

## Poetry.

[For the DESERET NEWS.  
IMMORTALITY.]

Yes, Immortality: That bosom word,  
To me, has inspiration in it. Love  
Of life, is innate in the human soul:  
'Tis interwoven in our natures. 'Twas  
Decreed in the grand council of the Gods,  
When canvassing the great eternal scheme  
Concerning destinies of man and earth;  
That mankind should inherit love of life;  
Else, man, grown weary of a world of woes  
And fickle tides of happiness, would haste  
To make his exit, and e'en God Himself  
Had fail'd to keep enough, as instruments  
On earth, to execute His purposes.

Thus death, the happy counterpoise to life,  
Has long been branded with fell hideousness—  
False-styled "the king of terrors," "monster"  
fiend."

"Insatiate archer" and whole catalogues  
Of horrid names; to form a barrier  
Of fear, lest man, with suicidal hand,  
Should clip the brittle thread of life, and rush  
In multitudes, into eternity.

"Christ came, them to redeem, who, thro' the  
fear

Of death, were all their life time subject to  
His bondage." To the faithful Saints of God,  
Who live to do His will, death has no sting;  
'Tis a kind porter to conduct us where  
A realm of light and beauty shines around—  
A world of glorious Immortality!

A world? Yes, worlds of vast immensity.  
And what of us? We'll be our very selves,  
Free from all imperfections consequent  
Upon the curse, entailed thro' Adam's fall:  
To enjoy life's sweet associations, such  
As parents, children, husbands, wives and  
friends—

With Gods and Goddesses—with the noblesse  
Of all eternities, and freely bask  
In full, bright sunbeams of intelligence,  
With legal access to its mighty fount—  
A life divested of mortality,  
Yet life as real as existence here.

I've had a taste of mortal suffering:  
I've seen my fellows drink its cup fill'd to  
The brim and running o'er, until the pulse  
Of life was clogg'd in every wheel—until  
Nature's deep agonies outweigh'd the love  
Of life, and yet the throbbing pulse beat on.  
But, thanks to God, there is an end decreed  
To human sorrow, pain and misery.  
I aim—I live for Immortality,  
Life, knowledge, bliss, without one stopping  
point.

A thought that I should ever cease to be,  
Would paralyze all other thoughts—'twould dim  
The brightest beams of joy, and would crush out  
Each holy aspiration of the heart—  
Eradicate that precious organ, hope—  
Embargo enterprise, and dry up all  
The tributary streams of happiness

There's nothing short of Immortality,  
Can satisfy the earnest cravings of  
That spark of pure divinity, which God  
Implanted, as the fine, constituent part  
Of beings, organized with attributes  
Like His—the germ of an eternal life.

Crown of all wisdom, sum of good to man,  
Scheme of the Gods, redemption's glorious plan;  
This, through the resurrection's power combines  
Immortal bodies and immortal minds.

G. S. L. City, Dec., 1865. E. R. SNOW.

## REMARKS.

By President DANIEL H. WELLS, General  
Conference, Bowery, G. S. L. City, Oct. 8th, 1865.

REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.

It is with joy and satisfaction indescribable to myself that I enjoy the privilege, brethren and sisters, of standing before you at this Conference this afternoon.

It is known to a great majority of you that I have been to Europe on a mission. I am glad that I have been to that country, and that I have been permitted to return to these valleys again. Whether I go away or return is all one to me inasmuch as I am called to act in the church and kingdom of God; and where the Lord appoints me to act is where I wish to be; that is my place and position, and it is my delight to be subservient unto the call, and unto the counsel of those who hold the authority to dictate in the church and kingdom of God. If I know myself, that is the place I wish to occupy at all times and on all occasions, and it gives me great satisfaction if I can fill that place, and perform the mission and duties required of me to perform, in that way that shall be pleasing to them and unto my Father in heaven, for if I please them I shall please Him, and if I please Him I shall please them.

I feel grateful for the privilege of being a member of the church and kingdom of God, and of being willing to do His bidding and abide the counsels of His servants. I feel happy in this calling, and to be associated with a

people whose bosoms beat responsive with mine in regard to the great principles of the gospel of salvation which has been revealed in these days for the guidance of the children of men upon the earth, that all people may avail themselves of those privileges and principles the same as we have done, if they choose it. They have this option within themselves, to obey and walk in the ways of life and salvation or to reject them; they can do as they please when the principles of salvation are made known unto them; they have their agency, and inasmuch as they will adopt them, they can enjoy the privileges which we now enjoy, and they cannot obtain them upon any other principle. As we have heard this morning, every thing that is worth having we can obtain through the principles of the gospel, and they are for the people of God.

