

have. Upon you rests the responsibility of carrying out this work. Will you accept the responsibility?" And they answered that they would. He gave the details of that memorable meeting where Sidney Rigdon pressed his claims for the right to lead the people after the Prophet's death. "In that meeting," said the speaker, "Brigham Young arose and in plain and direct language, just like the language used by the Prophet, explained the order of the church and he was unanimously sustained as guardian of the people."

Mary D. Ensign was the next speaker. She was afraid she would be unable to collect her thoughts as she stood before the large congregation, because of her natural timidity, so she had had her notes written, which she read. They were corroborative of what the first speaker had said of the Prophet. She saw the Prophet very often and recited some of his words to illustrate his genial disposition. She remembered the occasion and the events at the time Joseph set out for the West to find a resting place for his weary followers and saw him the day he was taken to Carthage, and the funeral procession when Joseph and Hyrum were buried. As to the succession in the presidency, she said that when Brigham Young stood up and explained the order of the church there was no doubt in the minds of those present that he was the right man. Referring to the doctrine of polygamy in those days, she said she attended the same school as the children of the Prophet and on one occasion when she had been to his house with the children, his daughter Julia said regarding three young women who had prepared and served dinner, "They are supposed to be hired girls, but they are my father's wives." She thought if this child knew the relations, certainly Joseph Smith, Jr. did. The speaker said that her father knew of the existence of such doctrine in those days and had talked with her mother about it. It was not taught openly because of the bitter hatred of some of the apostates who sought the Prophet's life, among them the brother of the Prophet, Wm. Smith, who was cut off the church in those days and who 18 years afterwards became an apostle in the Re-organized church.

Mary Wright testified that it was mainly apostates who persecuted the Prophet. In referring to the occasion spoken of by the previous speaker when Brigham Young was chosen leader, she said: "I had heard of the resurrection and when I heard him he sounded so much like Joseph and looked so much like him that I thought it was the Prophet resurrected. I know that polygamy was a glorious truth revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith by the Lord and that it was taught and practiced in Nauvoo while the Prophet lived.

The congregation sang, "Praise ye the man who communed with Jehovah."

Patriarch Wm. L. Watkins: "I remember well the days of the Prophet. He was persecuted and despised by so-called Christians. There has been no cessation in the onward march of the work of God, however, and there will not be." He bore out the remarks of the other speakers in detail and in closing his able address said: "Whether my voice is ever heard again in the congregation of the saints, my testimony is that this is the work of God in which we are engaged."

President Oleen N. Stohl called attention to the excellent characters of those who had spoken and to the fact that we have all known them all our lives as honest, truthful and conscientious. He proceeded to read some data bearing upon the subjects spoken of during the meeting including an affidavit of Wm. Clayton, the man who wrote the revelation as dictated to Joseph Smith, that the revelation regarding celestial marriage was written July 12, 1843, in an upper room of the brick school house in Nauvoo that stood near the river. Also an affidavit of Lorenzo Snow testifying to the teaching of plural marriage by the Prophet, this affidavit being made here in Brigham City on the 28th of August, 1869. Also the closing paragraphs in the communication of the present Prophet Joseph F. Smith to Frederick M. Smith, a grandson of Joseph, bearing on and confirming the same thing.

Singing by the choir, "O Praise the Lord."

Benediction by Elder Nathan Yearsley.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

The services last Sunday afternoon in the tabernacle were unusually well attended owing to the program having been advertised to include testimonies by elderly saints who had a personal acquaintance with the Prophet Joseph Smith in his lifetime. The services were in charge of President L. A. Snow, and were opened by the choir singing, "An angel from on High."

Prayer by Elder James Pett.

Singing, "Again we meet around the board."

The sacrament was administered by the bishopric of the 2nd ward.

Elder John D. Peters read the 10th chapter of the gospel according to St. John.

Singing by the choir, "Ye simple souls who stray."

Patriarch Wm. Neeley was the first speaker. He gave a little history connected with the life of his father's family in joining the church. As a boy of 13 he saw Joseph the first time on the parade ground about four miles from Nauvoo when the Prophet was in command of the Nauvoo Legion. He described his feelings at sight of the great man, saying that even the horse the Prophet rode seemed inspired by his rider. He saw and heard the prophet many times after that and testified that in a meeting where the Prophet had told of the persecutions heaped upon him and the people, he said, "I have a feeling that I will be called from this sphere of action." Turning to his brethren, the twelve apostles who sat behind him on the stand, he said: "Upon you, my brethren, I have conferred every authority, every endowment and every priesthood that I