

according to the dictates of their own consciences. This presents a solid phalanx against opposition and persecution. We cannot be slain to day in detail as our brethren were 1,800 years ago. The ideas we believe in are being disseminated among our children. We are increasing. The teachings of history are that a people like us have a destiny, and they cannot be prevented from fulfilling it. You take two communities, one a multiplying community and the other only partially multiplying, and what will be the result? But I need not dwell upon this. There is a line of thought connected with this which you can reflect upon at your leisure.

God has given unto us the conditions that are suitable for the accomplishment of the great work that He has said shall be established and carried forward in the last days, and we are connected with it; and there is this to distinguish it from all others—it is not a man-made system. Men may say and think what they please about it, but from the President of the Church down to the last man who has entered into the Church in sincerity there is a faith and a knowledge that this work is of God, and the Presidency believe in this as much as the humblest man in the Church and more too. It is this that gives power, it is this that gives influence. It is because they are filled with a knowledge concerning it that they have lived it, that they have contended for it, that they have passed through persecutions to establish it, that they are not unwilling to die for it, if it should be necessary. And this is the case with the whole people. Why? Because they are devoted? Because they are dupes? Because they are deceived? No, but because God has opened the heavens and poured out His Holy Spirit upon them and given them a testimony for themselves of the truth of this work. The Norwegian, the Swede, the Dane, the native of Switzerland, or the German, Frenchman, Irishman, Englishman, or the American, together with the Celts, the Sandwich Islanders—all receive it in their own lands, all bearing testimony in the self same words that God has given them a testimony of the truth of this work. Destroy it! You might as well try to destroy the heavens themselves, or to overthrow the throne of Jehovah. It is true. It will live. Men may fall away—for men are weak mortals—man may deny the faith, man may say this is all a delusion; men may die, but the grand truth still lives. It has found a lodgment in the hearts of honest men and women. And they are increasing. Their children are multiplying. They are spreading abroad on the right hand and on the left, living virtuous, temperate, frugal, industrious lives, loving God and loving their neighbors.

Are there exceptions? Yes, we are human. The devil still lives, and he has power to tempt. There are we have exceptions in our midst. Nevertheless those qualities are increasing and multiplying. Men are found who possess them, and whose growing up to manhood and womanhood are also found to possess them. They know God and ask Him, believing that they will have the desires of their hearts granted unto them. And thus the work of God is spreading abroad throughout the earth, finding a place in the hearts of people, humble it is true, but people who are independent—people who are the noblest of earth's sons, for the reason that they are not afraid to embrace that which is unpopular. The work of natural selection is going on in that way. This gospel is naturally selecting the best of the people from the midst of the earth—men and women in humble station, from the lower ranks of life, in the most of instances, although there are some exceptions, some noble exceptions; but notwithstanding the lowliness of their origin and their surroundings, they are people of independent thought, people who dare embrace a truth though it be unpopular, and cling to it in the midst of all the influences that are brought to bear against them. Out of such materials the Lord is building up a Church, bestowing His blessings upon them.

It would not do for His people to be anything else but valiant, and when they pass through the ordeal they will be like gold seven times purified. In days gone by it was the mob, it was the burning of houses, driving the people from their lands, and this has been followed by ordeals just as trying in their character, as far as testing the

people is concerned. By this process the people are becoming stronger in the Lord. Their feet are planted upon a rock. They have proved God for themselves, known Him for long years in the midst of trials, temptations and vicissitudes such as no other people on the face of the earth know anything about.

I thank God for this. I thank Him every day that I live for this Church. I thank Him that I am a Latter-day Saint. If I can only have a name among this people I feel as though I could have no greater comfort. I wish to be associated with a people of this kind, a people who love the Lord and are willing to do anything to show their faith in and their love for Him, and if it were necessary, to lay down their lives for the truth. I cannot help loving a people of this kind. They have weaknesses and faults. I have them too. We are alike in this respect. If they will bear with me I will strive to bear with them. I know this is the Church and Kingdom of God. I know that those who cling to it will, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, receive glory and exaltation at His right hand. I know that people who love Him, as the Latter-day Saints do, and are willing to make sacrifice, will not be forgotten by Him. He will not forget them in the day that He makes up His jewels; He will bless them and honor them.

