

upwards of Sunday school children among the Latter-day Saints is a powerful testimony to the world in opposition to the charge made against us that we are a corrupt people. This is in keeping with the great and first command. Not long since I read an article in one of the great journals of this country, from the pen of a gentleman connected with the Sabbath schools of New York City for 40 years. He expressed his regret that that Christian city with its big fine church on Fifth Avenue could not muster as many as 100 Sabbath school children out of 1500 church members of that district. It is looked upon by many people in the world that the giving of birth to children is degrading, but the killing of their offspring or destroying the fountain of life and breaking the commandments of God are looked upon by this same people as being legitimate and proper. They will come under great condemnation for doing these things.

I rejoice that the Latter-day Saints are faithful to God with regard to their offspring and that instead of 100 children to 1500 members, we can produce between 600 and 700 Sabbath school children for every 1500 members. Let more time and attention be devoted to the proper training of the young and rising generation and God will bless us and them.

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

said: I am happy and thankful to God to meet with so many of the Latter-day Saints tonight. You are engaged in a glorious mission. We have an army of nearly 60,000 immortal souls, noble spirits sent from God and born of goodly parents. Here we have a mighty harvest before us—a large field of work. I feel that Brother Cannon has been spared of the Lord and he has performed a great and a good work in establishing the Sabbath schools in this Territory, as also those associated with him in his labor.

I desire the Presidents of Stakes and the Bishops to interest themselves in this work, and also to assist in building up the Primary organizations and Mutual Improvement Associations, for they all need encouragement. Encourage the sisters who have charge of the Primary organizations. Having charge of the smaller children they need to be sustained in their labors. Take a deep interest in all the organizations in your Stakes and Wards and visit them as often as possible. Minister to all the people in the Church of God as they require.

Now I want to say a word regarding the training of the children of the Latter-day Saints. A question was put to the Prophet Joseph as to the time when the education of children should begin. He said it was at the time when the spirit of life came from God and entered into the tabernacle. That was Joseph Smith's doctrine, and it is mine. Parents are responsible for the proper training of their children. I have a great anxiety con-

cerning the young and rising generation of Zion, for the Kingdom of God has got to rest upon their shoulders; they will have to carry on this work when their fathers and mothers pass into the spirit world. Then let us as parents, Elders, superintendents and teachers prepare them for the great and important mission awaiting them.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON

said: It is very interesting to see so many people turn out on a Sabbath evening to attend this meeting. It gives evidence of the interest in the subject of Sunday schools. I am exceedingly thankful that we have such an organization, and pleased at the results attained. Still, as has been said, we can progress, and this is our mission. The work of the Lord is ever progressing. We are like a city set upon a hill and cannot be hid.

It has been said by some that we will be left to ourselves some day or other in a condition of isolation, but I have not taken that view of the subject. That we have been assailed by the wicked is true. This has been the case from the very beginning, but our institutions are such as to endure the attacks made upon them. And why? Because this is the work of God, and it is designed to remain. It was thought by many that the building of a railroad here would solve the "Mormon" problem, but President Young remarked that it was a poor religion that could not stand one railroad. It would be a poor religion that could not stand many railroads. The Gospel will endure all things. It will withstand saloons and the drunkard, the gambling den and everything brought against it. It will remain intact in the midst of this atmosphere. No rivalry can affect the Church of God. It will stand unmoved in the midst of all things. It is for us to remain true to its principles. Rely on the Lord continually; travel in the path that He has marked out for us, and we need not fear the results.

You who are called to preside over Stakes and Wards, take an extra interest in the institutions and organizations of your districts. Seek to qualify the members for usefulness and fidelity to the cause of truth. Superintendents and teachers of Sunday Schools magnify your callings also, and the blessings of God will attend all your labors.

The choir sang: "Kind and Heavenly Father."

Benediction by Apostle John H. Smith.

LEVI W. RICHARDS,
Clerk.

THE DANDELION.

"Dear common flower, that growest beside the way,
Fringing the dusty road with harmless gold;
'Tis the spring's largesse which she scatters now."

In the course of a morning stroll a few days ago, I found a dandelion flower, lifting its gold head, to catch

the early sun. It was the first of its kind I had observed during the present spring, and I felt to welcome that modest blossom, as I would a returning friend. Glancing then along the sunny hillside slope, I found others; some just bursting from their buds, others in the full pride and enjoyment of their flowery prime, and yet others with whitened locks and ripened seed.

I plucked a few of the flowers, in each of the conditions named, and forthwith opened a conversation with them, in the language which Nature understands so well—that of careful observation.

A word first, however, in regard to the name by which the plant is known to us. The word "dandelion," is in reality a changed form of the French expression *dent de lion*, meaning literally, lion's tooth; and this same idea is conveyed in the German name for the plant, *Löwenzahn*. These titles have reference, without doubt, to the peculiar shape of the leaves. Each leaf, as can be seen, is of an elongated form, the margins are deeply cut, the lobes being inclined backward (Fig. 1), with a supposed resemblance to the dental projections of the king of beasts.



Fig. 1. Dandelion Leaf.

These tooth-like lobes are not without their use; though perhaps we have not learned to recognize such in its fulness. I have frequently found a dandelion growing amongst grasses and other plants much taller than itself, with many chances seemingly of its being overshadowed by its taller neighbors, to the total exclusion of sunlight. However, in such a case, when the grass stalks are blown by the wind against the dandelion, the tooth-like hooks on the leaves, catch it, and thus prevent its return, compelling it to assist in holding up the leaf to the sunshine.

The dandelion possesses the characteristic of being able to compete successfully with its rivals, and to adapt itself to circumstances. Ob-