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[For the Deseret News.  
STANZA..... By E. R. SNOW.

## To the Audience.

Make room for the rising minstrel—  
List, list to her minstrelsy:  
Its numbers are rich and truthful,  
And pure is its melody.

## To Miss Carmichael, G. S. L. City.

Move on, with your harp, young maiden;  
Fear not: let its music flow;  
Let your key-note be life eternal,  
And truthful each tone below.

In the mirage and foam of fiction,  
Dip not your choice pen; For why  
Should we cherish the thirst for falsehood?  
Till the fountain of truth runs dry.

With truth we can bless the righteous—  
With truth may reclaim the wrong;  
'Tis oil for the lips of kindness—  
A crown for the gift of song.

Truth—truth is the soul of reason—  
The wisdom which God reveals;  
The pathway of man's salvation—  
The power which the Priesthood wields.

Crave not what the world calls honor—  
Seek not for the meteor, fame;  
But live for the cause of Zion:  
Earth knows of no loftier aim.

Stoop not to Parnassian glories—  
Ask not for Olympus' fire;  
Your strains will survive the death knell  
Of all Ida's gods inspire.

A holier muse will fire thee,  
Truth's laurels will deck thy brow—  
The Spirit of God inspire thee;  
His Spirit inspires thee now.

On, on, for the point before you  
Is one of celestial height,  
Your harp—keep it pure, and soar to  
The Gods in the courts of light.

G. S. L. CITY, April 3, 1859.

## [For the Deseret News. JOSEPH SMITH.

All earth was dark, the lights were dim;  
They made thick "darkness visible," no more;  
Revealed to none the safety path, nor o'er  
The pure heart shed one gleam to comfort him;  
Till Joseph came, not with diviner's wand  
Nor "Presto" marvels, but the Priesthood true,  
And rent the veil, that men again might view  
The truths, the glories which exalt beyond.  
O how he strove and toiled to bless mankind,  
Mapped out the good old road all Saints have trod.  
The world, inhospitable, savage, blind,  
All fiercely thrust his spirit back to God.  
God honor'd Joseph Smith, a common name,  
And this proud age acknowledges with shame  
That weakness there eclipses mightiest fame.

JOHN JAKES.

G. S. L. CITY, March 6, 1859.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS.

Convened in the Tabernacle, Great Salt Lake City, Wednesday, April 6, 1859, 10 a.m.

President Brigham Young, Presiding.  
On the Stand: Presidents Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Daniel H. Wells;

Of the Twelve Apostles: Orson Hyde, Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, John Taylor, George A. Smith, Ezra T. Benson, Charles C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow and Franklin D. Richards.

Seventies: Joseph Young, Albert P. Rockwood and Levi W. Hancock;

High Priests: John Young, P. H. Young and Samuel L. Sprague;

Presiding Bishop: Edward Hunter;

Patriarch: John Young;

Presidency of the Stake: Daniel Spencer and David Fullmer;

Reporters: George D. Watt and John V. Long.

Choir sung: "God moves in a mysterious way." Prayer by Orson Hyde. Singing by the choir.

President Joseph Young spoke of the merciful interference of the Almighty for the deliverance of his people; alluded to the weaknesses that mortals were subject to; admonished the Saints to be faithful and diligent; treated upon the ebbing and flowing of the Spirit of God; said that it was for the trial of our faith, and that such transitions as the Saints experienced were calculated to call into requisition the best faith and feelings of the people of God. He contended that the day would come when every man's faith would be tested; rejoiced to meet with the Saints in conference and longed to see the day when they would be of one heart and one mind.

Choir sung, "Home Again."

