

early, and where they commence in early life to serve Him regularly. It comes so natural for them when they are taught by their parents and led by the example of their parents and the spirit of the Lord. For His Spirit is conferred upon them early in life; it is about the first thing they are entitled to receive—the Spirit of the Lord, at the hands of His servants, when they start life. Jesus Himself set this example, for in His day the little children were brought to Him, and He took them in His arms and blest them, that they should have favor and fellowship with the Lord, and receive His assistance in their infancy. He arranged to have them taken care of, that Satan should never be able to carry off little children, but that they should be preserved and redeemed by His blood and offering. We must become like them; we must be led by the Spirit of the Lord; we must be entitled to forgiveness and have freedom from sin and transgression. We have a big struggle in this life, but our obligation and undertaking with the Lord has been to serve Him until the end of our mortal days. Let us try to do that, or, rather, let us do it! Let us have faith that we can do it, and then there will be no serious difficulty, for it is easier and better to be saved than it is to be damned. Of course, it is a downhill road, I suppose, to be damned; and an up-hill road to be saved; but it is easier and better to travel up-hill than down-hill in sin and transgression. Let us serve the Lord and honor Him; let us set a good example to the world, that they may find among us the most temperate and practical people that there are to be found—in business matters, in spir-

itual matters, in Church matters. Let us preach the Gospel to the world; let us serve the Lord and live according to our professions. Let us keep the Sabbath day holy, and do all the things that He has commanded, that we may be entitled to enjoy from the Lord the gifts of the Holy Ghost. That is the exhortation that I feel to present to this great gathering of Latter-day Saints on this occasion. I believe it is good doctrine for our friends as well. The way has been prepared, and the Lord has so arranged that all who serve Him and keep His commandments shall know the doctrine. They shall see His face and know that He is. We shall all know the Father and the Son, through our devotion and faithfulness to the end of this mortal life of ours. Let me so exhort you, my brethren and sisters, and pray that God may bless and lead us gently in the ways of righteousness and truth. Let us sin no more, for it is not necessary, and it is quite possible for us to do just what is right. I trust we may do so and enjoy the outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord abundantly, in all our labors and ministry at home and throughout the world, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Elder Horace S. Ensign, and the choir, sang, "Hosannah."

#### **ELDER JOHN HENRY SMITH.**

"Back to the farm," a cry of present importance.—Abundance of excellent farm lands in Utah and adjoining states.—Patriotism a result of life on the farm.—The farm home should be made attractive and comfortable.—The evil of drifting from place to place.

There is a Latin proverb which says, that "the gods sell everything for work." In the instructions that were given us this morning, by our brethren of the First Presidency, the impression made upon my mind was that it is their desire that the Latter-day Saints should continue to be a people esteemed and honored for their industry in the development and uplifting of the region which they occupy. Realizing the necessity that exists everywhere in the world for the maintenance of employment, the opening up of industries, the establishment and building of homes, I felt, in listening to the remarks that were made to us, that we should wisely and prudently look around upon the right hand and upon the left, in every section of the land we occupy, and ask ourselves the question: Are we maintaining the standard that was set in the early commencement of our homes in this western land? We are not only anxious in regard to this problem of the maintenance within our borders of the evidences of industry, but also the changing of the current from gathering, too largely, of the inhabitants of the land into the larger cities. It is a question that is deeply interesting thinking men everywhere within the confines of our great Republic. "Back to the farm!" is the cry that is emanating from the press, the pulpit, and from the lips of thoughtful and prudent statesmen wherever they congregate together.

The recent gathering, in the city of Chicago, of what is known as the National Farm Land Congress, presented this slogan, "Back to the Farm," with an appeal to residents in those great centers of popula-

tion to make an effort to change the feeling and sentiment that has been established in the minds of thousands, that the only place to secure a home is within the confines of some great city. Every state that was represented in that congress—and there were many of them—came and presented their claims, each showing that the particular section named was a fit and proper place to open up new homes, and secure opportunities for the establishment of men and women upon the soil. While listening to the reasonings and arguments that were made by representative men of every section of the land, I was very much pleased to hear them declare that within the confines of their states were most wonderful opportunities. Some of them stated they had come from localities where there is an abundance of rainfall to produce crops, and some from sections that possess large opportunities to secure ample water for irrigation. Some of the places were, indeed, described as veritable gardens of Eden, possessing everything that the heart could desire, as explained by the representatives of those sections of the country. The feeling and sentiment expressed was that more thought should be given to this problem of the opening up of farms, and the leading of the people to believe that the opportunities for comfort and wealth are more largely in that direction than any other within the confines of the great Republic.

