

**IMPORTANCE OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND MUTUAL
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATIONS—THE GOOD WORK DONE
BY THEM IN QUALIFYING YOUNG MEN TO BE
MISSIONARIES—NECESSITY OF TEACHING OUR
CHILDREN THE PRINCIPLE OF
VIRTUE—DETERMINATION OF OUR ENEMIES TO
DESTROY THE WORK OF GOD—THE LORD WILL BUILD
UP HIS KINGDOM IN HIS OWN WAY—HE WILL STAND BY
US IF WE ARE VALIANT—GOD RAISED UP MEN TO FORM
THE CONSTITUTION AND ESTABLISH THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE UNITED STATES—SELF-PRESERVATION
REQUIRES US TO BE UNITED—ALL REPUTABLE MEN
AMONG THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS HOLD THE
PRIESTHOOD—WE HAVE TO CONTEND WITH
MOBOCRACY IN LEGAL FORM AND GUISE—THIS WORK
DEPENDS UPON GOD—OUR ENEMIES HAVE NO POWER
TO INJURE US—NO ONE HAS PROSPERED IN OPPOSING
THE WORK OF GOD—THE LORD WILL STAND BY US IN
THE HOUR OF NEED—CONCLUSION.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE,
OGDEN, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18, 1885.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

I am pleased to have the opportunity of meeting with the Latter-day Saints this morning in Ogden, and of listening to the reports which have been made by the brethren respecting the Sunday Schools, and the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations. These institutions furnish an index to the growth and development of the people, and the future character of those who are now and who will be members of the Church in years to come. I think a very fair estimate can be formed of what our people will be by closely observing the condition of the Sunday Schools and the Mutual Improvement Associations; because those children and those young men and young women who are now

members of these schools and associations will in a very few years take their place as active members in the community, and the character of the community be largely dependent upon their characters and upon the development which they have made in the directions that these institutions seek to form them. I look upon it myself as exceedingly important that our schools should be properly conducted, and that our associations should receive that attention from those who have influence and knowledge that will make a proper impression upon the minds of those who are members. In whatever capacity I might be acting in the Priesthood, with the proper feeling of anxiety about the