

THE LORD IS TEACHING US VALUABLE LESSONS IN OUR PRESENT EXPERIENCE—HE IS TEACHING US TO RELY UPON HIM AND TO EXERCISE THE FACULTIES HE HAS GIVEN US—NATURE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES—THE ELEMENTS OF A VARIETY OF GOVERNMENTS ENTER INTO IT—PHYSICAL AND MORAL COURAGE—THE JUDGE OF THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT NOT A CHRISTIAN—A CONCUBINE WAS A WIFE AND IT SHOULD NOT BE A TERM OF REPROACH—THE CHARACTER OF ABRAHAM VINDICATED—SYMPATHY FOR OUR ENEMIES—WHEN THE SAINTS LEARN TO BE STRICTLY IMPARTIAL, JUDGMENT AND RULE WILL BE GIVEN THEM—NOT ALL IN THE UNITED STATES ARE ARRAYED AGAINST US—WEAKNESS OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT—POWER OF SECRET SOCIETIES—ZION TO BE A PLACE OF REFUGE AND SAFETY—PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S OPPORTUNITY TO BE JUST AND GREAT—WE MUST PURIFY OURSELVES THAT LIBERTY MAY COME.

DISCOURSE BY APOSTLE MOSES THATCHER, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE, LOGAN, CACHE COUNTY, SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 8, 1885.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

There have been a great many very excellent things said at this conference, and in attempting to add thereto, I desire the assistance and aid which come through the faith and prayers of the Saints—that I may be inspired by the Spirit of God to utter such things as may tend to our edification and good. It will doubtless be somewhat difficult to make all hear unless a goodly degree of order is maintained. Of course I am aware that it is not an easy task for mothers to keep their nursing babes quiet in a crowded house like this and upon a warm day; but we hope to have as good order as possible under the circumstances.

I have rejoiced very much in the testimonies which have been borne

during the meetings of this Conference, and they find in my heart a responsive chord. I do not feel that we are living in unprofitable times, and notwithstanding the trials, temptations and injustice with which we are surrounded, I view the present as times in which the Lord is teaching to His people very valuable lessons. It has often been asserted, by our outside friends, that the union of this people was maintained by reason of the influence which their leaders hold over their minds. If this statement were true, and the influence exercised is unrighteous, the leaders of the people should be removed. But if the influence which they exercise over the minds of the people is for good, it ought to be maintained. As an