

## Poetry.

(For the DESERET NEWS.)

## OUR MISSIONARIES.

Ye heralds of joy, be swift in your quest  
Of the honest and meek abroad in the world;  
Let them drink from the stream whose fount's  
in the west,

Where the banner of honor and truth is un-  
furled.

The scorn of the wicked is powerless to hurt  
you,

Their snares, their devices are impotent too,  
While bearing the armor of truth, right and  
virtue,

With the watch-word of duty forever in view.

Though slandering hypocrites tauntingly boast  
Their opponents are nothing but ignorant  
youth,

Yet in wisdom and power they shall find you a  
host,

If your trust be in God, and your motto: "The  
Truth."

Press onward to action, united, yet meek,  
And the prayers of all Israel to Heav'n will  
ascend,

That your efforts to aid the oppressed and the  
weak

Be rewarded by Him whose great cause ye  
defend. J. H. M.

THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO  
UTAH COUNTY.AMERICAN FORK,  
Friday, August 22, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

Dear Brother:—This morning at 9 o'clock President Brigham Young, accompanied by Elders Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff and Geo. Q. Cannon of the Twelve Apostles; Joseph Young, of the First Presidency of the Seventies; Geo. D. Watt Reporter; and T. B. H. Stenhouse, Editor of *Daily Telegraph*, left Great Salt Lake City to visit settlements in the south, intending to proceed as far south as Payson, spending Saturday and Sunday in Provo when the Provo new meeting house will be dedicated. After a pleasant drive through Great Salt Lake County, being sprinkled by refreshing showers, we were welcomed by Bishop Harrington at his house in American Fork at about twenty minutes past one, where we found, as usual, an abundance of feed both for man and beast.

At a quarter past three p.m. we met the assembled Saints under an extensive and substantial bowery. In addition to the above named persons I notice on the stand Bishop Edward Hunter, also br. H. E. Bowring. Meeting called to order by Bishop Harrington, when strains, soft and sweet, burst from the American Fork choir. Prayer was offered up by Elder Geo. Q. Cannon. After another hymn, beautifully sung, President Joseph Young arose and addressed the meeting. I should judge that there is present at this meeting two thousand persons. Agricultural, mechanical and household duties are suspended, and the great majority of the men and women and children of this Ward are here to worship the Lord and to listen to the teachings and counsels of His servants. Pres. Joseph Young spoke about thirty minutes. Elder John Taylor took a seat on the stand at the close of br. Joseph's remarks.

Elders O. Pratt and Wilford Woodruff addressed the meeting; when Bishop Harrington gave notice that there would be a meeting in the meeting house at 7 o'clock in the evening. The American Fork choir and brass band were requested to attend the Provo meeting to-morrow and Sunday. Anthem by the choir, and meeting dismissed by Elder John Taylor. Music by the brass band.

7 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Bishop Harrington. Singing by the choir. Prayer offered by G. D. Watt. There were present on the stand of the traveling company, Elders Orson Pratt, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, George Q. Cannon, Bishop E. Hunter, Pres. Joseph Young, Bishop A. M. Musser and Elder Stenhouse. Pres. Jos. Young, Elder Geo. Q. Cannon and Bishop Edward Hunter addressed the meeting. Bishop Harrington congratulated the Saints of American Fork on the benefit they had received this afternoon and evening by the visit of the President and his friends, and the good instructions they had received. Singing by choir, and benediction by A. M. Musser.

Saturday, Aug. 24.

At 6 o'clock this morning the President and company were on the road traveling towards Provo. After a beautiful drive we reached a Provo bridge, which the river in one of its curious freaks has badly used, and then left in disdain, moving its channel thirty or forty rods to the south; we discovered a small remnant of one of the abutments of another bridge, which appears to be in the middle of an old channel. We were preceded into Provo City by a mounted escort in uniform, and by the strains of a good brass band, and a martial band. Elder Orson Hyde, from Sanpete, standing in the street hat in hand, bowed his welcome. The schools were out in their best, all seeming delighted to greet the President and his friends. When we approached opposite the Provo new meeting-house, we passed beneath a triumphal arch, with mottoes of welcome extending across it. Among these tokens of welcome, I would add another quite as cheering to us, suggesting as it did an abundance of creature comforts awaiting, I refer to the portly proportions of Bishop William Miller standing at his gate ready to guide us into good quarters. His hospitable smile made us feel easy and at home. The bell in the spire of the new house rang out its welcome; and I must say that I liked its tone; memories of other days were awakened, and we thanked God for a prophet's voice and a home among the mountains and valleys of Utah. Here we met Elder Geo. A. Smith.

