

**APOSTOLICAL SUCCESSION AND
RESPONSIBILITY—SOCIAL POSITION AFFORDS NO
RELEASE FROM RESPONSIBILITY—IF THE OFFICE DOES
NOT HONOR A MAN, HE IS CALLED TO HONOR THE
OFFICE—MAN'S FUTURE, DEPENDENT ON INTEGRITY
HERE.**

DISCOURSE BY ELDER LORENZO SNOW, DELIVERED AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, HELD IN THE NEW
TABERNACLE, SALT LAKE CITY, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCT. 6, 1876.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

We, the Latter-day Saints, profess to have received from God the fullness of the everlasting Gospel; we profess to be in possession of the holy Priesthood—the delegated authority of God to man, by virtue of which we administer in its ordinances acceptably to him; and we testify, to the whole world that we know, by divine revelation, even through the manifestations of the Holy Ghost, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and that he revealed himself to Joseph Smith as personally as he did to his Apostles, anciently, after he arose from the tomb, and that he made known unto him those heavenly truths by which alone mankind can be saved. This, as was remarked by President Wells this morning, is assuming a very important and responsible position, knowing, as we do, that God will hold us accountable for the disposition we make of this sacred trust which he has committed to us. As the Apostles appeared before the world, after they had re-

ceived their commission from the risen Redeemer, to preach the Gospel of the kingdom to all nations, promising all who believed on their word, the Gift of the Holy Ghost through the laying on of hands, so we appear. As they by virtue of their commission, declared with all assurance, amidst persecution and opposition, the Gospel to be the power of God unto salvation to all those who believed and obeyed, so declare we. As they preached faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, baptism for the remission of sins, and the laying on of hands, by those duly authorized, for the reception of the Holy Ghost, as being essential to salvation, so preach we. As they by the power of the Holy Ghost became witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the faithful bearers of his Gospel message to the whole Gentile world, so, by and through the same Holy Spirit, we have become witnesses of him, and, having been called by the same divine and holy calling, we therefore assume the