



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

Wednesday,.....April 12, 1865.

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The backwardness of the season and the inclemency of the weather prevented the usual large ingathering from distant settlements, still there were quite as many present as could be accommodated in the Tabernacle, in fact after the first day of conference there were hundreds in town who could not get admission to the house, except by exchanging places with the congregation that vacated their seats at the close of each forenoon meeting.

The instructions of the First Presidency and Twelve Apostles were as interesting and instructive as they were varied, and they were, without exception, applicable to the present circumstances of the Latter-day Saints. Very many subjects and principles pertaining to the temporal and spiritual welfare of the people of God, received the attention of the conference, as will be seen by reading the minutes published in this number of the NEWS.

No topics of discourse seemed to meet with more enthusiastic interest and general approval, than those briefly touched upon in reference to merchants, speculators and lawyers. The remarks made upon these questions have doubtless made an indelible impression upon the minds of those for whose especial benefit they were made, at least if they have not they should, and nothing save a benighted mind or a seared conscience could prevent such inspired reproof from having the desired effect.

Home manufactures, the building of the new Tabernacle, the eventual triumph of the kingdom of God and, in short, many other vital questions that have reference to the progress of the Saints and the ultimate independence of God's people, were touched upon by the leaders of Israel, all of whom spoke in the power and demonstration of the Holy Spirit.

A number of missionaries were appointed to go to the Sandwich Islands, Great Britain and Scandinavia.

Residents of this City, as well as others present at Conference, were cheered and entertained by the enlivening strains of music discoursed by the Ogden Brass Band. Bishop West's good counsel and Capt. Parkman's energy are deserving commendation for developing the talent of these excellent musicians.

At the adjourned meeting of the Convention on Monday, a number of addresses were delivered by the delegates who had been sent to represent the wishes of the people where they reside, and it was finally decided to sustain the prices adopted by the Convention at its last October session.

On the adjournment of the Convention, to the day following next October Conference, the meeting was resolved into a special Conference, more missionaries were called, and other business of importance presented, among which was building a line of Telegraph from St. George, in Washington county, to St. Charles, in Richland county. Reports were read from a number of the principal settlements, stating what amount of means they would furnish towards the accomplishment of this desirable enterprise. The work is to be pushed forward the present season, and the mate-

rial to be imported will be purchased and brought into the Territory as soon as practicable.

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS.

The Conference convened in the Tabernacle, G. S. L. City, on Thursday, April 6, 1865, at 10 a. m., President Brigham Young, presiding.

On the Stand:—Of the First Presidency, Presidents Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball;

Of the Twelve Apostles: Orson Hyde, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, George A. Smith, Amasa M. Lyman, Ezra T. Benson, Charles C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Franklin D. Richards, and George Q. Cannon;

Patriarch: John Smith;

Of the First Presidency of the Seventies:

Levi W. Hancock, Albert P. Rockwood, Horace S. Eldredge and John Van Cott;

Of the Presidency of the High Priests' Quorum:

Edwin D. Woolley and Samuel W. Richards;

Of the Presidency of this Stake of Zion;

Daniel Spencer, David Fullmer and George B. Wallace;

Of the Presidency of the Bishoprick: Edward Hunter, Leonard W. Hardy and Jesse C. Little;

Reporters:

George D. Watt and John V. Long; and also a large number of Bishops and Elders.

The Conference was called to order by President Brigham Young. The Choir sang, "All hail the glorious day."

Elder George A. Smith offered the opening prayer.

The Choir sang, "Let sinners take their course."

President Heber C. Kimball stated that he rejoiced to meet with the Saints in Conference; he had not been to the meetings in the Tabernacle during the winter in consequence of his feeble state of health and liability to take cold. He had been instructed to take care of himself that he might live to go back to Jackson County, and he intended to do it. He wished the people to understand that they were not all Saints that were called Saints, and except the Latter-day Saints live the lives of Saints they cannot enjoy the spirit of the Gospel. The only pride the saints should have and delight in is that which leads them to be good and to do the will of God.—They should be firm as a rock, and united as a vine with many branches. Referred to the revelation in regard to Church government, showing how the disobedient should be dealt with.—Those who obey the gospel are expected to labor for their own salvation, and not depend upon others to work it out for them, for the Lord holds each one responsible for his own acts, and no man can hinder another from living his religion, any more than the Babylonians could prevent Daniel from worshipping God in his day. Spoke of the weakness and frailty of mortals, how Peter, when he thought he was strong, and even boasted of his strength, was overcome and denied his Master. Advocated kindness to the brute creation. Made remarks upon the healing power that is in this Church, and how signally it was made manifest through the faith and prayers of the servants of God.

