

As the defendants objected to having any of their number plead guilty, it was determined to go to trial with the case of one of them. Twenty-four jurors were in attendance. An attempt was made to select from this number a trial jury, but challenges for cause were offered and sustained in rapid succession, and soon thirteen of the twenty-four were excused. The work of impaneling a jury had to be suspended, and a venire for twenty-four jurors was placed in the hands of the sheriff and made returnable two days later. It was obviously improbable that qualified jurors could be found without going to remote portions of the county, as the cases were so notorious; hence the delay.

There were fifty-two defendants. They could not all be tried together, and a juror who had sat on the case of one would thereby be disqualified to sit on that of another. Again, so large a proportion of the inhabitants of that section had fixed opinions respecting the guilt of the accused that it was hard to get any jurors at all. It thus became fully apparent that it would be a physical impossibility to procure jurors enough, within the jurisdiction of the court, to try more than a portion, and probably a small portion, of the defendants, and of course it would be gross discrimination to try and punish a few of them and let the rest go scot free. The perplexed situation which confronted the court and prosecuting attorney will thus be understood.

The venire above spoken of was placed in the hands of the sheriff on Thursday afternoon. After this had been done, and when the full nature of the situation had become plainly apparent to the prosecuting officer, he saw that only one thing remained for him to do—move to dismiss all the cases. He went before the court and made this motion, which was granted.

In making the order Judge Berry gave the prosecutor credit for having done his duty, and further expressed the opinion that the result reached was, all things considered, perfectly satisfactory. He distinctly stated that he himself would think no worse of the defendants on account of their having been accused of a crime, and he believed that no one else would. The bondsmen of all of the defendants were exonerated, and thus has ended, in a manner which is quite agreeable all round, this much vexed business. We are confident that even the

most strongly partisan anti-"Mormons" of Idaho will be unable to raise any sensible or logical objection to the proceedings which terminated in this result.

Neither Mr. Standrod nor Judge Berry can possibly be accused of any pro-"Mormon" proclivities. Each has made a record relative to the "Mormon" question which effectually protects him from all such charges. While we are willing to give each all the credit he deserves for a sensible mode of disposing of these celebrated conspiracy cases, the facts and circumstances which confronted the court, as we understand them, would have made it impossible to properly try, convict and punish the defendants.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Sixtieth General Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened at 10 a.m., Friday, April 4th, 1890, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, President Wilford Woodruff presiding.

There were on the stand: Of the First Presidency, Wilford Woodruff and George Q. Cannon; of the Council of the Twelve Apostles: Lorenzo Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Moses Thatcher, Francis M. Lyman, John Henry Smith, Heber J. Grant, John W. Taylor, Mariner W. Merrill, Anton H. Lund and Abraham H. Cannon; of Counselors to the Twelve: John W. Young and Daniel H. Wells; Patriarch, John Smith; of the Presiding Council of the Seventies, Henry Herriman, Jacob Gates, Seymour B. Young, John Morgan and B. H. Roberts; of the Presiding Bishopric: William B. Preston, R. F. Burton and John R. Winder.

There were also present a large number of Presidents of Stakes and other prominent brethren from various parts of Utah and surrounding States and Territories.

The choir sang:

I saw a mighty angel fly,
To earth he bent his way;
A message bearing from on high,
To cheer the sons of day.

The opening prayer was offered by Apostle Franklin D. Richards.

Singing:

Come listen to a Prophet's voice,
And hear the word of God;
And in the way of truth rejoice,
And sing for joy aloud.

President Wilford Woodruff

said: Sixty years ago next Sabbath this Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized in Fayette, Seneca County, New York. It was organized by the Prophet of God, Joseph Smith. It was organized by the commandments of God, by the revelations of Jesus Christ. Its history is before the world, the heavens and the earth; and I feel myself that our hearts should be filled this morning with gratitude and thanksgiving that we have the privilege again of meeting in an Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I hope and trust that

the hearts of the Saints will be lifted up in prayer to God that during the time we shall spend together in this capacity the spirit and power of God may rest upon the Apostles and Elders who will address us, and upon the Saints themselves who may bear.

I feel very thankful myself that I still have the privilege of meeting in general Conference with the Saints of God. I realize that we are weak instruments in the hand of God who are called to perform this work. The Lord has chosen the weak things of the world from the foundation of the earth, to perform His work in every age and generation of men. I pray that the Apostles and Elders of Israel may be clothed upon with the spirit and power of God while they address the Latter-day Saints. We want to bear in mind that our strength, our hope and our power is in the hands of God and not in men. The Lord Himself has stretched forth His hand to establish this Church, His Kingdom, His Work, His Zion, the gathering together of His people in fulfillment of the revelations of God which have been given to the inhabitants of the earth since the foundation of the world, since the day the old Patriarch, Father Adam, was brought forth and placed in the garden of Eden. From that day until now His work has been performed by the inspiration of the Almighty, and not by the power of man. The very things in our history that we have been called to pass through, the scenes which have been enacted have shown and they show today to all heaven and earth, in the warfare, in the opposition, in the labor that are manifested among the sons of men—from the creation of the world till today—that this is the work of the Lord. The various persecutions, the efforts which have been manifested against the organization of this Church and kingdom for its overthrow and destruction should show—and have shown to heaven and earth—that there is a power on earth outside the power of man.

We have no power in ourselves. We never have had in the guidance and direction of this kingdom only through the interposition of Almighty God. Joseph Smith himself was administered with in a way and manner that I have found no record of. I have never read anywhere, that I know of, of the same power manifested in any dispensation to the children of men which was manifested to the Prophet in the organization of this Church when the Father and the Son both appeared to the Prophet Joseph in answer to his prayer, and when the Father said, "This is My Beloved Son; behold Him; hear ye Him." This was an important revelation which has never been manifested in the same manner in any dispensation of the world, that God has given concerning His work. So in its organization, the Prophet was administered to by the angels of heaven. They were his teachers, they were his instructors, and all that he did, all that he performed from the com-