That we may remain faithful and true unto the end, and be counted worthy to receive an exaltation in the kingdom of our God is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

BRIGHAM YOUNG ACADEMY EXAMINATION.

Editor Desert News:

The fourth term of the sixth academic year of the Brigham Young Academy closed to-day with the exercises attendant upon the annual examination of Normal Graduates. The Monitorial appointments for the occasion were as follows: Conducting Monitor, S. P. Eggertson; Choir Leader, John Foote; Head Janitor, G. A. Snow; and Secretary, Laura Young.

At 9:30 a.m. the exercises commenced, at which hour the hall was well filled with visitors, and there were present, of the Board of Directors, President A. O. Smoot, and Chairman Myron Tanner, also Hon. L. John Nuttall, the Territorial Superintendent of schools. After the opening exercises, the examining teachers proceeded to report the results of their criticism on the papers prepared by the Normal Graduates, and by the candidates for special certificate, following which the certificates and diplomas were awarded.

Following are the names of the Normal graduates, with the percentage of efficiency acquired by each: Selena Curtis 98, Annie Page 97, Kate Friel 97, Nels Nelson 97, Anne Larsen 93, Euphrasia Cox 92, Charles Watkins 92, Sarah Robinson 89, Flora Harvey 83, Isaiah M. Coombs 83, Oscar Berglund 80, Sarah Cooper 79, Fidelia Kofford 78, Annie Christensen 68.

The last named student, having attended the normal department for one term, was awarded a certificate only.

Following named students obtained certificates for the course in mercantile bookkeeping, with the designated percentage: Eleazer Evans 100, William S. White 95, Joseph Nelson 92, Wm. Collett 91, John Roueche 97, George A. Snow 99, Orvil Thompson 100.

Remarks were offered by Territorial Superintendent L. John Nuttall and Pres. A. O. Smoot, each expressing regrets for the disadvantages of the past and bespeaking more marked circumstances of favor in the future.

The following is culled from the Principal's report. The attendance has been: First term, 111; second term, 319; third term, 353; fourth term, 161. Total number of registered students during the year, 461.

The apportionment of labor among the Faculty members, and the normal students of the practical course, shows 15 teachers laboring daily, and 293 weekly recitations being conducted.

In the theological organization the following tabulated report is presented: High Priests, 2; Seventies, 1; Elders, 35; Priests, 17; Teachers, 15; Deacons, 62; lay members, 267; not baptized, 22; under age, 6; non-members, 34; total 461.

The students have been recorded

according to their places of residence as follows: Provo, 241; Springville, 8; Payson, 18; Benjamin, 3; Goshen, 4; Fairfield, 2; Lehi, 2; Alpine, 5; American Fork, 6; Pleasant Grove, 17; Wasatch County, 16; Summit County, 7; Salt Lake County, 15; Davis County, 2; Weber County, 2; Box Elder Co., 2; Cache Co., 2; Rich Co., 3; Tooele Co., 1; Juab Co., 15; Sanpete Co., 22; Sevier Co., 6; Millard Co., 7; Beaver Co., 6; Kane Co., 7; Iron Co., 9; Plute Co., 2; Uintah Co., 3; Washington Co., 9; Arizona, 3; Nevada, 2; Idaho, 13. Total 461. The students from outside of Provo have been distributed in 56 boarding places, have convened in regular meetings of the Domestic Organization, and have been visited bi-weekly by representatives of the principal. The want of a regular boarding house, under the direct control of the Faculty, makes itself felt more and more.

The academic year was then declared formally closed.

LAURA YOUNG,
Sec'y of Examination.
PROVO, U. T., June 16, 1892.

DAVIS STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Quarterly Conference of Davis Stake was held at Bountiful, June 10, 1892.

There were on the stand Presidents John Taylor and Joseph F. Smith, Apostle Wilford Woodruff, Elder George Reynolds and the stake officers.

The forenoon was occupied by Presidents Taylor and Joseph F. Smith. They spoke of the duties of the members of the Church in regard to their dealings with each other, and especially of the example that should be set by the leaders of the people.