At the usual hour of meeting the people, at the call of the bell, began to crowd the new meeting-house until it was filled to its utmost capacity. A description of this house I will furnish hereafter.

Meeting called to order by Pres. B. Young, who remarked that this house should have been built twelve years ago, and now it was entirely too small. "We will dedicate the house, and then when it is necessary we will repair to the Bowery to continue our services." The singing was grand, led by James E. Daniels; aided by the rich tones of a cabinet organ, played by Mrs. A. H. Noon. The President requested the congregation to be devotional in their spirits, to close their eyes, and concentrate their thoughts, and raise their hearts to God while the dedication prayer should be offered up. Elder John Taylor offered up the following

## DEDICATORY PRAYER.

O God the Eternal Father, in the name of Thy Son Jesus Christ, we approach Thee, to offer up our prayers, our praises and our thanksgivings unto Thee.

Thy servants, who reside in this place, have after many years, built this house unto Thee, as a place of worship; a house of prayer; a place for Thy people to assemble in; to speak, and to hear Thy word, and to worship Thee. And as all of our works, ought to be performed with an eye single to Thy glory, and the building up of Thy kingdom on the earth; and as we are dependent upon Thee O Lord for Thy care, oversight, protection and blessings, whether they pertain to this life, or the life that is to come: Thy servant Brigham and his brethren, at the request of our brethren of this place, have come here, for the purpose of dedicating and consecrating this house unto Thee, and its surroundings, and of asking Thee to bless the authorities that preside over Thy saints in this place, and all of Thy people who dwell here, and all that shall worship in this house.

Bless, therefore, we pray Thee, Thy servant Brigham, that he may be filled with the Holy Ghost and the power of God, as Thy representative; that the spirit of his calling and priesthood may rest upon him; that the light and intelligence of heaven may beam upon his mind; and that he being filled with the light of life may be enabled to administer in this, and all the functions of the holy priesthood, as Thy representative upon the earth: As the Apostle and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Bless Thy servant Heber, and thy servant Daniel with the same blessings: may they, bound together by the bonds of eternal love; by the power of the everlasting priesthood, and the love of God, form a phalanx of wisdom, union, power, love, integrity, virtue and brotherhood, that the refulgent rays of light, life and intelligence flowing from Thee to them, may serve as a beacon to Thy saints, to lead them in the pathway of life and to the city of our God.

Bless Thy servants, the Twelve Apostles; fill them with the spirit and office of their holy callings and apostleship; preserve them from error and evil; fill them with the Holy Ghost and the spirit of wisdom and testimony, that in union with themselves, they may also be co-workers and fellow-laborers with Thy servants of the first presidency, in building up Thy Church and kingdom on the earth.

Bless the High Councils of Zion, and of her stakes, and let the spirit of wisdom, judgment, mercy, integrity and righteousness dwell with them. Bless the High Priests, the Seventies, the Elders, the Priests, Teachers and Deacons; may they all be under Thy guidance and dictation and magnify their priesthood and calling.

We pray Thee especially to bless the Bishops, with their President; give unto them wisdom and discernment, patience, integrity, and the love of the truth; help them to act with a single eye to Thy glory and the promotion of good, holy and virtuous principles; that they may be patterns to their flocks, and lead them in the paths of righteousness.

Bless the Bishops of this place, and all who have assisted them in building this house; even Thy saints; and inasmuch as they have contributed of their substance, with a free will, to

erect this building, let them be blessed in their habitations, in their fields, flocks and herds; bless them with the spirit of the gospel, and the light of life. Bless Thy people, even this large assembly, who have met here from their various neighbourhoods, to be present at, and assist in dedicating this house unto Thee; Let Thy Spirit and power O God rest down upon us, and let our hearts be made joyful with Thy presence. Inspire us in our prayers, and teachings, and hearing; in our music and singing; forgive our sins we pray Thee, O Lord, and let our supplication ascend as holy incense before Thee.