Pres. H. C. Kimball blessed the people in the name of the Lord; bore testimony to the truth and applicability of the remarks of Pres. Joseph Young; advised the Saints to watch the still small voice of the Spirit and to follow its wise dictations and suggestions; spoke plainly of the necessity of practicing sobriety,

virtue and righteousness; exhorted the brethren to be faithful in all things, and prophesied that the Saints would never leave the mountains till they become pure before God, and that the Lord will multiply blessings upon the righteous for ever, while he will curse the wicked, the liar, the adulterer and the apostate; bore testimony to the mission of Joseph Smith—that he knew him to be a Prophet, and that Pres. Brigham Young is a Prophet also—that he knew those things by the Holy Ghost and the revelations of Jesus Christ. Choir sung, "O ye mountains high." Benediction by Pres. D. H. Wells.

2 o'clock p.m.

Singing. Prayer by Elder Orson Pratt. Choir sung a hymn.

Elder George A. Smith addressed the conference. Spoke from the text, "Straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leads to life, and few there be that find it." Reasoned on the purification of the Saints, the difficulty of getting men to live their religion, whereas many could be found who were willing to die for it; contended that, if the testimony of Peter, James and John was true when they called upon men to repent and obey the gospel, it is true now, and that, if God would reveal his mind and will for the instruction and salvation of the people then, he would do the same now; admonished the people to learn to control their thoughts and actions, to know that they were right for themselves, to do right for the love of righteousness and truth, and not because some man said what was right, and to live before God so as to have the light of the Spirit of truth in them continually; treated on faith, punctuality and honesty. He bore testimony to the First Presidency being men of God, set by revelation to guide and control His Church and Kingdom on the earth.

Choir sung a hymn.

Patriarch John Young next addressed the congregation. He spoke on the prosperity of Zion, the union of the Saints, the blessings in store for the faithful, the future increase of God's kingdom, the overthrow of Satan's kingdom and the final triumph of the righteous.

Pres. D. H. Wells made a few remarks relative to fasting and prayer and recommended the Saints to keep the fast day on to-morrow.

Choir sung, "The happy day has rolled along."

Dismissed by Elder Woodruff.

THURSDAY, April 7, 1859 }

10 o'clock, a.m. }

Meeting called to order by Pres. Daniel Spencer.

Choir sung "When quiet in my house I sit." Prayer by Elder John Taylor. Singing.

Elder Taylor presented the authorities of the Church as follows:—

Brigham Young, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Prophet, Seer and Revelator. Heber C. Kimball, First Counselor, Prophet, Seer and Revelator. Daniel H. Wells, Second Counselor, Prophet, Seer and Revelator;

Orson Hyde, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, John Taylor, George A. Smith, Amasa Lyman, Ezra T. Benson, Charles C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow and Franklin D. Richards, members of said Quorum;

John Smith, Presiding Patriarch;

John Young, President of the High Priests' Quorum; Joseph Young, Henry Herriman, Zera Pulsipher, Albert P. Rockwood, Horace S. Eldredge and Levi W. Hancock, Presiding Presidents over all the Seventies;

John Nebeker, President of the Elders' Quorum;

Daniel Spencer, President of this Stake of Zion;

Heman Hyde, Eleazer Miller, Phineas Richards, Levi Jackman, Ira Eldredge, John Vance, Edwin D. Woolley, John Parry, Winslow Farr, William Snow, Daniel Carn and Ira Ames, members of the High Council;

Edward Hunter, Presiding Bishop of the whole Church;

Lewis Wight, President of the Priest's Quorum;

McGee Harris, President of the Teacher's Quorum;

Alexander Herron, President of the Deacon's Quorum;

Brigham Young, Trustee in Trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Daniel H. Wells, Superintendent of Public Works;

Truman O. Angell, Architect for the Church; Brigham Young, President of the Perpetual Emigrating Fund to gather the poor. Heber C. Kimball, D. H. Wells and Edward Hunter, his assistants and agents for said fund;

George A. Smith, Historian and General Church Recorder; Wilford Woodruff, his assistant; who were all sustained by the Conference.

Choir sung "Great is the Lord."