We have ample opportunities within our own state of Utah, as well as the adjacent states, if we will but apply the spirit of industry and determination in working out these problems connected with the

building of new homes. People who crowd into cities and live in rented homes, who are subject to every little change in the character of their employment, and who find themselves, in a great measure, the slaves of their fellow-men, can not be fully patriotic and devoted to their country. The man who lays his foundation upon the basis of the soil, builds his home, increases its comforts, enlarges his acres, and increases the cattle, horses, and sheep necessary to stock his homestead properly, soon finds himself among the independent ones in the world. When the people of any nation shall stay by its farms, maintain and develop them along proper lines, you will find in that nation the most patriotic, devoted, and earnest men that can be found anywhere in the world. There is a saying, that any man will defend his homestead with his gun, that would not stand by a boarding house to protect it with his life.

Looking into these matters, we should weigh them thoughtfully and prudently. Nearly every man under the sound of my voice is naturally a statesman. You have had experience in the practical things of life. You have noted changes that have arisen in some of the neighborhoods with which you are acquainted. Boys have gradually drifted away; and as you look around among the homes of the people, you discover there has been little improvement in that home where, in former times, the father had established himself and made a nice little start in the world, to provide for the wants and needs of those that were dependent upon him. The boys have drifted away into other sections. The father has

remained upon the little farm, but age has come upon him, and the ability to care for it, to cultivate it and make it support himself and any that might be dependent upon him, has in great measure passed away. The fences are down; there has been no paint upon the buildings; the furnishings of the home are, in many instances, virtually broken in pieces. The spot that was sacred to the children, in their boyhood and girlhood days, no longer possesses the attraction that was there when the little home was neatly painted, and when the furnishings therein, though they may have been of a cheap character, afforded comfort, and there was a degree of independence, and the spirit of love abode within that sacred citadel.

My brethren and sisters, in the problems that confront us as a people, we should look to the maintenance and beautifying of these growing villages as the best part of our land. I recognize the fact that young men are gradually drifting away from the land, and that the homes of the older ones are lacking that attention, care and thought that should be bestowed upon them. I believe that, in most instances, these homes, under the guardianship of an active, earnest, industrious son, could be maintained, and bring to him better results than would come to him in his efforts in other places. The spirit of restlessness, concerning which the President spoke to us this morning, is very much to be regretted. I have found men in Mexico; I have seen them subsequently in Arizona; then I have met them in Colorado; I have been in their companionship in Wyoming; and I have found them with their teams beyond the borders

in Canada. I have known them to leave Canada, afterward, and I have seen them in Oregon. A little later I have found them in northern California; and later you would find them again on the borders of Mexico, in Arizona, wending their way back into that southern land. As suggested in the remarks of our President, this restless spirit, this feeling and sentiment should be discouraged, and we should restrain ourselves from this species of action. His remarks should make the deepest impression upon our minds.

To the east of us, on the borders of Green River, is a section of country as good as can be found anywhere in the world. It has ample water, and after a few years of toil, sacrifice and struggle, the men who shall establish themselves there will find that they are in the line of independence. To the south, to the north, to the west, and to the east of us are sections of country which, if properly developed and cultivated, would soon make the men and women thus engaged independent in every sense of the word.

My brothers and my sisters, I plead with you to keep in view this thought of the beautifying and maintenance of these homes, the building of other homes, holding our children, as far as it is possible for us to do so, within the confines of our own section of country. Let us impress upon their minds devotion, regard and love for that liberty, for the maintenance of that patriotism, that comes from a love of the soil, a love of the liberty that is enjoyed upon the soil, and the love that one can have in the companionship of the free men and the free women who live and labor thereon. God bless you. Amen.

The hymn, "Oh, give me back my Prophet dear," was rendered as a quartet by James Moncarr, H. J. Christensen, David M. Burt, and A. E. Braby.

### ELDER HEBER J. GRANT.

Manufactures in Utah should be loyally sustained,—Evidences of superiority of Utah-made woollen cloths.—Illustrations of financial advantages in purchasing home-made goods.—Three hundred and fifty factories in Utah prepared to supply demand.

I have been very deeply interested in the remarks that I have heard during this conference. I earnestly desire that the time I may occupy shall be for our mutual benefit.

From my childhood, I have been interested in home manufactures, and I was very pleased with the remarks of our President on this subject. So far as I may have the ability, I am anxious to make an impression upon the minds of my hearers today, that when they shall return home, from this conference, they will do so with a determination that in the future they will be more loyal in sustaining and building up our manufacturing institutions than they have been in the past. From the time that I was a boy of sixteen, until the factory closed, with only two or three exceptions, I never wore a suit of clothes that was not made of cloth manufactured at Provo. I purchased a suit, once, while in California for six months, as my clothes became the least little bit shabby. I paid more than twice as much for it as I would have paid for a Provo Woollen Mills suit, and I was ashamed of it at the end of four months, and gave it away. I have worn many a suit