In the afternoon verbal reports of the condition of their several wards were given by the Bishops. The remainder of the time was occupied by Pres. W. Woodruff and Elder Geo. Reynolds in speaking on the power of the Priesthood, and the necessity of union among the Saints.

At a Priesthood meeting held at 4.15 there was a large attendance.

10 a. m.
On Sunday morning Apostle Lorenzo Snow and Elder C. W. Penrose were present in addition to those who were there on Saturday.

The statistical report was read, after which President Taylor reviewed the powers and blessings of former dispensations, saying that the dispensation in which we live embodies all others. He was followed by Brother Layton and Pres. Smith in explanation of some personal matters.

In the afternoon the authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

Apostle Lorenzo Snow then spoke on the principle of forgiveness. We are commanded to forgive our enemies, how much more necessary to forgive our friends when they err.

President Taylor spoke of the trial of faith required of Abraham and of Job, and of the blessings and promises they received through preserving their integrity.

John W. Hess was set apart as first counselor to Pres. Smith in place of C. Layton resigned.

J. H. WILCOX, Clerk.

Correspondence.

RICHFIELD, Sevier County,
June 10, 1892.

Editor Desert News:

During the two weeks which have just passed, our county has been specially favored by the visits of Apostles Lyman and Smith. These brethren, in connection with our local authorities, have made a complete circuit of the Stake, holding meetings in the various wards; and wherever necessity or expediency demanded, organizing new ones.

Our quarterly conference which was held May 26th and 27th, was very well attended, and the people showed by their prompt attendance, and marked attention that they not only appreciated the visit of Apostle Smith, who was with us, but that they were taking a lively interest in their own welfare as Latter-day Saints. Immediately after the adjournment of conference, Apostle Smith, accompanied by Presidents Spencer and Thurber, visited and held meetings at each of the following wards, viz: Joseph City, Monroe and Elsinore, returning to Richfield. Wednesday they were joined by Apostle Lyman (he having arrived

from Millard County), and on the Thursday following the two Apostles, with the Stake authorities, effected a ward organization at Central, installing Barney Greenwood as Bishop and W. A. Stafford and Yens L. Jensen counselors.

Previous to visiting any part of our county, it had been the desire of Apostles Lyman and Smith to visit the remoter parts of the Stake, and especially that part of the Territory lying southeast of here, viz: Grass Valley, Rabbit or Freemont Valley, and Fish Lake. Agreeable to arrangements, the following party left Richfield, Friday m. en route for Grass Valley: Apostles Lyman and Smith, President Spencer, Counselors Thurber and Seegmiller, Judge Bean and the undersigned. Arriving at Glenwood at 2 p.m., the appointment for meeting was filled, and after a night's sojourn in this once appropriately named "Glen-cove," we resumed our journey over the mountains towards Grass Valley, and after a jaunt of about twenty-five miles, arrived at Burrville—the most northwestern town in Grass Valley. We shall say nothing as to the merits or demerits of the road between Glenwood and Grass Valley, suffice it to say that at present its roughness is its most striking feature. The people of Burrville were very hospitable and we were very nicely entertained during our stay with them.

Sunday, 4th inst. meetings were held at the Cedar Grove. A point intermediate between Burrville and Koosharem, the two principal towns in the valley. Not only did the Saints evince great interest in the meetings here but the Indians of Grass Valley and vicinity were present, and they, too, seemed to manifest a desire to be taught the principles of truth. Their chief, Joe, is taking a lively interest in endeavoring to have his fellow Indians take hold of civilization, and thus become self-supporting. Their grain is looking quite well at present, and it is to be hoped that they will continue to progress in the good work they have thus started. In consideration of the scattered condition of the people of Koosharem Ward, it was deemed wise that a Ward organization should be given to Burrville; accordingly the following corps of officers were elected: Wm. H. Cloward, Bishop; Orson E. Star and M. Leonard Burr, Counselors. After the Bishop and his Counselors had been formally elected, Apostle Lyman gave some very practical and opportune instructions respecting the duties of officers and members of the newly organized Ward. His remarks were listened to with great interest and evidently caused a spirit of harmony to pervade the hearts of all. At the close of this meeting our party repaired to the town of Koosharem, and on the morning following we resumed our journey in the direction of the somewhat celebrated Fish Lake.

