

them; and the few that accept the literal meaning of God's word, and confess him and acknowledge him in all things, do it at the risk of their reputation, and some of them, even of their rights as American citizens. What the result of all this will be is already written; and it will come to pass as sure as the Lord hath spoken it.

I rejoice in the Gospel of the Son of God as he has revealed it in this our day; I rejoice in the organization of the church and kingdom of God, and in the revelations of hea-

ven. I read them with a great deal of interest, for I know they are true; and, therefore, I look forward with assurance to their fulfillment in the earth. We have but a little time to spend on earth even though we live to be a hundred years of age, and we have no time to waste. We should live in such a manner that the Spirit and blessing of God may attend us; and then when we cease our labors here we shall pass hence to continue them in the same cause of salvation and redemption, and all will be well with us. Amen.

**THE LAST DISPENSATION—THE SAINTS' RELIGION
PRACTICAL—HOSTILITY TO GOD'S WORK—DIVISIONS IN
SECTARIAN CHURCHES—UNITY OF THE SAINTS—EARLY
HISTORY OF UTAH—"MORMON" THRIFT AND
ENTERPRISE—THE ONE-MAN POWER—GOD'S PEOPLE A
FREE PEOPLE—INCREASE OF CORRUPTION—THE
SAINTS HOPEFUL.**

DISCOURSE BY APOSTLE ERASTUS SNOW, DELIVERED AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,
SALT LAKE CITY, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 7, 1882.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

I regard the mission of the Latter-day Saints as the most important that has fallen to the lot of man because we, as the people of God, live in the most important period of the world's age—the dispensation of the fulness of times, in which the God of heaven has set his hand a second time to recover his people, the house of Israel; to lay the foun-

— dation of the fulfillment of the promises made to the fathers through Moses and the Prophets, and to bring to pass the covenants made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and those made with Joseph the son of Jacob, concerning his seed. The Book of Mormon gives a brief history of a portion of the house of Joseph who came to this