Elder John Taylor spoke of the gathering of the Saints from the nations, the difference between a conference held by the Latter-day Saints and one held by the religious world; refuted the supposition entertained by many that the Saints have to act according to the doctrine of a few leading men, and contended that the way the people in this Church were

governed so easily, was by the authorities teaching them good and correct principles, and that then they governed themselves. Spoke of the power of the gospel to unite the people together, alluded to the gifts promised to the faithful in Christ; gave a brief history of his first acquaintance with the gospel, bore testimony that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, that he was acquainted with him living, and knew him when dying. Concluded by exhorting the people to fear God and observe righteousness, that they might be blest in time and exalted in eternity.

Choir sung "How beautiful upon the mountains, &c."

Benediction by Ezra T. Benson.

2 o'clock p.m.

Singing. Prayer by W. W. Phelps.

Choir sung the hymn on page 215.

President Brigham Young showed the necessity of the Saints adding knowledge to knowledge in relation to the things of God. Commented on the text contained in the Book of Job, "There is a spirit in man, and the Spirit of the Lord giveth it understanding." Spoke of man as a being created a little lower than the angels, and of his being capable of receiving intelligence until he is perfect. Described the relationship of angels to God and to man, showing that they were beings who had passed through a mortal existence, received their tabernacles, passed the ordeals and proved themselves worthy of exaltation, and said that the principles of life were calculated to exalt people to thrones, principalities and powers, and that all men had the privilege of coming to the knowledge of truth by the gift and power of the Holy Ghost. Recommended the brethren to be diligent in all things, and especially in their agricultural pursuits. Blest the people in the name of the Lord.

President Wells said: In presenting the names of the various Quorums this morning, the name of Benjamin L. Clapp was omitted. He has been dropped from the Seventies, and it is now moved and seconded that he be cut off from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.—Carried.

Choir sung "Now let us rejoice in the day of salvation."

President Kimball adjourned conference until the 6th of Oct. at 10 a.m., and then pronounced the benediction.

## Retrenchment and the "Mormons."

The following, from a correspondent of the Press (Philadelphia), is in accordance with the sentiments and feelings of many in Washington and other portions of the Union, as expressed in relation to Utah difficulties, and the effect that the expense already incurred in prosecuting the so-called Mormon war, has had in depleting the national treasury, and the consequent result that will follow, in the event, that so large a portion of the army is continued in this Territory.

The causes that produced so much excitement in the public mind, are being understood, and the originators of the difficulties seen in their true light; and there is a fair prospect that lying about the people of Utah in order to induce the Government to make expenditures, for the benefit of unprincipled speculators, army contractors and sutlers for a time to come, will be a little below par, at least till there shall be some way provided to replenish an exhausted treasury:—

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 1859.

Two leading items, which have swelled the budget of Secretary Cobb to its enormous size, are the Utah and Paraguayan wars; but the actual cost of these expeditions is so adroitly intermingled with the general expenditures of the army and navy, that it is difficult to exactly ascertain it. The national expenditures during the year, exclusive of payments on account of the public debt, amounted to \$81,585,667, about quadruple their amount twenty years ago. If it be possible, as the opponents of the tariff contend, to reduce these expenditures to \$50,000,000, those who have guided the affairs of the Government for the last two years have a grievous sin of extravagance to answer for; for there are no good reasons why the expenses of next year should be thirty millions less than those of last year, unless corruption, lavish expenditures, and reckless squandering of the public money, unprecedented in the annals of history, have heretofore prevailed. The anti-tariff economists are either trying to do entirely too much now, or they have been doing entirely too little heretofore. When we consider the relation between our past expenditures and their present programme of appropriations, in connection with the heavy debt already piled up, and the expensive project for the purchase of Cuba, which is being steadily pressed, the clamor against a revision of the tariff at this time must strike every intelligent man as the most arrant demagoguism. It is worthy only of a State legislator who fears to add half a mill to a State tax, when he knows that the credit and honor of his Commonwealth imperatively

demand the imposition of such a tax, because he is afraid that the indignation of the tax payers of his district will prevent his return to a seat which he dishonors by his cowardice. Buncombe is the great curse of American legislation; and Buncombe has more to do with the stubbornness with which a change of the tariff is resisted than any other cause, for the simple reason that members who have free-trade constituencies fear that their chances of re-election might be imperilled if they did justice to the financial interests of the nation.