The whole world, we may say, have gone a whoring after other gods, and they worship not the God of Israel, the true God. They do not know Him, nor do they take the pains to know Him whom to know is life eternal, as we read in the Scriptures. What can the world tell you about Him? Nothing; they do not know Him. How are we to learn God whom to know is eternal life? We learn to know Him through the principles of the gospel. He is revealed to man through the authority of the Holy Priesthood, which has been established among the children of men through the revelations of the Lord Jesus Christ to His servants. What did we know about Him who is our Father, previous to receiving this latter-day-work? Could we tell anything about the relationship that existed between God and His children? anything about the object of God in bringing man upon the earth? We knew nothing about this nor about the laws which should govern and control him to bring him to exaltation in the presence of God. In ignorance of these great principles, mankind come upon the earth, they live and they die. They do not know how to subserve the purposes of the Almighty in their own being, how to accomplish the object of their creation, and the end of their being on the earth. They cannot learn the things of God without the Spirit of God. I have in my own feeble way tried to teach the people concerning the things of God, to teach them who God our Heavenly Father is, or in other words, the ways of eternal life, and the relationship which exists between God and man; to teach them those principles which will subserve their being on the earth while they tarry here, and the laws which the Almighty has revealed for them to obey. I have borne a faithful testimony to the children of men, so far as I have had the power, while I have been on my mission, and have endeavored to do what good I could whenever an opportunity presented itself. But I have often times felt as though the people did not wish to know the things I had to teach them, and that they might as well be left with their idols. I have felt that my testimony has rebounded back upon me, for they cared not to know the things of God. The world treat the revelations of God to Joseph Smith in the last days as an idle dream. They do not care to investigate it because they think it is a humbug and beneath their notice; they treat it with contumely and disrespect; they are united almost universally in rejecting it, in passing it by, while the kingdom of God is actually transpiring upon the earth, and before the face and eyes of the whole world, and they mark it not; they have eyes and cannot see, ears and cannot hear, hearts and cannot comprehend, nor understand, or if they do understand will not obey the truth, but they will reject it. But does this conduct make it any less true? No, my good friends, No.

We read in the good book that "strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leads to eternal life and few there be which find it." If the world wish to be saved in the kingdom of God let them take heed to the words of His servants that are abroad in the earth, for they have the authority of the Holy Priesthood, the authority of Heaven; the angel of God has come and restored the gospel to the earth in these last days, and we know it, and feel able to bear this testimony to all the world, and it has already gone as it were upon the wings of the morning to all the world. Let the people reject it if they can afford to do so; we know they cannot afford to reject it; it is the most expensive thing they ever rejected, they had better receive it if they knew what would be for their best good. The authority of the Holy Priesthood is here upon the earth, and all people can avail themselves of it if they think proper to do so.

Why do not the world do it? That, however, is their own affair; if we are faithful and acquit ourselves as men of God we thereby clear ourselves of the blood of this generation. The communication has been opened up between the heavens and the earth. Do you know it, Latter-day-Saints? You do. Do the world know it? They may if they will take the proper course to put themselves in possession of this knowledge, but they do not care to know it; they are like the blind that are lead by those who are blind, and they will all fall into the ditch together.

I have felt a pride in speaking to the people in different nations and countries, of telling them that there is a place where good men may gather together, where men and women of integrity dwell, where the rights of all men are protected; that there is a place upon the footstool of God where the rights of mankind can be enjoyed and respected, where all men can have the liberty of worshiping God according to the dictates of their conscience; that there dwells a people who are for God, there the earth has been reclaimed and is being brought in subjection to the rule of the God of Heaven, and the predominating feeling is for God. I have felt proud in bearing this testimony, and pointing my finger to Utah where good men and women may dwell in peace, and where good order and good government prevail, and the people are in subjection to Heaven's rule. Who is doing this? You Latter-day-Saints. Where else can such a thing be found? Nowhere. Abroad in the world evil influences predominate everywhere, but here it is not so. Not but that there is evil here, more or less: I expect to find it. If it were not mingled up with the people of God, then the wheat and the tares would not grow together until harvest, as the parable of the Savior plainly intimates would be the case, and this would supply grave reasons against it being the church and kingdom of God. The kingdom of heaven is like unto a net cast into the sea, which gathers both good and bad; I expect this is the characteristic of the church of God here, but, still, the predominating influences are for God, the great majority of the people are submitting themselves to high Heaven's rule, and seeking with all their might to establish the kingdom of God upon the earth, and it is extending abroad, lengthening its cords and strengthening its stakes. It is a great blessing to live in such a place as this, a great blessing to be a citizen of the church and kingdom of God upon the earth, and to hail from Zion. The world may treat you with contempt, but let them laugh who win; and who will win if the Latter-day-Saints do not?