Elder George A. Smith followed with some excellent remarks on the lack of foresight and wisdom in men who have flocks and herds, and do not provide for a severe and trying winter. This was partially attributable to the fact that we had been blessed with a number of mild winters, but in our settlements we must provide forage for wintering our animals, if we intended to save them. Reasoned upon mercantile affairs—the danger of riches to the Saints until they have learned how to use them for building up the kingdom of God; it is the design of the Almighty to make all the faithful saints rich in the things of earth as well as in the things of eternity, as soon as they are properly schooled.

The Choir sang the hymn on the 103d page, and Elder John Taylor dismissed the meeting.

Afternoon:

The Choir sang "The glorious plan which God has given."

Prayer by Elder Orson Hyde. The Choir sang "See the mighty Angel flying!"

Elder Ezra T. Benson felt it a privilege to meet with the brethren and sisters in general conference, and proceeded to reason upon the blessings extended to the Latter-day Saints; stated that he wanted to see every man at his post

and ready to do as he was told by the servants of God. Every member of this Church has the privilege of enjoying that spirit which will guide them in the way of truth. It is our duty to so live that we will become like unto Christ, by walking in his footsteps, by resisting temptation and striving to do right continually. The true Saints evince in their countenances that joy and peace which can alone be imparted by the Holy Ghost. Admonished to prayer, humility and faithfulness.

President Orson Hyde addressed the Conference upon the subject of continual elevation. When Joseph was called it was a day of spiritual and moral darkness, and the light which God manifested through him had to be gradually developed, because the people could not at once bear that flood of light necessary to establish the kingdom of God permanently upon the earth. Alluded to the continuous revelation constantly flowing from the living priesthood, pointing out the great advantage to the Saints of having the living oracles always with them. Made observations on the order of the priesthood in its various ramifications.

Elder Charles C. Rich gave a brief and interesting account of the condition of affairs in Bear Lake Valley. The winter had been severe, but the brethren had been fortunate in taking care of their stock. Snow had been three feet deep in the valley, and could be found from that to any depth desired in the adjacent mountains. The people enjoyed good health, only three deaths had occurred during the winter in the country.

Choir sang "We thank thee, O God, for a Prophet."

Benediction by Elder Wilford Woodruff.

Evening.

A priesthood meeting was held in the evening, at which addresses were delivered by Bishop Hunter, and Elders Levi W. Hancock, John Taylor and George A. Smith, dwelling upon the duties and responsibilities of those holding the Priesthood.

Elder George A. Smith announced the adjourned meeting of the convention, to meet on Monday next, at 10 a. m., and invited the delegates from the country to be present.

Friday 7, 10 a. m.

The meeting was opened by singing.

Elder Ezra T. Benson offered prayer.

The Choir sang, "All you that love Immanuel's name."

Elder Wm. W. Phelps made a few remarks touching his experience and early association with the Prophet Joseph, and bore testimony to the truth.

Elder Lorenzo Snow made some encouraging remarks upon the greatest gift of God—eternal life. In speaking of the temporal blessings bestowed upon the Latter-day Saints, he observed that the plan of salvation revealed to us was calculated to bring the thousands of poor Saints that are now scattered among the nations to places where they can make themselves comfortable and happy in the things of this life, and increase in the knowledge and blessings of eternal life. Reasoned upon the opposition and temptations the Saints have to encounter, all which he showed was for a wise purpose to prepare the chosen of the Lord for the positions of honor, influence and power which they are destined to occupy when the kingdom of God shall extend from the rivers to the ends of the earth.

President Brigham Young delivered a short and instructive address on speculators and merchants, and pointed out the gross impositions that are being constantly practiced upon this community, especially by those who profess to be the friends of the people. The capitalists will not bring into the Territory any of the machinery that is wanted for the benefit of the people; they want to make a fortune in a year, and care nothing for anybody but themselves. He had brought nearly all the machinery into the Territory that had been brought in, and he could not persuade the speculators to take any part in bringing what the people really need.

