

CONFERENCE AT LOGAN.

Conference convened in the Tabernacle at Logan at 10 o'clock a.m. on Saturday, March 10th, 1877.

On the stand were Brigham Young, Jr., President of this Stake of Zion, William B. Preston, presiding Bishop, Bishops S. Roskelly, M. D. Hammond, Robert Daines, George O. Pitkin, L. L. Hatch, Wm. F. Littlewood, John Jardine, Orson Smith, Henry Hughes, W. H. Maughan, B. M. Lewis and Thos. X. Smith, Elders Elias Morris, Junius F. Wells, H. Burton, and Jeremiah Hatch, and others.

Meeting opened by singing and prayer.

President B. Young, Jr., arose and called upon the people to draw in the wanderings of their minds, and to concentrate their minds and feelings upon the things of the kingdom while we might be convened together, so that we might have cause to rejoice and feel glad. He exhorted the people to put away from their bosoms every feeling of animosity, and the Lord would surely bless them beyond their conceptions. He complimented the people upon their success in covering in our Tabernacle and finishing off the basement story so very comfortably, in such a short space of time. He was pleased to state that he could see a perceptible change for the better in the minds of the people. He encouraged all present to learn to live so that the approbation of the Lord might continually rest upon them, and that they might be prepared to meet the Saviour at his coming.

Bishop George O. Pitkin said the people of Millville Ward were steadily improving in good works. He felt that the time was close at our doors when the Lord would move upon the people in such a manner that they would use every energy to gather up their genealogies, and that he would reveal unto his faithful people the names of those who had long since gone and were forgotten and lost to us at present.

Bishop W. F. Littlewood spoke upon the building of temples, and encouraged the people to be alive to the duties and responsibilities resting upon them, and rehearsed some very interesting incidents that transpired in the Temple at Kirtland, while the Saints were convened therein for the purpose of dedicating said Temple to the Lord. He represented the people of Newton Ward as being in a flourishing condition, the United Order was working extremely well, and the people were prospering in that Order far more than those outside.

Bishop Wm. B. Preston related some of his feelings when he first heard the glad tidings of the Gospel, and how pleased he was to learn that the Lord had again transmitted his Gospel to man on the earth; encouraged the Saints to live faithful to their duties at home, and let their neighbors alone, never allowing themselves to meddle with other people's business; gave all the Saints the privilege to sit in judgment over themselves, and go before the Lord in secret and ask him to help us in all our efforts for the building up of his great kingdom, and he would point out the way for us to walk in.

Meeting adjourned till 1 p.m. Benediction by Bishop L. L. Hatch.

1 p.m. Meeting opened by singing and prayer.

Bishop S. Roskelly said that not many years ago the Saints of this valley could meet in a small log school-house, about two blocks west of this, and there talk together upon the principles of the gospel and enjoy much of the spirit of the Lord. He felt that we were enjoying a glorious spirit to-day, was very pleased to see the growth of the saints in faith and good works, and hoped that they would continue on in the good work until the Father would say, "Well done, good and faithful servants." He read a statistical report of the Smithfield Ward, showing that it contained 195 families and 1,136 souls, that they had established a large tannery under the head of the United Order, that it was now in successful operation, and had declared a dividend of 10 per cent. for the year 1876. He read a great many more items pertaining to the Ward, that were listened to with much interest.

Bishop M. D. Hammond said that he was glad to be able to represent the people of Providence Ward in a prosperous condition,

and that he could see a gradual change for the better. He bore his testimony to the truth of this great work.

Bishop Henry Hughes said he felt well in having the privilege of standing before the people in such a noble building to bear his testimony to the great truths of the gospel, complimented the Saints who had subscribed their means for the building of this Tabernacle, encouraged the brethren to be liberal in their subscriptions to the temple that was to be built in Logan very soon, and exhorted the young people to be kind to the aged and to help them on all occasions.

President B. Young, Jr., said that while in St. George the question came up about the suppression of the sale of liquor in Logan City, and that President B. Young said, if the people of Logan felt that way, that the Lord would bless them, and they would succeed. He called upon all that felt to sustain the authorities in entirely abolishing the sale of liquor in Logan to raise their right hands. The people raised their hands unanimously. He said that if we would be one in this undertaking the Lord would be with us, and so would our children, and they would not leave us and go into the outside world.

Bishop Orson Smith reported the people of Paradise ward in a prosperous condition, and was very proud in having a standing in the Church of Jesus Christ, and that he had an abiding testimony within him of the truth of this Gospel. He knew that the Lord had great blessings in store for us, if we would live according to the will of the Almighty. He encouraged the Saints to keep the Word of Wisdom, and help to put down everything of an vile nature.

Bishop L. L. Hatch endorsed the remarks of the brethren who had spoken before him, and bore a faithful testimony to the Gospel.

