

mutual improvement work; of home influence the important work of mothers and daughters in making the home. Suggested an evening at home once a week for the social culture of the family where good reading, music and those things which are ennobling to a person are cultivated and above all the Spirit of God to assist us in this work.

Superintendent E. S. Taylor spoke of home being the foundation of society. The obeying of the commandment of honor to parents is that which make one of the most perfect foundations. Spoke of mothers' great love and sacrifice for her children; of the celebration of President Woodruff's birthday; the love he has won has been by his humility, faithfulness and obedience to the will of God. Urged the study of the Bible; it teaches the grandest laws, one especially is, love thy neighbor as thyself, also the Golden Rule. The new guide had been given to assist in the study of this grand book. Spoke of the beautifying of the character by administering in tenderness and kindness to the aged.

A vocal solo was then given by Sister Eva Musser James.

Sister E. Irvine spoke of the early impressions of children; related circumstances showing their result late in life, of the benefits of an evening at home with our children; the necessity of pleading at the throne of grace for wisdom to guide them. Spoke of how each generation should advance and bring about the great millennium.

Sister Edith Sansome spoke of the attributes of our beloved President and of the celebration. Of the Prophet Joseph Smith, how through his obedience to the will of God he accomplished his mission. It is by humility and obedience we gain the blessings.

Superintendent Mary A. Freeze felt truly the sayings of Jesus had been fulfilled in the celebration of our President's birthday. He who humbled himself shall be exalted. Certainly our President must have had his soul satisfied for the trials and sacrifices he has experienced; gave a short report of a visit she had just made to Oneida county and meeting with the young people in conference.

Dr. Ellis Shipp spoke of the efficacy of prayer offered in behalf of speakers; of the great mission of mothers, and the temptations for the young people; of the enjoyable celebration of making our ideal one of humility, purity and to be honored by our heavenly Father. Singing, Shout the Glad Tidings.

Benediction by Sister Nellie Morris.

Evening session; opening song, For the Strength of the Hills We Bless Thee; prayer by Sister Minnie James; singing, Come Least Lord; minutes read and approved. Sister Jennie Hyde, president of the Twenty-second ward association, spoke on the necessity of commandments from God, of the first given, to multiply and replenish the earth; of the greatness of motherhood; of how unsatisfactory the laurels won by woman in a worldly way were in comparison with the great laurels of motherhood. Worldly achievements could not bring that love of the heart so essential to woman's happiness.

Sister Zina Y. Card spoke of lives being made up of little things; of the

beautiful simplicity of the Gospel and the great missionary work of the M. I. associations; of the Prophet having turned the key for womankind in obedience to our heavenly Father's command. Spoke of the congress of mothers just held in Washington, of how the desire to become more perfect mothers is growing. The Lord listens to the pouring out of the desires of the honest to heart the world over. No crown nor the jewels of life can exceed the one of motherhood.

Vocal solo by Sister Anna Owen.

Sister Rose Wallace of the general board spoke of the strength and power we added by receiving of the instructions and spirit of the conference, of cultivating the spirit of appreciation. The shortness of time and its opportunities. The future of the young people cannot be pictured by words. The honor of the young toward each other. The joy of giving blessing we receive without price. The possession of the Holy Ghost enabled us to accomplish the mission we were appointed to do before we came here.

Counselor Nellie C. Taylor spoke of our willingness to come here and partake of the sorrows and trials of life, and how wisely we should use our time; of observing last day. God's people were always a fasting people. Read the book of Esther and learn this grand truth. After the singing of an anthem conference adjourned for three months. Benediction by Elder Joseph Felt.

MINNIE E. JAMES, Sec'y.

SEVIER STAKE CONFERENCE.

RICHFIELD, Utah, Feb. 23, 1897.—The regular quarterly conference of the Sevier Stake of Zion was held here Saturday and Sunday, February 20th and 21st. There were in attendance Elder Anton H. Lund of the quorum of the Twelve Apostles, President W. H. Seegmiller and counselors of the Stake Presidency; High Counsellors; Bishops and counsellors; but owing to the inclemency of the weather and possibly partly to the fact that we have had and have yet a few cases of diphtheria (which by the way are getting better) in this ward, the meetings were not very largely attended, though on Sunday afternoon the house was filled.

At the first session of the conference reports were rendered from the following named wards by their respective Bishops: Richfield, Elsinore, Joseph, Monroe, Sturgis, Vermillion, Salina, Redmond, Maryvale and Annabella. Judging from these reports the condition of the Saints in this Stake as relates to spiritual as well as temporal matters is as good and better than it has been heretofore.

Presidents Wm. H. Seegmiller, Wm. H. Clark and Joseph S. Horne corroborated the reports of the Bishops.

In the afternoon Elder A. H. Lund addressed the congregation upon the necessity of the Saints being led and guided by and holding fast to the word of God; not alone that which is written in the Bible, Book of Mormon and Book of Doctrine and Covenants, and other inspired writings, but especially to the words of God proceeding from the mouths of living Prophets and Apostles in our day.

Patriarch C. N. Smith and President Seegmiller followed in the same strain

as Elder Lund. Elder Seegmiller said that never in the history of this Church had any person had cause to regret taking counsel from the Prophets and servants of God.

At 7:30 o'clock in the evening a meeting was held during which Pres. Seegmiller, Bishop Theo. Brandley and Elder A. H. Lund addressed the Saints and many valuable instructions and much good advice were given to those present.

Owing to the fact of our district school and Sunday school having been stopped for a week or so, there was no Sunday School Session of the conference; but the regular conference services were continued at 10 o'clock Sunday morning; and Bishop Parley Christensen of Mayfield, Elders Joseph S. Horne and Anthon H. Lund were the speakers. The subjects of the introduction of the Gospel, the necessity for all, and especially the young to refrain from contracting evil habits, comparing the evidence for the divinity of the Book of Mormon with those for the Bible, and the divinity of the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith were treated upon in an interesting manner.

After the usual opening exercises in the afternoon, Elder Simon Christensen read the totals of the statistical report of the Stake for the year ending Dec. 31, 1896, which were as follows: Three Patriarchs, 182 Seventies, 201 High Priests, 414 Elders, 67 Priests, 141 Teachers, 418 Deacons, 3,416 members, 4,906 officers and members, 1,858 children under eight years of age, a total of 8,764 souls; 45 marriages, 150 births of males, 153 births of females, 282 children blessed, 117 members, etc., received, 157 members, etc., removed, 6 new members baptized, 208 children baptized, 12 excommunicated, 53 deaths of males, 41 deaths of females, 222 individuals drawing support. He also presented the general Church and Stake authorities. The vote to sustain them was unanimous.

Elder W. N. Spafford was honorably released from the office of High Counsellor on account of advancing age and failing health.

The sacrament was administered by Elders P. Poulson and Jens I. Jensen.

The remainder of the time was occupied by Elders William H. Seegmiller and Anthon H. Lund, both of which preached very lucid and forcible Gospel sermons to the large audience.

The conference was adjourned for three months. Benediction by Patriarch Theodore Brandley.

The sweet singing enjoyed during the several meetings was furnished by the Richfield choir, the members of which deserve great praise for their services, under the adverse circumstances they have labored for a long time, having had no leader; especially is great credit due Sister Lizzie Westman, the organist, for her faithful and persistent efforts to hold the members together. We would gladly welcome a good and efficient choir leader in our midst.

We have had an abundance of snow both in the mountains and the valley, and the farmers are smiling at the good prospects before them.

While there are a few cases of sick-