

Christ, the more I love my children. I tried with all the power I had to withstand the power of the destroyer which took possession of that boy; but I could not, and it had nearly overcome me with sorrow and affliction, until this morning, when I felt better. It does appear that when I place any reliance on a child, that child is taken from me. Sister Ellen's hope was in that boy, to be a stay to her in her declining years, or perhaps when I was gone.

Joseph was a kind-hearted, obedient, good boy. He was fourteen years of age the third day of last April, and was an excellent scholar; I took pride in having him carefully educated. When our boys have been educated, and go to foreign parts to preach the gospel, they are then exceedingly happy that they had improved themselves and gained useful information. It is so when persons leave this state of existence to go into the spirit world; for it is the spirit that becomes informed; it is the spirit that receives the truth, and the teachings of the Holy Ghost which showeth it things to come. It is not this house which I am now instructing, but it is the persons who dwell in it; so it is not the earthly house of this tabernacle that is instructed so much as it is the spirit that dwells within it. When we are instructed by the gift and power of the Holy Ghost, that knowledge is conveyed to us from heaven, and we are being informed in this world by knowledge which pertains to the next existence, that we may become exalted and glorified, the same as a man rises from one degree of knowledge and learning to another in an earthly seminary of education. Then the education and training we give our children in this world are not lost; but they are so far fitted and prepared for advancement in the next. Some of my children are good scholars; I keep them at school, and I try to lead them in the path of truth; and I also instruct their mothers to teach their children to come unto God. If any of my wives place their reliance and hope upon a child, that child is sure to be taken from them. The Lord designs that I shall be the head and leader of my family, to guide them into His presence; and He will take away every prop in order to place everything where it should be. That remark is just as good for every other family as it is for mine. The Lord will take away every prop that I put my trust in outside of himself. When I was baptized into Him I put Him on, and should live in Him, and should not rely upon any other but Him; I should cleave unto Him, and my family should cleave unto me, that we may be all one in Him.

I have no love for this world, and if it were not for the cause of God which I have espoused, and my family, and the Church and kingdom of God, I would not turn my hand over whether I lived or died. The bereavements I have suffered affects me in this way; nevertheless, Thy will be done, O Lord. Ellen has now lost three children; they are in heaven, and when she goes there, she will find them there, as sure as we shall find the prophets and apostles and patriarchs of this Church, who have gone there, and are seated with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. There is a little army of my children gone before me, and will be there to welcome me when I go hence; and then look at the train that will follow after me! I believe that children behind the veil, have more sympathy, care and interest in the welfare of their friends in mortality than when they are here; and do they pray for father? Yes; just as much as I do. Can they approach the Lord more near than I can? Yes, and they no doubt pray, "O Lord God, I ask thee, in the name of Jesus, to remember my good father, and my good mother, and my good brothers and sisters, who are still in mortality."

Nineteen of my children are in the spirit world, and the parting with them has not given me as much sorrow, nor brought as many white hairs on my head, as those have done who now live. I have experienced this; others have experienced it, and will experience it in time to come; for they must have an experience in this as well as Bro. Heber. Am I an offcast because I am thus called to suffer? No; "For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons." I know this day that I have favor with God; and I would not do anything that would deprive me of this for the world and all that is in it. I would rather leave the world this mo-

ment, than live to sin against God. I say to my family take care of your children. Ellen, take care of the two you have living, and be satisfied with them. Be contented, and never complain against the providences of God. So I say unto all my family. Never be cross with one another. Joseph was never cross, he was always pleasant to all persons. Eight years ago he came near dying; I was impressed to ordain him a High Priest. I ordained him, and I do know that that had a saving effect upon the boy, and God has had respect to him. He now lives in the spirit; and I have joy in all these things. I stood near him until he breathed his last; but I could not prevail. This proved to me that I was a poor, weak, frail creature, that I was nothing more than the grass, or as a flower of the field; for the wind passeth over it, and it is gone. I have not one particle of power on this earth, only as God gives it to me. It is the power of Almighty God. I cannot stay His hand, and I am in His hand. I never was more sensible of this in my life than I now am. And I never saw my weakness to the extent that I do now. And I never saw the day when I felt the necessity of living faithful to God more than I do now—that my eyes should be opened and I be filled with the Almighty power of God.

I can see before and behind, and all around. It is my privilege to see the head, the feet, and every member there is in the Church of God, and feel as they feel; if we all could do this what a heavenly people we should be. God would defend us. He will do it now, for the sake of the righteous that dwell in our midst. The Church of God will triumph, while those who are rebellious and disobedient will see sorrow. This is my testimony. Bro. Brigham, I say with all my heart, God bless you and yours, that you may live, and that the great power of God may be in you and increase upon you; and so I say to all the Elders of Israel, that we may be one. And may the peace of God be upon this congregation that has come to condole with us. I am comforted. Death is swallowed up in life.

