracles in our midst to tell us what to do to-day. A great portion of the Scripture we have was the living oracles to the people in the day in which it was given, and it has become scripture because it was given by



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