

PERSECUTION FULFILLING PROPHECY—VERMONT, THE BIRTHPLACE OF PROMINENT "MORMONS" AND THEIR OPPRESSORS—THE FAITH AND INTEGRITY OF THE SAINTS TO BE TESTED—PEACE AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE A PECULIAR CHARACTERISTIC—IN TIME OF TROUBLE TRUST IN GOD, "WATCH THE CAPTAIN"—THE ACTS OF THE UTAH COMMISSIONERS—GOD'S OVERRULING POWER AND WISDOM—A GREAT WORK REQUIRES GREAT SACRIFICE—NON-PERFORMANCE OF DUTY NO CAUSE FOR SELF-GRATULATION—MAN'S PENALTIES MORE ENDURABLE THAN GOD'S—THE TRUE SAVIORS OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS—BETTER TO DISOBEY MAN THAN GOD—THE DANGER OF DISOBEDIENCE, OF DIVERSE TEMPORAL INTERESTS AND CLASS DISTINCTIONS—ALL GOD'S GIFTS INTENDED FOR THE GENERAL BENEFIT AND BLESSING.

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE, SALT LAKE CITY, SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 8, 1882.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

We assemble together in the capacity of a conference for the purpose of being taught concerning our duties as Latter-day Saints, as members of the Church of Christ, and it is of the utmost importance that when we thus meet, that we should have the presence and assistance of the Spirit of God. I should not dare this morning to arise with the intention of speaking to you if I did not hope that I should have the assistance of that spirit. I could not of myself tell that which is best adapted to you and to your circumstances. It requires the all-searching Spirit of our God to reveal unto us, his servants, those items of doctrine, of instruction, of counsel, and if need be, of reproof and warning, which will be of benefit to the Latter-day Saints who are assembled as we are today.

We are living in a momentous time. At no period in the history of the children of God in this dispensation have events been of more importance than those which are now taking place in our midst and around about us. I have been exceedingly thankful for one thing. Amid the threats and menaces and all the attempts which have been made against us to curtail our liberties, to embarrass us, and if possible destroy our religion, one feeling has been uppermost in my mind, a feeling of thankfulness that the Lord our God in this manner is permitting us to see the fulfillment of the words he has spoken through his servant the Prophet Joseph Smith, and through others who have also been inspired of him. Among the earliest predictions that were made concerning this work by the servants