

brethren and sisters, that reforms will never be accomplished until you strike at the *root* of the evil, and make it impossible, under the law, for these things to exist.

God bless you; keep us in the way of virtue, rectitude and righteousness, I ask, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### PATRIARCH JOHN SMITH.

My brethren and sisters: I am pleased to be with you on this occasion. I always feel best when in the line and discharge of duty, but it is with peculiar feelings that I stand before you here today, because, as I have said so often, preaching is not my forte.

I bear testimony that I have listened attentively to all that has been said during the conference thus far, and I can indorse every word that has been uttered. I ask God our Father to let His blessings rest upon us, His people; that we may profit by what we have learned during this conference; that when we return to our homes we shall go in peace, remembering the instructions and striving diligently to carry out the same; that we may live according to the laws of our heavenly Father and keep His commandments, that we may be worthy of His blessings.

All Latter-day Saints have certain duties to perform; and, in so doing, if they will follow the promptings of that still small voice, they will never err in their judgments, but will be able to fulfill their missions in that way and manner that shall be pleasing to our heavenly Father.

I ask God that His blessings may rest upon us, that He may guide us

in the true path, qualify us for every duty, that when we have finished our course here we may be worthy of the blessings which He has promised us, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Sister Erma Pendleton sang the soprano solo, "The Lord is my Light."

#### ELDER BRIGHAM H. ROBERTS.

These conference days are rather anxious times, I believe, for at least two classes of people: those who, in the ordinary course of things, may be expected to address the conference, and those who have to listen to them. I am sure I do not know which suffers most. A very long time ago we had a Bishopric in the ward where I lived, and the Bishop, as perhaps is fitting for a Bishop, was not particularly gifted in giving expression to his thought—he was not a "preaching Bishop;" and he had a counselor who had pretty much the same kind of a gift. However, there were occasions when both of them were under the necessity of speaking in the ward meeting; and one day, in conversation with the counselor upon this subject, he confidentially imparted to me the information that he really did not know which distressed him most—to try to say something himself or listen to the Bishop try to say it. I have been living, the past few days, in the fancied security that it was not likely that I would be called upon to speak during this conference; but since the brethren have desired it, I feel honored in being called upon to address you. I most earnestly pray that I may be given right inspirations, and may say only those