

THE DESERT WEEKLY

PIONEER PUBLICATION

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.

ESTABLISHED

TRUTH AND LIBERTY

JUNE 8, 1850.

NO. 24.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1889.

VOL. XXXVIII.

"LADY CROCUS AND LORD SUNSHINE."

Little Lady Crocus
With a royal sway,
Leading all the springtime,
In her modest way,
Up comes her yellow head
Above the frozen ground,
Peeping at the winter weeds,
That hedge her all around.

"Shall I poke my head out?
Or wait a warmer day?
Tell me, dear Lord Sunshine,
Shall I go or stay?"

Then the bright Lord Sunshine,
Smiling on her, said:
"With my arms around you,
How can you be afraid?"

"There is Lady Jonquil,
Just ready to peep out,
But she's watching first,
To see what you're about.
I will meet and kiss you,
And keep you nice and warm;
Jack Frost shall not touch you
Or do you any harm."

An aged gardener stood there,
Leaning on his hoe,
Softly chuckling, murmured:
"I think you'd better go,
Foolish Lady Crocus!
The bright days soon will end.
When the cold night comes,
And where's Lord Sunshine then?"

BETTIE GARLAND.

Y. M. M. I. A. CONFERENCE.

The second annual general conference of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations opened in the Tabernacle at ten o'clock a. m. June 1. There were present on the stand: Of the General Superintendency, Wilford Woodruff and Moses Thatcher; of Assistants to the General Superintendency, Junius F. Wells, Milton H. Hardy, Rodney C. Badger and Joseph A. West; President George Q. Cannon; Apostles Lorenzo Snow and J. H. Smith; President Angus M. Cannon; a number of Stake Superintendents, and other prominent brethren.

On the south side of the pulpits sat a considerable number of the officers of Associations, while the choir was occupied by the children, who, led by Prof. Evan Stephens, rendered the singing.

Assistant General Superintendent

Junius F. Wells called the congregation to order.

Singing: "Bright Smiling Morn-
ing."

Prayer by Apostle Lorenzo Snow.
Singing: "Lord, Accept our True
Devotion."

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT WIL-
FORD WOODRUFF

addressed the conference in sub-
stance as follows:

I have been suffering for some days with a cold, which almost dis-
ables me from public speaking, yet
I will try to make a few remarks
upon this important occasion. In
my view there never before was a
time when all the powers of heaven,
earth and hell were working in their
respective spheres as hard as they
are now for the advancement of the
purposes of God. The Lord has la-
bored from the creation to lead
men to do good and to obey such
laws as would result in good to
mankind. Whatever leads to good,
we are told, is of God, and whatever
leads to evil is of an opposite source.
As a people we understand some-
what the nature of the warfare ne-
cessary in the carrying on of this
work. We cannot expect any less
opposition than has been shown to
the work of God in past ages.
There has always seemed to be
a determination on the
part of the powers of darkness
to frustrate the purposes of God.
This has been especially the case in
this age. We know that God has
again revealed His will and estab-
lished His Kingdom. John the
Revelator foretold the flying of an
angel through the midst of heaven
having the everlasting Gospel.
Many declarations of Scripture
point to the restoration of the Gos-
pel in these the last days.

We have gathered in these val-
leys, perhaps 175,000 Saints from all
parts of the world, and from vari-
ous occupations. The weak things
of the world have been chosen to
bear the Priesthood, and testify to
the restoration of the Gospel. Those
who have listened to and obeyed
their message have received the
Holy Ghost, and have been led to
gather. If this message had not
been from God, the people who em-
braced it would not have gathered,
and Utah would have still been a
barren desert. Since the Saints

gathered they have had the same
trials and temptations which the
Saints in all ages have had to con-
tend with. The hosts of evil spir-
its who were cast down out of
heaven, are warring against the
Saints and all good men.

We have different organizations
of our youth for their proper spiri-
tual training. There are the Pri-
maries, where the little children are
taught truths of the Gospel; also the
Sabbath schools, which embrace
60,000 children. Thank God there
are so many. From these the youth
progress and become members of
the Mutual Improvement Associa-
tions.

I regard the work awaiting the
youth of this people as equal in im-
portance to that which ever lay be-
fore a class of young men and
women on earth. It rests upon
them to take the kingdom of God
and bear it forth; to stand in the
midst of the judgments which are
coming upon the earth. I regard
the present generation as lying in as
deep darkness as any that ever lived
upon the earth. A thousand mur-
ders are committed now where there
was one seventy or eighty years ago.

The Kingdom of God, its keys
and Priesthood, are here, and I
want to say to my young brethren
who are present: Lead your fellows
from that which is evil, and lay
aside everything which corrupts
either mind or body. No man can
inherit a kingdom of glory without
abiding the law of that kingdom,
and we are all aiming, or should be,
for a celestial kingdom.

Nine out of ten of the young
missionaries now being sent abroad
are chosen from the Mutual Im-
provement Associations. The mem-
bers of these organizations are pre-
paring themselves for the ministry.
In company with some of my
brethren I have the honor to be as-
sociated with these institutions, but I
have not much time to spend with
them.

In 1844 about 7000 persons were
baptized in England; but now the
labors of our missionaries are like
gathering grapes after the vintage is
done. If an Elder, during a mis-
sion of two or three years, baptizes
half a dozen or a dozen persons, he
thinks he has done a good work; and
he has.

Young men, leave grog shops