Choir sang "O Lord, responsive to thy call."

Benediction by Elder Franklin D. Richards.

Afternoon.

Choir sang "Hark! the song of Jubilee."

Prayer by Elder Edward L. Sloan. Choir sang "Happy the man that finds the grace."

Elder George A. Smith gave an historical review of the introduction of the gospel by Joseph Smith, describing in a vivid manner the opposition of wicked men and devils that was brought to bear upon the Prophet and his followers.—He also spoke of the present warlike condition of and the extensive pre-

parations for war in the civilized nations, alluding to their striving to excel each other in bringing to light new engines of destruction, and while all nations are thus preparing for war, the Saints, under the instructions of the Almighty, are preparing for peace and a happy reign of righteousness. Reasoned upon the advantages to be derived from the introduction of machinery into this Territory. Argued the necessity of our making iron, all kinds of woolen and cotton fabrics, etc., that Zion may be independent, and prepared to go back to Jackson county to lay the foundation of the most magnificent city the world ever saw.

Elder John Taylor spoke of the goodly land that we inherit in these peaceful valleys, and of the advantages we possess in having as good mechanics as there are in the world, which give us facilities that new countries seldom enjoy, for the manufacture of almost every thing we need within ourselves. This self-sustaining policy and extensive manufacturing were the great secret of the wealth of England and France.—Traced the history of the development of the mechanical arts in the United States, and pointed out the great difficulties the people labored under in the introduction of mechanics from England to the States, it being the policy of British capitalists to prevent the emigration of skillful workmen, desiring to keep the business in their own hands as much as possible.

Choir sang "Arise, O glorious Zion."

Elder George Q. Cannon dismissed the conference till Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock.

Saturday, 10 a. m.

The Choir Sung a Hymn.

Prayer was offered by Elder Orson Hyde.

Choir sang "Come all ye saints who dwell on earth."

President Brigham Young told the brethren not to be alarmed on account of the lateness of the spring, for the present year would be as fruitful as any that we had been blessed with in these valleys. Advised the families who live on the low lands to prepare to move to the mountains, or to some secure place, as he was apprehensive of a flood the coming summer. Spoke of the necessity of teaching the people how to produce the necessities of life, to plant orchards and vineyards in order that they may become self-sustaining. He had a revelation to give concerning the lawyers that counsel for lucre and for gain, and that lead men into litigation for the purpose of aggrandizing themselves, which was that they would lose the spirit of the gospel and go to hell for their conduct in the midst of Latter-day Saints, in stirring up trouble and striving to clear the guilty for the sake of reward.

President Heber C. Kimball said that all the Saints would be brought to give an account of their treatment to the Prophets and Apostles.—In speaking of the merchants who profess to be members of the Church, he stated that they had become hardened and careless in their feelings towards the interests of this community, looking after their own gain instead of the general welfare of Israel. Every man will have to pay the penalty consequent upon their crimes committed in the flesh.—Counseled the saints to be humble and obedient in every position they may be called to occupy.

President Kimball also gave some excellent instruction on the principle of individual sanctification, and the promised inheritances of the Saints.

The Choir sang "Sons of Michael, He approacheth."

Elder W. W. Phelps dismissed the meeting.

Afternoon.

Singing.

Prayer by Elder George Q. Cannon.

Choir Sung, "O my Father, thou that dwellest."

Elder George Q. Cannon presented the authorities of the Church, each Quorum of whom was unanimously sustained by the vote of the conference in the following order:

Brigham Young, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Heber C. Kimball his first, and Daniel H. Wells his second counselor.

Orson Hyde, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and Orson Pratt, sen., John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, George A. Smith, Amasa M. Lyman, Ezra T. Benson, Charles C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow, Franklin D. Richards and George Q. Cannon, members of said Quorum.

John Smith, Patriarch of the Church. Daniel Spencer, President of this Stake of Zion, and David Fullmer and George B. Wallace, his counselors.

William Eddington, John V. Long, John L. Blythe, John T. Caine, Joseph