

downments under the hands of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and gave a sketch of the life of our deceased President, which was very interesting.

Elder Jenkin Jones showed that faith in the Lord produces the blessing of health by means of the administration of the Elders.

Second Stake Counselor William H. Gibbs said that if we observe the laws of health we are vigorous in body, and if we observe the laws of the Gospel a great reward is in store for us.

Sunday morning, Sept. 11th.—Bishop Moroni Ward urged the people to be diligent in the performance of their duties, that they may gain a reward, and showed the necessity of working under the inspiration of the Almighty.

Brother Calvin Richards spoke of the evil of finding fault with those who are placed over us in the Priesthood.

Brother Edward Anderson urged the people to honor and revere the name of the Lord, and His Priesthood on the earth.

2 p.m.—Elder O. C. Hoskins said a better feeling prevails in our Stake than ever before. Our Stake officers are doing their duties fairly well, our meetings, both ward and Stake, are better attended, and our people are prosperous. He gave much good instruction.

Elder John M. McCrary urged the people to raise their families in such a way that they will be proud of their family government.

Brother Edward Anderson said a man can never have his sins forgiven, by baptism, unless he had faith in God, and was sincere in his repentance. We make ourselves happy by making others happy. This is our mission on the earth.

Elder Wm. H. Gibbs spoke of our duty toward those who have departed this life. He urged all who possibly can to go to the Temple and work for themselves and their dead relatives.

A meeting was held on Saturday evening in the interest of the Y. M. M. I. A., during which instruction was given by Stake Superintendent S. D. Davis, Brother Edward Anderson and others.

WILLIAM N. ANTHONY,
Stake Clerk.

Maricopa Stake

The Sunday schools of the Stake met at 9 a.m. Sunday morning, Sept. 18, 1898, at Mesa, with Superintendent Geo. W. Lewis presiding, and held exercises one hour, when the school adjourned and the conference meeting convened at 10 a.m., with the majority of the Stake and ward officers present. Elder H. C. Rogers was the first speaker, followed by Bishop Horne and others of the brethren, who spoke upon various topics of interest and encouragement to the people.

The Bishops' reports were very gratifying, showing that the health and prosperity of the people were good, and the majority of the people were trying to live the lives of Latter-day Saints. All the associations were in good running order except the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement associations, and they would resume work this coming week.

The announcement of the organization of the First Presidency as published in the "Deseret News" just came in time to be read to the congregation before presenting the general and local authorities, which was received by a unanimous expression of approval and all heartily voted to sustain Elder Lorenzo Snow as Prophet, Seer and Revelator and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in all the world; also as trustee-in-trust, together with his counselors and the council of Apostles.

JAMES F. JOHNSON,
Stake Clerk.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Services at the Tabernacle Sunday afternoon, Oct. 16, 1898, were presided over by Elder Charles W. Penrose, of the Stake presidency.

The choir sang the hymn:

Behold the mountain of the Lord
In latter days shall rise.

Prayer was offered by Elder Joseph Christensen.

The choir further sang:

O my Father, thou that dwellest
In the high and glorious place.

Elder Charles W. Penrose of the Stake presidency addressed the congregation. He said he took great pleasure in speaking to the Latter-day Saints, despite the fact that it was a surprise to him to occupy the position. As the words of the last hymn expressed, all were the children of God and as such were expected to pay allegiance unto him. The speaker deprecated the fact that in these times there was so much confusion concerning Deity, His attributes and the mission of Jesus Christ. There was little excuse for such a condition, however, for in this dispensation God had revealed Himself and had restored His Gospel to the earth, as pictured in the vision of John the Revelator while on the Isle of Patmos. The angel seen flying through the midst of heaven had restored that glorious and everlasting Gospel which was to be preached to every nation, kindred, tongue and people to whom the message would be, repent and be baptized.

