GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Sixty-Sixth Semi-Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 a. m. on Friday, Oct. 6, 1893.

The following were on the stand: Of the First Presidency—Wilford Woodruff, George Q. Cannon and Joseph F. Smith; of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles—Lorenzo Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Brigham Young, Francis M. Lyman, John Henry Smith, John W. Taylor, Marriner W. Merrill and Abraham H. Cannon; Patriarch John Smith; of the Presidency of the Seventies—Seymour B. Young, John Morgan, George Reynolds; of the Presiding Bishopric—William B. Preston and Orson F. Whitney. There were also many Presidents of Stakes and other Priesthood Elders from all parts of Utah and surrounding states and territories.

Conference was called to order by President George Q. Cannon.

The choir and congregation sang:

Come ye to praise our Father's name,
Join round with one accord;
And sing aloud to God our King
The Master's glorious word.

The opening prayer was offered by Elder Brigham Young.

Singing by the choir:

For the strength of the hour we raise Thee,
And seek not a refuge below.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON

Delivered the opening discourse. He treated instructively upon a variety of subjects. His opening remarks were devoted to the Hundred Years of the Saints, and he made special reference to the establishment of the super-structure of the temple. The invariable change of sentiment among the people of the world, a peculiarity of our own nation, was spoken of. The remainder of the discourse was devoted to the question of missionary work in the country and abroad in all the nations of the earth. The speaker presented many good things concerning Zion.

PRESIDENT LORENZO SNOW

was the next speaker. The following is a brief summary of his remarks.

There never was a day since the organization of the Church that the Saints had more cause to rejoice than now. The Lord has been with us from the time the Church was founded. He accomplished all for us that we could have reasonably anticipated. Tribulation has been the experience of the people of God and it is imagined that it should be so. Before we came to this probationary life we, therefore, foresaw that conditions here would be in many respects unpleasant. These and afflictions, if we might so call them, were necessary for our future exaltation. It had seemed at times as if we could scarcely endure the yoke without murmuring, but God gave us strength to pass through them unscathed. It appeared to be needful that the Captain of our Salvation had to endure trials, and even He, great as He was, found some difficulty in enduring them. His immeasurable distance in the garden of Gethsemane illustrates this. He said nearly what He would have to undergo. His feelings were so excruciating that He sweat, as it were, great drops of blood, and an angel was sent to give him encouragement and strength.

A change had come over the feelings of the people of the world in reference to us—especially with the people of our nation. This has been brought about by the Lord. The work that had been accomplished in the nations had been wonderful, by the preaching of the Gospel by the Elders. Besides, during the last few months a great work has been done for the redemption of the dead. Many ordinances had been officiated for in the Temples. The great work of those who were in the spirit world for whom the work had been done would receive the truth. The conditions for the spirits of the dead read rejoicing. His brethren in Jesus in the spirit world were a thousand times more favorable than they were here in this life. There is joy incited to this glorious work to redeem the dead were in a degree savioured of their dear kindred.

It was pleasant to have all worldly concerns go forward agreeably, yet the Kingdom of God was not meat or drink, but righteousness. As a people we did nothing that we have to be ashamed of. If we repented the Lord would forgive us. In most things we had acted like the wise man of the parable who built his house upon a rock. We had built upon the rock of revelation. This being the case, as Christ said to Peter on a certain occasion—on a church on the plan of God would not have power to prevail against us. Our prospect was grand and glorious. In the future life we would have our families—our wives and children. Even if they did not follow our counsels, it was just as essential in getting a salvation as we would eventually have them, for they will be where we shall be. The Gospel was complete, because and through it all divine system of the sons and daughters of men would be saved to some degree, with the exception of comparatively a very few. The difficulties of salvation had perplexed us now, but they ought not to disturb us to any extent, because of the greatness of our promised reward. We could affirm, for the sake of what God had promised to the faithful, to sacrifice everything of a worldly character.

The speaker drew a contrast between the condition of the time when President Woodruff and others went to Independence, Missouri, to lay the foundation stones of the great Temple which would yet be raised there, and the situation now. Then the love of the brethren was exemplified by thousands, while during the visit of President Woodruff and his counselors, they were treated with great cordiality and the utmost respect and consideration. The change was significant as relating to the attitude of the nation towards us, to the world, and to the Lord. It was a speaker's conviction that it was by the power of God, in our behalf.

ELDER FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS,

of the Quorum of the Twelve, on the subject of the Church of the Firstborn, said that the progress of the Church was the work of God in our behalf. The spirit of love of God burns from hundreds and thousands of hearts. The speaker felt that the Lord had blessed and made a great nation of us. We were a peculiar people and were treated as such by the world. We had been persecuted, and there was a time when we could not worship God according to the dictates of our consciences. We had been driven from our homes and our property was taken from us. We had been driven from our homes and our property was taken from us. We had been driven from our homes and our property was taken from us