The world are in ignorance with regard to the principles that will save mankind; they do not know of any principles that will save any portion of mankind either here or hereafter—they do not know how to save themselves. They have a pretty good government in England, and I like that country pretty well for a great many things. You can go there and bear your testimony, and tell the truth and be protected by the laws of the country; you can do that without being exposed to much danger of being mobbed, as the Latter-day-Saints have been in this country, although there is some opposition; but the people stand in fear of the administrators of the law, because they will administer it even in protection of the Latter-day Saints. It is a nice little island, the island of Great Britain; and there dwell upon it a great many good, warm-hearted people, and I love them. There are a great many people there who are trying to know the ways of eternal life, and they will treat the ministers of salvation with more respect than in many other countries. I am glad to be associated with such a people.

There are many persons who belong to the church in foreign countries who would be glad to be gathered with the people here, and there are many who although they do not belong to the church and kingdom of God still feel to realize and know that there is something necessary to be done. They have no confidence in the organized systems of religion of the present day. They can see no consistency in them, and suppose that everything in the shape of religion is a humbug. "Mormonism" has sprung up in the same age, and they condemn it without examination, as being like all the rest, nothing more than an idle dream. Talk to them about revelation; yes, they have false revelations, and if they have false revelations and false spirits, does it prove that there are no true ones? The very reverse is the fact, and they would find true revelation and true spirits if they would only seek for them in the right way.

We as Latter-day Saints have cause to be thankful that we have found out the way of eternal life, because we have had the blessed privilege of living in this day and age of the world in which the gospel of salvation has been revealed for the guidance of the children of men; that we have been recipients of that knowledge which leads to eternal life and salvation in the presence of God; that we have been gathered out from the world that we may not partake of her abominations and of the plagues which are to come upon her; that this land has been consecrated and dedicated to God; that it has been held for the Latter-day Saints to occupy, to plant and build and inhabit, and that in consequence of this the land has been made to bring forth for the sustenance of His people who have been gathered out from where the wicked rule and the people mourn.

Those who have embraced the gospel in foreign lands sigh for deliverance, and the hope of this deliverance is the only ray of light that burns in their souls, and that gives them joy; although they live with their whole lives oppressed this beam of gladness has found its way into their souls through the principles of the gospel, and hence they are less oppressed in their feelings than many others. A hope springs up in their bosoms, that the time will come for their deliverance from the oppression under which they groan. Many of you have been delivered from those bonds, and from that oppression. You may have suffered poverty and sickness, and been afflicted in many ways, and perhaps have found things different than what you anticipated in many respects in this your newly adopted country, yet you have been delivered from a land where oppression reigns, and have been placed in a land of liberty, in a country where you can expand and grow, where you can plant your children with a hope that they may rise to importance in the kingdom of God, to something beyond what you and your forefathers have been enabled to do in the land where you have formerly lived, that you and your offspring may dwell where virtue, peace and industry may meet with their reward.

How is it in many of those old countries with the poor?—and it is with this class that we have the most to do; for some cause known perhaps best to Him that rules on high, it is the poor who embrace the gospel, who receive the gospel, who receive the message of good tidings, it is to them a theme of gladness and joy more than to any other class of men. Hundreds and thousands of them are out of employment; their stores gone, and they have no resources but what arise from their daily labor, and they are on the borders of starvation. The dearth in cotton has thrown thousands of people out of employment upon the cold charities of the world. How is it here, saying nothing about religion? Here a man can get a little land, and in a short time gather around him the necessities of life upon which he can subsist and let the world wag as it will; his condition is improved, and he may hope to rise to wealth and influence. How is it there? Why he may tread in the path in which his fathers trod, but can go no further—can advance no higher in the scale of existence; if times are good he may subsist and that comfortably,—I am speaking of the poor classes, those that the gospel most generally find, to them such a deliverance as the gospel offers is glad tidings of great joy, for they can plant themselves where their children can rise above what their fathers have been. This is what many thousands of the Latter-day Saints have accomplished by emigrating from that country to this, and many more thousands will be benefited in the same way.

This is only one of the benefits which the gospel confers upon those who obey it; it benefits man whenever it touches him, temporally and spiritually, religiously, morally and politically; it gives him an understanding of life; it teaches him how to live and how to exalt his being to the standard of heavenly intelligence; how to bring up his children and educate them in a proper manner, and how to avail himself of the facilities and advantages which the sciences and arts present to advance the purposes of the Almighty in the redemption of the human race; teaching him, not only how to live in time but in all eternity; giving him knowledge how to stand forth like a man of God in the world to subserve His purposes.

The Latter-day Saints have the most cause of any people on earth to rejoice continually in Him who has bestowed upon them the proud position which they occupy; for the authority of Heaven is here, and the wisdom of Heaven