May God bless you all for evermore. Amen.

MINUTES

Of a Conference held in St. George Nov'r 4th 5th and 6th., 1864.

FRIDAY, Nov. 4, 1864, }
10, a. m. }

Meeting opened by singing. Prayer by Bishop D. W. McArthur. Singing. Prest. Snow made a few preliminary remarks.

Prest. Henry Harriman spoke in a very edifying manner, encouraging the saints to increased faithfulness.

Benediction by Bishop H. Eyring.

2, p. m.

Singing. Prayer by Elder Wm. Crosby. Singing.

Elder Asa Calkin spoke on the necessity of governing the temper, and of being humble.

Elder John Nebeker showed that we should not be united in any of the practices of wickedness, but that in all things pertaining to righteousness the saints should be perfectly united.

Prest. E. Snow gave an account of the recent festival given to the members of Zion's Camp in G. S. L. City. He spoke of the labors of the First Presidency and Twelve, in trying to unite the people on temporal matters; and their success this year together with the great good which will result from such union.

Singing. Benediction by Bishop Robt. Gardner.

SATURDAY 10, a. m.

Singing. Prayer by Bishop A. P. Winsor. Singing.

Elder Jesse N. Smith, lately returned from a mission to Scandinavia, expressed his gratification at being present; and gave a short account of his mission and of the earnest desire of the saints abroad to gather home to Utah.

Elder Wm H. Dame gave an interesting account of the settlement of Iron county, and contrasted the Present flourishing condition of the country between here and Great Salt Lake City, with the sterility which characterized it when he passed over it at the first settlement of that country.

Bishop Joshua T. Willis spoke on the necessity of the existence of unity among all the saints. Considered that we could sustain ourselves in this southern mission by wisely and economically directing our labors. Recommended that we raise our own wheat and thought that if we did so we could produce more cotton than we now do.

The clerk read a circular from Mr. Wm. H. Hardy, addressed to the citizens of Utah, inviting trade with California via the Colorado River, and giv-

ing a list of prices of articles he will furnish at "Hardy's Landing" on the Colorado; among others, Flour \$10 per 100 lbs; Bacon 17c per pound; general merchandise at a small advance on San Francisco prices; transportation to or from San Francisco to Hardy's Landing from 3 to 4 cents per pound. The foregoing rates will of course be understood as payable in coin.

After singing Prest. Harriman dismissed the meeting by prayer.

2 p. m.

Singing. Prayer by Bishop Lunt. Singing.

Bishop A. P. Winsor spoke on the temporal condition of the people engaged in the Southern Mission, giving some practical advice in regard to properly tilling the ground.

Elder Silas S. Smith spoke encouragingly of the future of St. George, and of the gratitude due to God for the safe retreat He has provided for us in the "Valleys of the Mountains."

Elder J. M. Whitmore expressed his satisfaction with his home in the south, and that he intended to be obedient to the counsel of those over him. He spoke of the advantages of union in carrying on any work, especially so with us in the Kingdom of God.

The Clerk read the list of names of those called at the October Conference in Great Salt Lake City, to assist the Southern Mission.

Prest. Snow made some remarks on the proceeding of the October Conference. He also spoke upon the propriety and necessity of making settlements on the Colorado and Rio Virgen, preparatory to bringing our immigration that way. He further spoke upon the necessity of adopting measures to sustain ourselves in our mission. He alluded to the fact that a convention of experienced men from the settlements in Washington and Kane counties, was at present in session in this place devising means to this end, to promote concert of action, and a uniformity of prices for our products in exchange for grain, etc.,

Choir sang. Benediction by Elder Geo. A. Burgon.

SUNDAY, 10, a. m.

Singing. Prayer by Elder Hosea Stout. Singing.

Bishop H. Lunt addressed the conference upon the temporal interests of this mission.

The secretary of the convention assembled in this city to establish prices for cotton, molasses etc., read the minutes of the proceedings of the convention and the Resolutions adopted by them, giving the following prices:—Cotton \$1.25 per pound; Molasses \$4 per Gallon; Preserves \$6 per Gallon; Tobacco \$3 per pound. The foregoing prices to be gold or its equivalent.

Prest. Snow spoke at considerable length upon the action of the Convention, urging unity in regard to our prices, and exhorting the brethren to eat what corn and vegetables they have and stay at home and sow what seed wheat they have, instead of going north at present to trade.

Singing by the choir. Benediction by Bishop Robt. Gardner.