The Latter-day Saints, said the speaker, claimed that they had been recipients of this Gospel. They professed to have had communion with God the Father, through His revealing Himself to His servants the Prophets and Apostles in this dispensation. All humanity possessed an instinctive faculty which prompted them to look to a superior power, but even in their eagerness, unless led by the proper spirit they would fall short of receiving the desired knowledge concerning that power. There were heavenly laws which had to be complied with, and they that worshipped God must do so in spirit and in truth.

The world at large had a very vague idea concerning Deity, largely because of basing their belief in Him, on a foundation far from substantial—something hardly tangible and of which they themselves had no very great understanding.

Elder Penrose spoke at some length on the personality of God and the creation of man in His image. All people upon the earth were His children, His sons and daughters, and had been made in His likeness. Contemplating this fact should cause the heart of man to swell with joy, in the knowledge that the Ruler of the universe had seen fit to so recognize His children, whom He had sent upon the earth to fill a mission, upon which it was expected they would render a report when called to leave this sphere of action.

The Godhead was one in the unity of the Spirit, said Elder Penrose. This was made plain by a proper interpretation of the scriptures. The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, were three separate and distinct substances, but in the unity of spirit, purpose and action their oneness was brought about, and they comprehended the life and light of the world. Such a union God required of His children, and in the accomplishment of this, the Gospel was the all important factor, the necessary spirit permeating all who embraced it and lived up to its principles and ordinances.

Elder Penrose referred to the fables of ancient origin which had crept into

the different sectarian creeds as to Deity. They had been the cause of much confusion among religious denominations until a great portion of the human family had been led to declare "There is no God," and had thrown aside religion in disgust, feeling in their hearts that the world was full of impostors and false teachers, and all because of a lack of that living testimony as to the true Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The speaker bore testimony to the restoration of the Gospel in this dispensation. He was a recipient of it, as were thousands of others who had been gathered out from the nations of the earth, and had received blessings for their obedience. God's Spirit was made manifest in His people, and it whispered to those desirous of doing His will, the great truths embraced in the Gospel. The Mormon missionaries were now out in the field preaching His word. It was a message to all the world and was being received by many of the honest in heart. A singular thing connected with its promulgation was the fact that opposition came mainly from those who professed to be followers of Jesus, and leaders in their religious callings.

Concluding, the speaker appealed to those who had not received the Gospel, to investigate it with a true and honest purpose. This was an age of skepticism and disbelief and it behooved all who would be true followers of Christ to cast aside their ancient traditions and false vagaries and look unto God and His appointed way.

The choir sang the anthem:

With sheaths and swords and bows unstrung.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Brigham Young of the Council of the Apostles.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The annual Sunday school conference of the Weber Stake was held in the Ogden tabernacle, Saturday and Sunday, 24th and 25th of September, 1898, presided over by Assistant Stake Superintendent L. F. Moench. Superintendent Richard Ballantyne has been confined to his room for several weeks.) Elders Geo. Goddard, J. M. Mills and W. B. Dougall, of the general Sunday School Union board, were in attendance and gave much valuable instruction on Sunday school work. There was a good attendance of superintendents, officers and teachers and a very large attendance of children with their parents present. The reports of the superintendents of the Stake illustrated the work done during the past year was in harmony with the instructions laid down in the treatise and the exercises of the various classes gave evidence of the careful and efficient work of the teachers and the control and discipline which the children are under. At the teachers' meeting held at noon on Sunday, Elder Geo. Goddard gave very valuable and timely advice on the subjects of the Word of Wisdom and tithing. Elders Dougall and Mills spoke strongly on Prayer and marriage, cautioning all young men and ladies to be prayerful and careful in the selection of their companions for life. During the conference Apostle Richards and President L. W. Shurtliff gave many valuable lessons which will be of untold benefit to all interested in Sabbath school work. The exercises were made more interesting by the efficient work of the choir and inspiring songs of Brother Goddard, a very interesting and instructive time was enjoyed by all present.

C. J. ROSS,
Secretary of Stake.