Now, O Lord! our Heavenly Father, as we receive all from Thee, so would we give all to Thee; in Thee we live, we move, and from Thee we derive our being; and to Thee we consecrate ourselves, and all that we have, for Thou art our Father. We therefore dedicate and consecrate this house unto Thee; from the foundation to the topstone; that it may be a place in which Thy Spirit shall dwell; that no unholiness nor impurity may be associated therewith; but, that it may be holy and sanctified unto Thee.

Bless the ground, we pray thee, upon which it is built; or that is connected therewith; may it be sanctified unto the Lord our God, as holy ground; consecrated and set apart to His service; and for building a house upon for His worship. Bless the land composing this square; also the land of the Tithing square, and the land of this city, included in the city plots; and the whole of this valley we consecrate and dedicate it to thee. Bless we pray thee the house, in all its parts, that is built or rests upon this ground; bless the foundation stones thereof, and all of the stone wall, that composes the foundation; together with the lime, the sand, the lime and clay of which the mortar is composed, that bind it together; bless also the columns, and their bases and caps, that are placed in the foundation, or basement, to support the building.

We ask Thee also to bless the adobies of which the upper part of the building is built; and the sand, clay and lime, composing the mortar, which bind them together: as well the body of the house, as the porch or place whereon the tower rests; the vestry and all parts of the building.

Bless also the beams, the joists, the columns, the flooring, the lintels, and all the wood-work pertaining thereto; including the beams and binders, that compose, or sustain the tower. Bless also, the plates, the rafters and beams that sustain the roof; and all the ties and fastenings thereof; together with the sheeting and the shingles; the tin, zinc or other material used upon the roof or tower; the ball and vane that rests upon the top of the tower; the bell and its fastenings, and everything pertaining thereto.

Bless also the door frames and their casings, and the doors thereof; together with the hinges, locks and fastenings. We ask Thee also; to bless the windows, and their frames, and casings; and the sash, the glass and the putty, wherewith they are fastened; and all the binding and fastenings pertaining thereto.

Bless also the floors of this building, and the boards of which they are composed, and the nails with which they are fastened, and all the nails used for other purposes. Bless the joists that sustain the ceiling, and the lath and nails, that fasten them to the joists; and the mortar of which the plastering is composed; and bless the studding, the plastering or cement, whether inside or outside of the building; the facade, with the steps, cornice, and all ornaments of stone, wood, plaster, cement or metal; whether inside or outside of the house, or on the tower. Bless the gallery, with the seats thereof, and the stairs that lead to it; and the porch or vestibule; the columns that sustain the gallery and all the beams and fastenings connected therewith.

Bless the stand which is erected for Thy Priesthood; the timber of which it is composed; the seats and everything pertaining to it. Bless also the seats throughout the house, whether above or below; that are placed there for the comfort of Thy people; and bless the paint, the varnish, the carpets, curtains, chandeliers, lamps and everything that is placed for the convenience and comfort of Thy saints, or the beauty of this building. We Thy servants, O Lord, dedicate and consecrate all unto Thee, and we dedicate ourselves and this people and this land unto Thee.

And now O Lord we pray Thee to let Thy blessing rest upon this house; upon Thy people who are assembled here; and upon all who shall assemble in this house to worship Thee. Let the peace and blessing of God abide in this place; and when Thy servants the Holy Priesthood shall arise, in this stand, to declare Thy word, let them be full of the Holy Ghost and the power of God; and administer the words of life. And when thy people shall assemble in this house to hear Thy word, to pray, or call upon Thy name, let Thy blessing, our Father, rest upon them, and Thy spirit enlighten their minds; and show unto them the beauties of Thy law, and the blessings of the everlasting gospel. And when thine elders shall gather together to call upon Thy name, in the order that Thou hast appointed, then hear Thou O Lord their prayers, according to Thy mercy and loving kindness, and answer their petitions.

