

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Written for this Paper

## IOWA MISSION CONFERENCE.

The conference of the Iowa Mission convened in the Huntington hall, 104 Broadway, Council Bluffs, at ten a. m., March 10th, 1895. In attendance were twenty-two of the Elders; eleven had just arrived from Salt Lake and the others had come from their various fields of labor. Joshua R. Clark of Grantsville, president of the Northern States Mission, and Elder Butterworth, president of the conference, were on the stand.

Elder Butterworth stated the purpose of these conferences and gave many valuable instructions to the Elders as well as the members of the branch and visitors who were present. He showed that there should be but "one faith and one baptism." He assured the visitors that nothing but a deep love of God and our fellow men would cause the Elders to leave their homes and loved ones to sojourn among strangers in a strange land.

Elder Wilford L. Evans of Sanford, Col., who was visiting relatives in the Bluffs, was called to the stand. He said he is always at home with the people of God, and desired to spend all his time to the honor and glory of God. He closed by bearing a strong testimony to the truth of the Gospel.

Elder Austin Kearnes, from Sanpete county, was next to address the conference. He often felt that he would be pleased to walk the distance of fifteen miles if by so doing he could meet with a congregation of Saints. He was pleased to see so many new Elders from Utah, as the "harvest is great but the laborers few." He had been treated well where he had been laboring. He stated that he had always had free access to meeting houses and school houses. His experience is that the Elder must ever be humble, as there is everything to be gained by humility. He had met very good people, some of whom only lacked the courage to join the Church. As many people of the world have been schooled to believe that we are the worst people on the earth, we often have the cold shoulder turned to us. It is therefore necessary for us to show them what we really are. He stated that he had not made many converts but had allayed many prejudices, and made many friends.

The congregation then joined in singing, "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning," after which Elder C. L. Miller of Salt Lake City spoke. He expressed his pleasure in meeting with the Saints. Six months ago he was called to labor as a missionary. Some of the time since had been spent in the field and some with his friends in Salt Lake. His companion with whom he was laboring in Indiana had been so unfortunate as to need his best care for weeks in the field, and it became necessary to accompany him to his home in Utah. It is a principle of the Great Creator to give us nothing faster than we can comprehend it, hence the necessity of efforts on our part to earnestly seek for intelligence and wisdom. The speaker stated that it is with great pleasure that he noted the interest

mankind is taking in the Gospel. The natural feeling of the human heart brings us to Deity. It is well that all have learned to venerate the name of our Savior. The speaker showed that belief alone is not necessary, and explained clearly and forcibly the first principles of the Gospel. He was glad his parents embraced the Gospel in foreign lands, and closed by bearing his testimony to the truth of the Gospel.

Meeting was called to order again at two p. m. After singing and prayer Elder P. J. Garn of Centerville, Utah, gave some valuable instructions; spoke at some length on the atonement and the first principles of the Gospel, after which the congregation sang "The time is far spent, there is little remaining."

Brother J. Nielson of San Juan county, Utah, spoke next. He ably handled the subject; "Authority to preach the Gospel." He showed the preacher must be called as was Aaron.

Elder A. G. Young of Richfield, Utah, and Brother Dayton of Bear Lake County, Idaho, then addressed the conference.

The evening meeting was addressed by Elder Miles F. Weaver of Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho, who has just been released from a two years mission. He occupied the whole of the time and spoke of the great dispensation in which we are living; showed that no church practices as much Bible doctrine as do the Latter-day Saints, also that the Church is built upon the rock of revelation. The speaker also showed that the earth as well as the people had become defiled by the wicked. The doctrine of the world that belief only is necessary to salvation strikes a deadly blow to morality and to civilization. The power that the Holy Ghost has was shown in an able manner.

Conference convened again March 11th at ten a. m., and Elder Clark was the first speaker. It was only about six months ago that he was called to labor in this mission and about three months since he was called to preside over the mission. He cautioned the young Elders to rely on the Lord and gave other interesting and valuable instructions.

Brother Christensen of Mayfield, Sanpete county, felt thankful that he had had sufficient faith to leave his home when called six months since, as he had found it a pleasant duty. He told the kind of God we worship, and dwelt principally upon the first principles of the Gospel.

After Elder Buchanan from Kane county, Utah, expressed his good desires, the congregation sang, "Guide us, O thou great Jehovah."

Elder Whitlock from Mayfield, Utah, E. S. Hart from Idaho, Brother Roison from Morgan, all addressed the assembly, and made some interesting and instructive remarks.

At two p. m. conference was again called to order and Elders Hylgate of Utah, and Oia Transrum of Bear Lake county, Utah, spoke a short time. They expressed a willingness to perform a faithful mission.

Elder McMullen of Heber City, Utah, felt pleased to meet with so many holding the Holy Priesthood. With most of us the Spirit is willing but the flesh is

weak. He spoke very comprehensively upon the restoration of the Gospel.

Elder J. H. Cook of Wayne county, Utah, who had been laboring in Nebraska, said we are out to show that the Gospel has been restored to the earth; to show that sincerity alone is not sufficient for salvation. His experience was that it is not good to talk so as to make people angry in the start. It makes some people angry to tell them there has been an apostasy.

Brother Albert Erickson of Grantsville, Utah, who was traveling through with a train of cattle, called in and addressed us a short time. He expressed a desire to fill a mission some day.

The meeting at 7 p. m. was addressed by Elders Criddle, Theobald and Fackrel, all making some very good remarks.

Elder Johnson, who had been laboring in Council Bluffs, spoke for a short time on the authority to preach. We are sent out by direct revelation.

A song entitled "The Fishers and the Hunters" was then sung, after which Elder Butterworth, president of the Iowa Conference, was called upon to speak. President Clark stated that we would not have Brother Butterworth here long, as he had filled his mission and was released, and wished to make use of him while here.

The speaker explained that men can only be saved in the name of Jesus Christ. "All are judged according to the deeds done in the body." It was made plain to the listeners that "the shepherds have transgressed the laws." The speaker gave some very valuable suggestions to the new Elders.

The conference closed by singing, "When shall we all meet again?" and prayer by Elder Miller.

Priesthood meeting was held Tuesday at 10:30 a. m. The authorities of the Church were presented and sustained; Brother J. R. Clark was sustained as president of the Northern States Mission; and Brother Cullion L. Miller was sustained as president of the Iowa conference, with C. S. Hart as Clerk; Brothers Elmer and Edwin Jones were sustained and ordained Priests.

Elder Clark stated that he would like all the Elders to take as many copies of the Voice of Warning as they could.

The brethren who had been out in the field had been called upon to report their labors. The report as a whole was very favorable.

A vote of thanks was extended to the Saints of Council Bluffs for their extreme kindness to the Elders, and their help to the Church. Mrs. Huntington, who had furnished an assembly hall and office for our use gratis, is to be especially thanked. A summary of the report of the Elders for the last five months shows:

Families visited.....	629
Times refused entertainment.....	274
No. of nights without beds.....	6
No. of tracts distributed.....	842
No. of miles walked.....	3,711
No. of meetings held.....	153
No. of houses refused.....	26
No. appointments failed.....	19
No. administered to the sick.....	68
No children blessed.....	1
No baptism.....	2
No. ordinations.....	2
Gospel conversations.....	209

The Elders were appointed to the following fields of labor for the coming six months: