

ministry, and subsequently became a Baptist minister. That was in 1870. He believed that God never would again speak to man on the earth. But in his experience for twenty years afterwards he felt that there was truth in the testimony he first heard. At last he felt there was only one thing for him to do—that was to obey the Gospel and take the consequences of doing so. This he did and he has since received a strong testimony that this work is true—that it is the work of the living God. He spoke with fervor and much earnestness, and his utterances made a deep impression on the audience.

The speaker also gave his idea of what an ancient Apostle was from what he had read of them, and said for a long time before he had that privilege he was anxious to see a living Apostle, and when he did see one—when he felt him in the handshake and heard his voice, there was such a power and influence around him for good that he had never before experienced. That was another testimony to him that it was of God. The first Apostle he ever saw was Franklin D. Richards. He was listened to with the closest attention.

Elder Wm. N. Elfe made a few edifying remarks, and related his experience among the Indians while in Arizona. Spoke of a recent visit to Mexico. He said the Saints were in a prosperous condition there. They have good crops of grain, vegetables and fruit. They are contented and happy; they are increasing and will yet become a numerous and great people in Mexico.

The benediction was pronounced by Elder Joseph Stanford.

In the afternoon the opening prayer was offered by Elder W. W. Burton.

Elder S. B. Young read part of the revelation given through the Prophet Joseph Smith, D. C. 23, 1832, concerning the war that would come to pass, "beginning at the rebellion of South Carolina." He spoke at length on the causes which contributed to bring about the fulfillment of that great prophecy, and established the great truth that Joseph was a true Prophet. He mentioned numerous events that had transpired since the prediction was made.

Elder Franklin D. Richards gave some additional instruction on the subject. He also reminded the Saints that there is much of the prophecy given in that revelation which had yet to be fulfilled.

Elder Heber J. Grant said after a prophecy has been fulfilled people say that it was not given by inspiration. But those who have not the Spirit of God do not know how these things are fulfilled. It is through the lack of the Spirit of God that people do not understand the things of God, and hence they cannot understand prophecy and its fulfillment. The world cannot understand that the Latter-day Saints are fulfilling prophecy in gathering to these mountains and building houses unto the Lord. This is because they have not the Spirit of God. There is more solid comfort and happiness to be found in the religion of the Latter-day Saints than in any other religion in the world. He referred to the prophecy of Joseph Smith that the Saints would gather to

these mountains and would build up cities and large communities and thus they would eventually become a powerful people. Much of the prediction has already been fulfilled—which no one can deny, and the remainder will be consummated. He referred at length to the persecutions of the Saints both in the states and in Utah, and the manner in which they have been deprived of so much of their property by the government. But, said he, there are set times for the Lord to favor Zion, and this is one of them, for He has caused the government to restore to the Church some of the property, and the time may come when the United States will be called upon to account for the remainder of the property of which this people have been wrongfully despoiled. He also spoke on the Word of Wisdom, and said there is no excuse for our not rendering obedience to that Word and Will of the Lord. He exhorted to be true to God, to themselves and the covenants which they made with the Lord.

The choir sang and the meeting closed with prayer by Elder Fjelsted.

At the close of the afternoon service a Seventies conference was held, at which much valuable instruction was given and a number of important questions were answered pertaining to the duties of the seventies.

Monday morning there was a good-sized congregation. After singing by the choir, and prayer by Bishop James Taylor, Elder H. J. Grant addressed the Saints. On the afternoon previous he stated that he expected to speak this morning to empty benches; but he now confessed that he was happily and gratefully disappointed at seeing so large an assembly, notwithstanding the great attraction that was to the city—the large circus. This spoke well for the Latter-day Saints in this State. When we come together to serve the Lord with prayerful hearts we will not go away without a blessing. He referred to the remarks of Elder Fjelsted on Sunday. He endorsed them. He believed that the blessings which we now enjoy in this life are the results of the conditions and conduct of our lives in a previous state of existence. He said the faithful labors we perform and the integrity of our hearts in this life will secure to us eternal life hereafter. It is not knowledge alone that will save us, but the faithful application of that knowledge to build up the purposes of God and establish His work on the earth. Elder Grant related some of the experiences at the time he was called to be an Apostle of Jesus Christ. He felt unworthy of such a high and holy calling, and was disposed to decline the call. After his ordination he still felt that he ought not to have accepted the responsible office.

While riding along on his journey, subsequently, and still pondering upon the matter he termed a visitation—it seemed as if some one was walking beside him and a voice said to him, "you need not trouble any more about the reason why you were called to be an Apostle. It was not on account of your own worthiness, but in response to the request of your father, who has asked this from the hands of God." Elder Grant's father is dead—ne died when Heber J. was but nine days old. He was, as many will still

remember, a good, true and faithful servant of God. He labored incessantly and fervently to build up, purify and establish the saints to the faith of the Gospel. He was literally worn out in the services of the Lord. It will thus be seen that after they pass behind the veil, our parents watch over us and are solicitous for our welfare.

Elder C. D. Fjelsted made some very excellent remarks on the solicitude of parents for the good and salvation of the children. He exhorted the Saints to store up the knowledge and wise counsels they have received at this conference.

Elder F. D. Richards said he was much pleased with the remarks of Elder Grant. Spoke of the faith and long labors of Jedediah M. Grant and his endurance through life, and confirmed the testimony of Heber J. concerning the blessings the fathers, who have received the Priesthood can procure for their offspring after they have finished a faithful career in this life. Spoke of the restoration of the Priesthood and keys held by Moses, Elias, Elijah, which had been conferred on the Prophet Joseph Smith for the establishing of the Kingdom of God and the salvation of the human family. He gave much fatherly counsel, and advised the Saints to be faithful, to be earnest in all their endeavors to overcome all evil and stand approved before God.

After benediction by Elder Richard Ballantyne meeting closed.

In the afternoon the house was again filled. Elder L. W. Shurtliff expressed the great pleasure he felt at the privilege of listening to the rich instructions we have had at the conference. He wished he could remember it all. He spoke on the irrigation system and the great blessing it has been to the people. He advised them to adopt means to store up the water while they have an opportunity to do so and not let privileges slip out of their hands and go into the hands of speculators who would make them pay tribute for their water in the future.

He endorsed all that had been said by the other speakers during the conference, bore testimony to the union that exists in this Church and the harmony there is in this State of Zion.

Elder F. D. Richards delivered an excellent discourse replete with instructions appropriate to the present condition of the Saints. Related the circumstance under which the Prophet Joseph and Oliver Cowdery received the Melchisedek Priesthood from Peter, James and John, the endorsement given in the Kirtland and Nauvoo Temples, and in the Temples in Utah. Spoke of the importance of keeping records, advised the people to go to the poles at the proper time and vote for the adoption of the Constitution and secure for ourselves the inestimable boon of Statehood, etc., etc.

Elder H. J. Grant made a few closing remarks, endorsing those of Elder Shurtliff relative to securing and husbanding water. He advised the people not to waste the water by letting too much of it run long on their land and washing out its virtues.

The choir sang an anthem. After benediction by Elder N. C. Flygare, conference adjourned.

JOSEPH HALL.

OGDEN CITY, July 23, 1895.