

crop. Let us try to train them up in the fear of God, that we may have his blessing to be with us.

I would like to have said something, too, about our cooperative associations. I am pleased to inform you that the Cooperative Institution of this city is doing remarkably well; it is on a solid foundation and everything is moving along pleasantly and agreeably. We have organized for some time a Trade's Union, through which all the people of Utah can be represented. And while the Co-op calls upon us to sustain them, which is right and proper, we want the Co-op to sustain us. There are two sides to this question, hence we have an organization called

a Board of Trade in a number of the Stakes, and expect to perfect them in all the Stakes, that the whole people may be represented at our general board. Then we expect to spread and grow in manufactures of all kinds, that we may become a self-sustaining people, a people who shall be independent, under God, of all other powers.

I will not detain you. God bless Israel, and all that bless Israel, and let our enemies be confounded. And God grant unto us power to serve him and observe his laws that we may have a claim upon his blessings, and at last obtain eternal life in his kingdom, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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**PARABLE OF THE FIG TREE—THE RISE OF THE  
LATTER-DAY WORK—ORGANIZATION OF THE  
CHURCH—ITS SUBSEQUENT PROGRESS AND  
DEVELOPMENT—THE MANNER OF CALLING GOD'S  
SERVANTS—DUTIES OF CHURCH OFFICERS—THE  
SAVING POWER OF TRUTH—THE DISOBEDIENT AND IDLE  
CONDEMNED—LIBERALITY OF THE GOSPEL PLAN.**

DISCOURSE BY APOSTLE ERASTUS SNOW, DELIVERED AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,  
ON SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 6, 1879.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

In the 24th chapter of Matthew our Savior uses a figure in speaking to his disciples, illustrating the signs of the times in which we live.

"Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender,

and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all