

Prophet as before. As they had been organized by him, so they continued, and at no time have the quorums of the Priesthood been disorganized. Wherein is the claim, then, justified? Did He reject His Church because the Prophet and his brother sealed their testimonies with their blood? Should it be a cause for disorganizing the Church, that the people were driven away from their homes and had their houses burned, and their temple taken from them? The answer is self-evident. They showed themselves brave and true; they continued with the work of the temple until they could go into it, and receive their promised blessings. When persecution raged and they were driven forth they had to leave the temple, but they did not give up the Gospel. Perhaps there were not so many members in some of the quorums, for there were men who, too cowardly to share the trials of the Saints went away, and were not willing to bear the burden and the heat of the day, and follow the Church. The Lord, however, blessed His Saints and led them to this land. When they came here, they had not forgotten that they owed a duty to the people of the whole world to preach the restored Gospel to them, and in a year or so missionaries were sent forth to the different nations upon the earth. We thank the Lord that these men came to the countries where we lived, and brought the light of the Gospel, which gave us peace in our souls, and the testimony that God had revealed Himself in our day. You can bear that testimony with me. We thank the Lord for the administration of President Young and his brethren the apostles.

When the First Presidency was

organized by them, it was done according to the pattern set by the Prophet himself. The Church has been organized in the way that God intended; and it has never needed any reorganization, because it has never been disorganized, even through the darkest days of the expulsion and drivings.

I thank the Lord that I am a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I pray that I may be faithful to the covenants I have made with Him; and I ask that His blessings may rest upon all present and upon all Israel, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER SEYMOUR B. YOUNG.

My brethren and sisters, I desire very much that you will assist me by praying for me, and that I may be enabled to make you hear, during the short time that I shall occupy. President Smith has invited me to say a few words, and I will endeavor to do so. I will begin by saying that I endorse, very heartily, the vote that was taken for the suppression of the drinking habit and the sale of alcoholic drinks, in the communities of the Latter-day Saints. To show that I am not illiberal at all, I wish the same unanimity of spirit could be shown in every community wherever there is a Christian settlement established. I am willing that the Catholic Church, the Methodist Church, the Episcopal Church, the Quakers, the Shakers, the Congregationalists, the Campbellites and all other ites, and all other denominations claiming to have the Christian religion and faith, I am willing that they should show their loyalty to the cause of right and to the spread of the prin-

ciples of temperance, and vote as you voted here, day before yesterday, for the suppression of the vice of the drunkard; and also for the establishment of more definite rules enjoining upon this people, and every other people, the observance of the Sabbath day. I have seen, with a very great deal of dissatisfaction, for the last two or three years, in this our beloved city of Salt Lake, the teams and men employed by the City of Salt Lake, working, driving, plowing and scraping, placing down pavement in these streets on the Sabbath day, working as vigorously on that day as on any other day in the week. I am also reminded now that I have seen the saloons, that have been licensed by other influences than the "Mormon" people, running night and day, Sunday and week days alike, ready to receive the wayward man or foolish person within those drinking dens, and there administer the cup that inebriates, and that destroys the soul. When I voted with you on this question, and lifted my voice as loud as I could, that I might at least hear my own expression on the subject, I believed with all my heart that you voted as I did, sincerely, and with the hope that your influence, from this time, would be felt from one end of the land to the other. As it is a fact that you brethren and sisters here assembled on that day, and on the days subsequent, are a representative body of this great people, I am satisfied that the influence of that vote will be carried to all of our organizations.

I rejoice today, my brethren and sisters, when I remember the opening remarks of President Smith; and I hope we will all follow his instructions. He called our attention to the extensive neglect of the

people to observe that law, that commandment which the Lord gave for the preservation of His people, that will give them length of years, and spiritual as well as physical strength; for in the act of obedience to this great commandment we are insured these blessings of the Lord. I know by my own experience that when I have endeavored, with what little ability I have, to exemplify His word and keep His commandments, I have realized a direct answer to my prayers, and have felt within my soul that the Lord had been kind and merciful to me, because I had shown a willingness to do His will; and I know that is the experience of the Elders as they go out into the nations of the earth. They speak with power and with strength because they feel that they are on the Lord's business, that they are preaching His Gospel, that they are exemplars of the life that He has designed they should live. While I apply this word of commendation to our Elders, I apply it likewise to our brethren in their local capacities, as presidents of stakes, as bishops of wards. The most successful officers in the Church are those who live closest to the Lord. This we see exemplified in these great gatherings, for we do know that our brethren who preside over us are devoted to the work of the Lord, and are determined to magnify the holy calling which has been laid upon them. They are exemplary in their lives, and we see it evidenced. When they stand before the people to proclaim the word of the Lord unto us, we know that it comes from their hearts which are pure and clean before Him.

I rejoice to be able to bear this testimony to you today, my brethren and sisters. I rejoice in being

here in this great congregation of the saints. These are gatherings long to be remembered; they will be historic forever. The words that come from our President, and other leaders, will be remembered; they will be recorded for us and our children to read in the future. I refer to the record of these great gatherings of annual and semi-annual conferences.

My brethren and sisters, there are many things that need reforming. There is a very good chance for every Elder in Israel to preach the Gospel, not only abroad in the nations but at home, by the firesides of the people, in the streets, upon the sidewalk. Wherever we travel we generally find an opportunity to correct evil, and we should do so in a mild spirit, even the spirit of our Lord and Savior; not rail against evil but kindly call the attention of the trespasser to the fact that he is not aligned with the Spirit of the Gospel. As Jesus taught, let us forgive our enemies, and always lend a helping hand to our neighbors. He said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and thy neighbor as thyself." Sometimes we find it difficult to love some of our neighbors' actions. During the history of this people, we have seen times and experiences wherein we could not endorse the actions of our neighbors; yet if they will repent of their sins, and receive the Gospel, we will gladly offer them, in the name of Jesus, salvation and redemption. This is the duty and calling of every Latter-day Saint Elder.

I pray the Lord to bless our leaders, and to bless the people all the day long, that He will give us hearts to understand and a determination to carry out the will of the

Lord, and to fulfill His purposes in our creation, that we may inherit eternal life, with our loved ones and with all the saints, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Sweet Spirit, hear my prayer," was sung by Sister Claribel Gardner.

Patriarch John Smith.

It is with peculiar feelings, my brethren and sisters, that I stand before you on this occasion. I have listened attentively to the remarks which have been made during this conference, and I can indorse every sentiment, every word, and bear testimony that the sayings we have listened to have come from the right source; they have been given to us through the whisperings of the Good Spirit with which our Father in Heaven has inspired those who have spoken to us. I say to the people I trust that these instructions will sink deep into their hearts, and that they may profit thereby.

I can bear testimony to the truth of this work. I bear you my testimony that Joseph Smith was the prophet of the living God, and that through his labors and the gifts which came from the Father, this work has been thus far established, and that his successors have been in the true path, that they have worked and labored for the furtherance of the cause of truth. They have been men of God, prophets, seers, and revelators and their teachings have been just and true, I can also bear testimony to the guidance of the Spirit of the Lord in many ways, for myself individually. On