It is said that the Mormon war has already cost the Government more than \$10,000,000; and if an army of two or three thousand men is to be kept there for an indefinite period of time, a similar drain upon the national resources will be continued. The American people are eminently practical in their views, and some of these days will begin to inquire whether it is desirable to incur so much trouble and expense to attain results of comparatively small importance. The great difficulty in Utah appears to be between the judges and the people. So far as recent advices inform us, peace reigns there. Governor Cumming possesses the confidence of the people, and to a great extent commands their obedience and respect. In the courts, District Attorney Wilson seems to move along as successfully as the generality of district attorneys. From the very nature of the legal system of Utah, as of all other American communities, the juries are made up of men chosen from the body of the people, and represent, inevitably, to some extent, the passions, feelings, and prejudices of those among whom their lot in life is cast.—

When Judge Sinclair, in the discharge of his official duties, chose to place upon the pardon of Mr. Buchanan an interpretation differing from the sense in which it was ordinarily accepted, and from the meaning which the peace commissioners and Governor Cumming placed upon it, and when he evinced a disposition to press prosecutions against a large number of the prominent citizens of the Territory, even against the better judgment of the district attorney, it is not very singular that a people, banded together as the Mormons are, should not only feel disposed to resist his dicta, but, in their resistance, to go beyond the bounds of legal propriety. That they are not wholly disposed to ignore the action of the courts is shown by the fact, that when Ferguson was indicted for alleged indignities upon Judge Stiles, the grand jury, composed of a majority of Mormons, found a true bill, but after a trial of three weeks' duration, during which he displayed considerable ingenuity in his defence, which he (being a lawyer) conducted in person, he managed to secure an acquittal.

In the subsequent case of a man indicted for the murder of a deaf mute, the Mormons allege that there were extenuating circumstances; and their version is that the deceased was killed while in custody for a criminal offence, at a time when the officer in charge of him was compelled, in self-defence, to destroy him. It is, no doubt, vain to pretend that, according to the strict rules of law, under the circumstances, as we understand them, that a Mormon grand jury was justifiable in ignoring a bill of indictment in this case; but the point which I wish to present to your readers is this:—that juries, everywhere throughout the country, are notoriously influenced in their deliberations by the sentiments and peculiar ideas of the communities in which they live; and serious as that evil is—subversive as it is of the true ends of justice—does it impose upon the National Government the duty of correcting it by having martial law declared in Utah—by having men tried by drum-head courts—by giving judges absolute power of life or death, and unlimited control of property, or by squandering away \$10,000,000 in vain attempts to establish Mormon jurisprudence on a basis which exactly squares with the ideas of clear-headed lawyers? If the National Government is to undertake to compel juries and grand juries to act in all important cases as the judges think they should act, it will have its hands full, and it can squander away hundreds of millions annually; and after it has done so, discover that infinitely more harm than good has been accomplished.

The Press, speaking of Mr. Kellogg's amendment to the Arizona bill, providing for the election of the Governor, Secretary of State, Marshal and Judges by the people of the Territory, says:—

"The marshal and judges, being properly Federal officers, whose duties correspond with those of the Federal marshals and judges in the several States, should always, we think, be appointed by the President; but it is a question worth considering whether governors and secretaries of State should not be elected by the people of the Territories. Some time since a bill to this effect was introduced into the House by Mr. Morris, Illinois; and while the proposition may be at this time premature, and, perhaps, liable to some serious objections, we shall not be at all astonished if, when a full examination of it is made, and the subject is discussed in all its bearings, the American people should finally decide in its favor."

What are the duties of Federal Marshals and Judges as defined by law?