2, p. m.

Singing. Prayer by Elder Charles Smith. Singing.

Sacrament administered.

Elder Jacob Hamblin addressed the conference in an encouraging manner, exhorting to diligence and obedience to the counsels of the Priesthood.

Elder F. B. Woolley made some remarks upon the benefits to be derived from meeting together in Conferences and other religious assemblages, and spoke on the temporal interests of this mission.

The General authorities of the Church were unanimously sustained by the vote of the conference.

The following Local authorities were unanimously sustained:—

Erastus Snow, President of the Southern mission.

Hosea Stout, President of the High Council.

John Nebeker, Marius Ensign, Walter E. Dodge, Albert P. Tyler, Lysander Dayton, James G. Bleak, F. B. Woolley, David H. Cannon, Dan'l D. McArthur, John O. Angus, Melancthon Burgess, members of the High Council.

Wm. Fawcett, President of High Priests Quorum.

Wm. P. McIntire, President of Mass Quorum of Seventies.

Miner G. Priskrey, Prest. of Elder's Quorum.

The Bishops and Presidents of Branches, laboring in the southern mission, together with the Presidents of the Lesser Priesthood, remain as they were, and were unanimously sustained.

Elder Snow proposed that a few men be selected to make further explorations on the Colorado, and ascertain the best route for a road from St. George to the

head of navigation on that river; and recommended that they enter without delay on their labors, and report in about three or four weeks. The selection consists of Elders Jacob Hamblin, James M. Whitmore, Angus M. Cannon, and David H. Cannon.

Conference adjourned till 10, a. m. on the first Friday in May, 1865.

Benediction by President E. Snow.

JAMES G. BLEAK, Clerk.

Varieties.

—THE Paris papers say that an English missionary argues to the ignorant Madagascar natives that his teachings are sounder than those of the rich French, by stating that the Saviour was born, lived and died in London.

—THE military style of dress is to be the ladies' only wear this coming season. They are to have tight sleeves, coat tails, fatigue jackets, and even epaulets. In short, they are to be dressed as nearly like the gentleman as possible, provided the gentlemen be *a la militaire*—the only exception being unmentionables.

—Michigan has now about four and a half millions of sheep. Her wool crop is estimated at 12,000,000 pounds.

—The question was recently proposed to a Down East editor: Are hoop skirts dangerous? He immediately answered that they are always very dangerous when they have anything in them!

—The people of Australia, reduced to despair by the persistence of the English Government in forcing transports and convicted felons upon them, propose to turn the tables; and a movement is now on foot to send them a cargo of the worst criminals to the mother-country, just to see how long the English would like the treatment she extends to that colony.

—A citizen of West Troy, N. Y., bought a \$25 looking glass, and started to carry it home, fearing to trust a porter. About third way of the distance he got hot and dry, and went into a hotel to take a drink, setting the glass up by the side of the house, and leaving a small boy to watch it. A pugnacious goat came along just then, and seeing his image, made for it with all his battering powers. The dismay of the goat at the result, was only equalled by the owner of the glass, as he came out smacking his lips.

—LAST Sunday, little Ike, three years and a half old, went to church for the first time. His mother gave him a penny to put in the contribution box, which he did, and sat quiet for a few moments, and then wanted to know how soon the man was coming with the candy.

—ALEXANDER DUMAS is engaged in writing a book on the Essence of religion, a singular subject to be chosen by the novel writer.

—The girl who had three lovers, named Saken, Lorn and, Born, was compelled to marry the latter. She afterwards wrote.

"I am for Saken and for Lorn,
I wish I never had been Born."

—Young ladies are used as reporters by the Philadelphia papers. If they can write as fast as they can talk they must be efficient.

—There are 90,000 officers and men now in the United States navy.

—An old gentleman of ninety, in Stamford, England, sewed himself into a mattress, and then set it on fire, designing to commit suicide. But the flames refused to burn. He is now studying up the art of hari-kari.

—The Italian journals state that an Ecce Homo has just been discovered in an establishment of Jesuits at Milan, to which picture was adapted a curious mechanism by which the eyes could be made to move.

—An Atlanta paper boasts that there are not less than a hundred officers in active Confederate service, with but one leg apiece.

—A military definition of a kiss—A report at headquarters.—*Home Journal*.

—A woman in England has just been tried for having five husbands. She said her experience was trial enough.

—A correspondent writes to ask whether a bee's wife may be called the partner of his buss-om?

—S. B. Colby, of Vermont, has been sworn in as Register of the Treasury, in place of C. L. Crittenden, resigned.

—Why is a tobacco chewer like a gossamer in a Duch oven? Because he is always on the spot.