We were not disappointed in the appearance of this beautiful sheet of pure water, situated as it is in the very tops of the mountains, for here we found its altitude, its area, its surroundings and its excellent fish just as they had been spoken of by our predecessors. Time will not permit a detailed description of this beautiful lake, but suffice it to say at no distant day Fish Lake will be known to thousands, whereas it is now comparatively obscure. Our thanks are due to Brothers Jorgensen and Nicconger for the very hospitable manner in which we were treated during our visit at the lake. Tuesday morning found us wending our way in a southeasterly direction towards Rabbit or Freemont Valley and at 2 p.m. we arrived at Loa where we had given out an appointment for meeting. Wednesday morning we continued our journey still further to the southeast until we reached Thurber, at which place two meetings were held and the Thurber Ward was permanently organized. Agreeable to the will of the majority of the people George Brinkerhoff was elected Bishop and William Meeks and James W. Hunt, Counselors. The instructions given here were similar to those given at Burrville, and were well calculated to encourage those persons who have taken up the arduous labor of reclaiming the desert from its barrenness, and establishing homes upon the frontier. Having finished our labors in the Freemont country, we at once started on our homeward trip. Arriving at Koosharem, Apostles Lyman and Smith left us for the south, where they purpose holding several meetings, after which they will return home via Beaver.

Never before has our Stake been

so thoroughly visited as it has been during the past two weeks, and it is truly gratifying to know that the instructions, which have been given in the various Wards and localities, have been such as were well adapted to the present wants of the people, such as were having a practical bearing upon the daily affairs of life, and at the same time teaching the principles of true religion and morality. As a general rule we found the people of Grass and Freemont valleys feeling very well, and quite encouraged. Despite the fact that their valleys have a mean altitude of about 7,000 feet. They are taking hold of farming to quite an extent, especially in this the case at Fremont, or Rabbit Valley. This valley possesses many natural advantages, among which is its great supply of water, wood and saw-timber.

As an evidence of the growth of this and adjacent valleys, we learned that persons were continually settling in it from various parts of the Territory. It is said that some 15 families are on their way from Washington and Kane counties expecting to settle in Fremont Valley and vicinity. If the people in these valleys continue to exercise faith in their labors and abide the admonitions which they continually receive from the servants of God, there is no question but what their homes and villages will be happy ones, and the elements will become propitious unto them, and thus they will become valuable members in the Kingdom of God, as well as loyal citizens of our Republican Government, exercising every inherent right that is vouchsafed by the Constitution, and by doing this maintain and support every just and equitable law.

Very truly,
DANIEL HARRINGTON.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.,
June 10, 1892.

Editor Desert News:

I am at present traveling alone; have visited my old friends in Minnesota, both Saints and sinners. I have been well received and have great reason to rejoice. I have traveled some with President Palmer, and visited the conferences in Monticello, Wright Co. In Burns, Anoka Co., and in Danielson Meeker Co. At Monticello we organized a Sunday School with Elder George W. Riggs to preside, with about 20 members, teachers included. We had a good time. There were 11 Utah Elders present and eight baptisms and one rebaptism at this place. We had also a good time in Burns.

In Meeker county we had a very large audience of attentive strangers all Scandinavians; there were many there who at some future day will obey the mandates of heaven. There we also organized a Sunday school and appointed Priest P. G. Fernelius to preside. They have some very fine children.

Last Sunday I visited the Sunday school in Monticello, administered the Lord's supper and read with them in the Book of Mormon class, and heard the children answer questions very satisfactorily. I also told them some of my own experience in Sunday schools from the year 1866 up to the present, and gave some instruction pertaining to their future welfare and prosperity, also about order, obedience, punctuality, etc.

I am now trying again, with the help of the Lord, to break new ground in the State of Wisconsin, hoping that I may have the faith and prayers of the Saints that I may be an instrument in the hands of the Lord to do some good in this part of His vineyard.

I am healthy and feel well, and am happy under the circumstances, trusting in God, the Eternal Father for support.

If any of the Saints have friends or relatives in this State, please inform me at the above address.

B. P. WULFENSTEIN.

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