We ask these blessings, with the forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Singing. President B. Young addressed the meeting, requesting the congregation to make themselves as comfortable as possible, during the services of this morning; and in the afternoon the congregation will repair to the Bowery. Pres. Joseph Young arose and gave out a hymn, which the choir sang to a tune named by himself, that they evidently had not practiced upon. Elder Orson Hyde spoke about 5 minutes; Elder Orson Pratt spoke about 20 minutes; singing by Spanish Fork choir. Elder John Taylor spoke a short time. Singing by Provo choir. Elder Wilford Woodruff spoke about 10 minutes. Singing by Spanish Fork choir. George A. Smith and Geo. Q. Cannon each spoke briefly, when, after singing "Happy souls who pray," &c., the meeting was dismissed by Elder Geo. Q. Cannon.

Bowery, 2 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Pres. B. Young. Singing by the American Fork choir. Prayer offered by G. D. Watt. Singing by Spanish Fork choir. After

which Elders Geo. Q. Cannon, Geo. A. Smith, Wilford Woodruff and Bishop Edward Hunter addressed the meeting.

The authorities of this district were presented before the assembly by Elder George Q. Cannon, and the following were unanimously sustained, namely, Bishop William Miller, with his counselors, Elders Isaac Bullock and Geo. W. Bean, as the presidency of this stake of Zion; Aaron Johnson, Simmons P. Curtis, Stephen M. Farnsworth, William O. Spurry, John Leetham, John H. Carter, Benj. K. Bullock, James E. Daniels, L. John Nuttall, Wm. A. Follett, Joseph Clark, and Geo. M. Brown, as the High Counsel.

Elder George A. Smith announced a priesthood meeting this evening at seven o'clock, in the new meeting-house. Meeting adjourned until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock, and was dismissed by T. B. H. Stenhouse. The different choirs sang alternately between each speaker.

7 p.m.

Provo brass band played a tune in the gallery; when Pres. B. Young called the meeting to order. Singing; and prayer offered by Elder Orson Hyde. Pres. Joseph Young, and Pres. B. Young addressed the congregation. After singing "Hard times come again no more," the meeting was dismissed by Pres. B. Young.

Sunday, 25th, 10 a.m.

Music by brass band, meeting called to order by Pres. B. Young; singing by the Spanish Fork choir. Elders John Taylor and Orson Pratt, addressed the meeting. Benediction by Geo. Q. Cannon.

1 p.m.

After thirty minutes intermission meeting again assembled. Singing by Wilford Woodruff, Geo. Q. Cannon and Geo. D. Watt. Prayer offered up by Geo. D. Watt. Singing by Spanish Fork choir. The sacrament was administered. Elder Orson Hyde spoke for some time, imparting excellent counsel to the people on the subjects that had been introduced during the meetings. Elder Watt spoke very interestingly, expressing the determination to take his share of the obligations resting upon the young men in Israel. He alluded to the poverty of the Saints in England and reminded those here of the petitions of the poor. President Young addressed the meeting, when it was dismissed by George A. Smith.

In 1852 there was a move made by the people of Provo towards building a meeting house. A foundation was laid on the top of the ground for a small house. At a general meeting President B. Young advised them to build a substantial house, one that would be a credit to the place, and he proposed to supply a plan, which has been worked to with but a few slight variations. Br. Geo. A. Smith brought the plan down to the brethren who were residents in Provo at that time, but it was not favorably received by many of them, because of its being so much like a Presbyterian meeting house, and because there was not, as they supposed, material in the country to erect and finish such a house. In 1853 the work could not be prosecuted in consequence of an Indian war, and the matter rested until about the year 1856. Then by the advice of Pres. Young, the foundation of this house was commenced, and from year to year various interruptions have retarded the work; but still the people proceeded with it gradually and surely to its accomplishment. It has been impossible to get the stones out for the steps in consequence of the destruction of the road in Spanish Fork Cañon, with which, when obtained and put in their places, the house will be entirely completed.

The Provo Meeting House is situated on the bench lying east of the older portions of the city. Its dimensions are 81 by 47; the ceiling is 24 feet from the floor; the pulpit is situated on the south end of the building, and is 9 feet high from the floor, entered on each side by two pair of winding stairs. It is lighted by a high deep window which is crowned by a handsome Elizabethan gothic cornice. The galleries which extend around three sides of the house average eight feet from the lower floor. The organ and singers are situated in the gallery on the north, opposite the pulpit. It will comfortably seat eleven hundred persons, and, by using the passages, fifteen hundred. The height of the tower is eighty feet from the ridge of the roof, of an octagon form, crowned with a dome, vane and ball. The bell,