

that to his mind no more important revelation had been given to the Saints in the latter days than that with regard to the vicarious work to be done for our ancestors who have died without a knowledge of the Gospel.

Apostle Grant dwelt upon the plan of life and salvation and referred to the labors in which the Saints were engaged for the redemption of mankind. He observed that many persons were becoming infidels because they read and heard but one side of the story. The world might ridicule the Latter-day Saints for their belief—might even assert that there was no inspiration; but those among the Saints who had seen the eyes of the blind opened, the ears of the deaf unstopped, and those whose life had been despaired of raised up as it were from the dead, they knew of what they spoke.

He had himself received a testimony from on high and knew that God had again revealed the Gospel to the earth, that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, and that the work being performed in His holy temples was accepted by Him. May God bless us one and all, and help us to be faithful in all things.

The choir sang the anthem,  
Grant us peace, O Lord.

The benediction was pronounced by Elder B. H. Roberts.

#### STAKE CONFERENCES.

##### BEAR LAKE.

That we have just had the best conference ever held in this Stake is the unqualified statement of those who attended. The large tabernacle was well filled during each service. We were greatly favored with the presence of Presidents Wilford Woodruff and George Q. Cannon and President Olsen and Isaac Smith of Cache Valley Stake, and Prof. Karl G. Maeser. The meetings were entirely devoted to preaching and the speakers were greatly endowed with freedom and power. The education of the youth of Zion was the leading subject.

The Stake was represented by President W. Budge as being in a progressive condition. There is an absence of litigation and quarrelling and a brotherly feeling exists generally. The singing was also another excellent feature of our conference and throughout the whole of the services the Spirit of God was manifest. The benediction was pronounced by President Wilford Woodruff.

T. MINSON, Sec.

PARIS, Idaho, August 10th.

##### WASATCH.

The quarterly conference of the Wasatch Stake of Zion convened in the Stake House, Heber City, August 1st and 2nd. On Saturday morning there were present on the stand A. Hatch, President of the Stake, and his counselors, and a good representation of the local Priesthood. After the usual exercises, President Hatch said he felt glad to see so many present. From reports he had heard, this would be considered a large congregation, compared with some other places he could name. He said we have had very few troubles in our midst and he advised the Saints

to continue to live at peace with their neighbors and cultivate good will to all.

Elder Done of the Salt Lake Stake Academy made some excellent remarks.

The remainder of the forenoon was occupied by Elders Buchles and Cook and John M. Murdock.

Benediction by Elder A. Wootton.

In the afternoon Elder B. H. Roberts addressed the congregation.

Benediction by Elder W. Lindsey.

On Sunday Elder Roberts read a passage from the Doctrine and Covenants, referring to the building up of the City of Zion, and advised the Saints to read that revelation when they got home. He showed that God had never forsaken His people, contrasting the condition of the Church then and now.

Benediction by Bishop Duke.

In the afternoon Bishops Murdock, Clegg, Van Wagener, Duke and Cluff, reported the condition of their Wards showing that at present, health, peace and prosperity prevailed. In the absence of the Bishop of Woodland, Elder Keeler made some remarks in reference to the same.

The remainder of the afternoon was occupied by remarks from Elders Done, D. Jones and Frederick Lewis, of Spanish Fork, and President Hatch.

The choir deserves great praise for their excellent singing. The weather was fine, and the people turned out and on Sunday filled the Stake house to overflowing.

Benediction by Patriarch Thomas Hicken.

HENRY CLEGG, Stake clerk.  
HEBER CITY, August 3rd.

#### UNENVIABLE PREDICAMENT

On June 30th of the present year a middle-aged and prepossessing lady came to this city in search of her "husband." She had followed him over a circuitous route, through several mining camps in Colorado and Utah. The runaway husband had with him a little girl of three years, so the story goes, of whom the woman detective was mother. Heart-broken and discouraged, she was about to give up the object of her search when she met and made the acquaintance of an old barber who advised her to put the matter in the hands of the Franks' Detective Agency, which was then composed of E. A. Franks, W. O. Norrell and Alf Ecklund, once a member of the present police force in this city. Acting upon the recommendations of the aged tonsorial artist, she accompanied him to the office of the local detective bureau. Mr. Franks was there attending to some matters of business when the lady called. It is alleged that she recoiled with a feeling almost of horror when she recognized in Mr. Franks a man to whom she had, as she now claims, been married before she became the wife of the man she was in search of. Franks, too, it is said, turned pale and trembled, but they both recovered themselves and were introduced to one another as strangers, while those present wondered what was the cause of the strange actions. The woman relates a strange and romantic story which in substance is as

follows: Mr. Franks was once my husband. Under the name of Coplin he first met me at the home of my parents in Nebraska in 1881. In August of that year I became his wife. Two months later he deserted me. The desertion was caused by a man who came to our place from Alabama, and recognized Mr. Franks, or Coplin, as a man who had married the niece of an ex-United States Senator from Alabama and then cruelly deserted her. This gentleman pathetically related the above facts to my father, who began a vigorous investigation of the case. Coplin would not admit results but fled to Sherman, Texas, from where he penned me a letter confessing his guilt, and asking me to forgive him and join him, and he would care for me as his wife. Of course I indignantly refused his offer. It was subsequently revealed to us and positively substantiated that he had not only married and deserted the Alabama girl but that he had prior to that married and deserted two women in Georgia. Securing a divorce, I, eighteen months later, married a Mr. Hamilton and came west to Colorado. To us was born a little girl, whom Mr. Hamilton stole from me at Grand Junction, where he deserted me. I tracked him to this city where I met Mr. Coplin for the first time since he deserted me. Since my arrival here I have thoroughly investigated his crooked and inhuman course and am in receipt of letters written by him to her. The handwriting has been identified by his friends as being his.

The following letter has been received by a gentleman in this city whose name is purposely withheld:

"July 31, 1891.

"My Dear Sir—Yours addressed to me at this place arrived this morning, and I lose no time in replying, as the subject matter of it is of very great interest to me and mine. My cousin was most assuredly married in my house, 'Wildwood,' near the station Gurley, by the Rev. Dr. Bannister of the Church of the Nativity, in Huntsville, Ala., where the marriage is duly registered in his entry book on the 29th day of April, 1879. This is my memory and my cousin's, but we have in our archives the newspaper published in Huntsville, containing it which, when found, we can send if you desire it. In November, 1881, he deserted her, taking the Memphis & Charleston train, on which he had a position as brakeman, and from that day to this neither his wife nor I, nor any one here, has seen him. She afterwards occasionally heard from him through anonymous sources. She knows nothing of his marriage in Tuscomb, but received a letter from a Mrs. Martin, saying that he, Mr. Caplin, had married her daughter and left her; this in Arkansas. As to this man's appearance, the woodcut sent could be sworn to by many members of my family. In confirmation of the pictures sent by you I enclose two photos in our possession, either of which would identify him beyond a shadow of doubt. You perceive it is the same face. His height was an inch or two perhaps over six feet. What you would call a fine-looking, but coarse man. Hair so very dark as to be called black, eyes ditto, also moustache. He wore no beard other than moustache, except now and then a goatee, and he sometimes dyed that. Women are poor judges of weight, but I think he weighed about 180 or more. Manner peculiar, movements rather graceful but