

which have existed for forty years in the quorum of the twelve.

The rank and file appear to have reached the conclusion that there is too much "one man" power in the church. The president and the twelve have been in the habit, it is claimed, of disposing of all mooted questions by quietly referring them to the "next conference," one year hence. This has displeased the followers, and now they propose to have a change in the system of presenting and passing upon questions of interest to the church.

The story of Joseph Smith's conversation with the angel Moroni, from which sprang the Mormon Church, was the main feature of today's session of the conference. The story was told by Mrs. Catherine Salisbury, Joseph Smith's sister, and the last survivor of his immediate family.

Mrs. Salisbury is 83 years of age, but she claims to recall the time of the wonderful vision as though it were but yesterday. She told how the angel had come to her brother in the night and had stood in a glow of white light midway between the floor and the ceiling of his room, and had talked for hours, telling where the golden record was to be found in the hill of Cumorah. And then she told how the plates had been found, and after much tribulation on account of mobs of evil men, they were translated, and how the Church of Jesus Christ was founded.

At the afternoon session the resolution providing for the establishment of the Order of Enoch was laid over until the next conference. The only other business of importance considered was a motion to transfer the publication of the *Herald*, now issued at Lamoni, Ia., to Independence. The matter was laid over until tomorrow.

KANSAS CITY, April 11.—The quorum of twelve and Joseph Smith were in executive session until midnight last night, and this morning early the session was resumed. Questions of grave importance to the Reorganized church are being considered, an undercurrent of restlessness among the laity having awakened the leaders to a realization that something must be done to overcome the spirit of opposition manifest each day since the conference began.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon the quorum was still in secret session. It is believed the conference will adjourn next Monday. Laymen are hoping that revelations as to the filling of the vacancies in the quorum will be given. There is considerable rivalry between Kirtland (Ohio), Lamoni (Iowa) and Independence (Mo.) for a location for permanent headquarters. Independence is, of course, now recognized as the new Zion, but the saints located there are fearful lest Kirtland or Lamoni wrest the honors from that place.

KANSAS CITY, April 11.—At the afternoon session of the Reorganized Church the principal business transacted was the selection of the next place of meeting, to be held April 6, 1896.

The contest for the conference between Kirtland, O., and Lamoni, Ia., went to the Ohio town by a vote of 611 to 351, after a heated debate. A resolution was passed endorsing the use of tents in all districts where the presiding elders deem it necessary as the most available and effective means of

reaching certain classes. The resolution was presented by a committee appointed on the question. It was decided that the board of directors of the Lamoni, Ia., college, now building, shall consist of nine members, two of whom are not to be members of the church.

KANSAS CITY, April 12.—The "saints" in session at Independence are in trouble. It appears that a lengthy revelation, purporting to be from God, was received by Joseph Smith a year ago, which made some important disclosures, and that the twelve, in a body, have not yet endorsed the revelation. Some members of the twelve claim to have received testimony of God as to the truth of the revelation, but others cannot see it in that way.

The revelation in dispute says that the supposed vacancy in the presidency was not a vacancy in the eyes of God. David H. Smith, who was the third member of that body, is not dead, as had been supposed by many of the council, but is insane, and is now confined in the Illinois asylum and has been so confined for the last twenty years. David H. Smith is a brother of the present president, and a large number of the church ministry regard the revelation of last year as an indication on the part of Joseph Smith that he did not intend to receive any revelation filling the vacancy until his brother dies. The revelation says: "My servant, Thomas W. Smith, is in my hand, and his bishopric shall be continued for a season; if he fully recover he will enter again the work. I take him to myself another will be appointed in his stead when the quorum is filled."

Many of the elders claim God, in His infinite knowledge, would not use the word "if" in speaking of the result of the illness and recovery of His apostle. The same revelation bids the members of the church for not placing full confidence in the president and his revelations of the divine will.

The twelve, not having approved this revelation as of God, are causing much unrest. A number of the elders and ministry are discouraging "prophet worship," and one of the young elders boldly announced that he was not a worshiper of the prophet, but simply a follower of Christ and proclaiming the Gospel.

A resolution was discussed providing for the appointment of a board of directors of the saints' college, now building at Lamoni, Ia. A number of the delegates wanted the college to be exclusively a saints' college, and that no outsiders be allowed on the board of directors. The committee decided to open the college to all and place two outsiders on the board of directors. The question of a meeting for the conference in 1896 brought up more opposition.

The evening session was protracted and developed a serious split in the conference.

At the general conference two years ago a resolution was introduced stating that it was the sense of the church that in the administration of the sacrament the teachers, deacons and laity were not empowered to assist even in the passing of the plate or cup. It was thought at that time that it was adopted, but the minutes failed to show

it that way, and so today the same resolution was again brought forward by Apostle Lambert and taken up for argument.

The counselor of the president, W. W. Blair, said the views expressed in the resolution were not in harmony with the rules of the church, and that he was bound to accept the utterances of the president as the best exposition of the rules of the church. Where the laws of the church needed an explanation or exposition, the chosen man of the church was the one above all others best prepared to make plain the meaning of the word.

This brought out the real issues behind the matter. Was President Smith to rule and interpret or was the church?

Several of the delegates took sides on the question, a debate lasting several hours taking place. When the vote was finally taken on the resolution it was adopted by a vote of 110 to 20.

The president then read the list of appointments made for the coming year. It contained several hundred names, and included the following: Iowa, east Nebraska, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, north Illinois and Wisconsin—A. H. Smith, J. R. Lambert.

European Mission—James Caffall, G. T. Griffith.

The Canadas—J. H. Lake.

Missouri and Kansas—Jor. Luff.

Michigan and Northern Indiana—E. C. Briggs.

Rocky Mountain Mission—H. C. Smith.

New England States—W. H. Kelley, with Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and District of Columbia added.

Colorado, East Wyoming, West Nebraska and New Mexico—G. W. Gillen.

INFORMATION WANTED.

HODGEN.—Mrs. Martha Dill, of Nantucket, Connecticut, wishes to know the whereabouts of her brother, James Hodgen, who came to Utah about five years ago. He wrote one letter to his mother. His sister says he is a member of the Church and has a family. She has written two letters addressed to him at Salt Lake City, but both have been returned.

JUDD-FULLER.—Anna Hartman, foot Chestnut street boat, Peoria, Illinois, writes to learn something about her sister and brother, who are supposed to be in Utah. She has not seen them for years, and is very anxious to hear from them or their relatives here. Their names are Lisantha Judd, Simon Perry Fuller and Lucius Hubbard Fuller. They were reared in Warsaw, Hancock county, Illinois.

WHITE.—Anson S. White, of Lyon, Clinton county, Iowa, desires information concerning Anson White, or relatives. He left Pennsylvania 55 or 60 years ago. He joined the Latter-day Saints, lived at Nauvoo, and moved west with them to Salt Lake City.

The body of State Senator Alexander Wike, of Winnemucca, Nev., who died in Santa Monica, April 3rd, has been cremated at Rosedale cemetery, near Los Angeles.