Singing. Benediction by Elder Jeremiah Hatch.

SUNDAY, 10 a. m.

The Tabernacle was well filled with people from all parts of the county.

Meeting opened by singing and prayer.

Elder Elias Morris said he embraced the gospel in the Spring of 1849 and was pleased to state that he had never had a doubt in his mind concerning the truth of this gospel, from that day to the present. He felt to thank the Lord all the day long, that he had been permitted to live in this glorious time, when the Lord, according to the prediction of his Prophet Daniel, had set up a kingdom, which should never be destroyed, and restored the gospel with all its gifts and blessings, which had been declared to this generation by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and thousands of the other Elders. He testified that he knew that the gospel would be preached in all the world, and that every knee should bow, and every tongue should confess that the Lord was God. He had met, in his travels among the Saints, many who had been gathered from England, Scotland and Wales, and who were in poverty in those lands, and now many did not know on which side they were on, but he had invariably counselled all such to remember their prayers, and learn from the Lord how they stood in the Church of Jesus Christ.

Bishop Wm. H. Maughan said that if there was any time in his life that he felt his weakness, it was in standing before the Saints of God. He felt bold to state that he knew this to be the work of God, and felt satisfied that we as a people were perfectly familiar with the laws of the Gospel before we came upon the earth. He felt all the time like listening to the counsel of President John Taylor, which was to do all that we did in earnest, meaning what we said and doing it, and let that be for God and his great work. He was much pleased to see the interest manifested by our young men and women, by way of mutual improvement, and in the Sabbath Schools. He exhorted the parents to subscribe for the *Juvenile Instructor* and *DESERET NEWS*, and place them before their children, and encourage them to read those papers. He represented the people of Wellsfield Ward as being in a flourishing condition. Their day and Sunday schools were well attended, the meetings were well attended, and the people observed the fast days and paid their donations pretty well. He said the treasury for the poor was so full

that he would very soon have to build more bins to hold the donations.

After singing, meeting adjourned till 1 p.m.

Benediction by Bishop W. F. Littlewood.

1 p.m.

Meeting opened by singing and prayer.

Bishop R. Daines said he rejoiced in the Gospel and felt a great desire to gather together and unite with his brethren in the building up of God's kingdom in all things, and knew that if the Saints would form a resolution to do these things they would feel greatly blessed. The people of Hyde Park had been greatly troubled with diphtheria among their children, but the disease was abating considerably.

Bishop J. Jardine stated that the people of his ward were wide awake and ready to listen to his counsels to his satisfaction thus far. In the short time that he had been in Clarkston Ward they had succeeded in quarrying and hauling nearly enough rock to build them a new school-house. He hoped in time to do a good work in his ward.

Bishop J. McBride said that he felt that the Spirit of the Lord had been poured out upon the people through this Conference, to a very great degree, and he rejoiced to be counted worthy of having a standing in the Kingdom of God. He had long since learned that the more a man did for the furtherance of the cause of truth, the more he was capable of doing. The people of Hyrum Ward had entered into several branches of business under the head of the United Order, and in another week they would hold their annual meetings of the stockholders, and would there present a statement of their business transactions for the past year. He wished to see all the stockholders present, and extended an invitation to all who wished to attend.

President B. Young, Jr., endorsed the remarks of the brethren, and said that he answered the feelings of every good Latter-day Saint when he said that we had had a splendid time while we had been convened together in this Conference. He believed that the leading men of our settlements had done the very best they could to keep good order in their respective wards, but that many of the Saints had become so adulterated with the outside influences of the world that it had become a necessity to lock the doors of our barns and dwellings before we could consider ourselves safe to go to bed at night. The day had come when all men and women who were dishonest and who would act the hypocrite in our meetings and councils were being brought out and were becoming known among the Saints of God. He exhorted the Saints not to invite any outside influence among us, as we had all the trials we needed to contend with at present. He encouraged the Saints of Logan to go to work as soon as possible and commence to plant out shade trees, and beautify the Tabernacle Block, and urged it upon them to form a determination to continue the work of finishing up the building until they had driven the last nail and put the last bit of paint upon it, and it was ready for us to invite our beloved President Brigham Young to come and visit us, and dedicate it to the Lord our God. He advised the Saints to live faithful to their covenants, be humble and prayerful every day we lived, so that we might be prepared, when the time came, to inherit the land that the Lord had set apart for his people in these last days. He showed in an intelligent manner how the Holy Ghost was with us to save our lives and keep us from danger and accident day by day, and encouraged the Saints to cherish the Holy Spirit, and live so that it might be our constant companion, that we might be ready for the great events that were shortly coming upon the earth. We were living in precarious times, when all that could be tried would be tried to their hearts' content. He invoked the blessings of the Lord upon all the faithful Saints.

After two of the most glorious days the Saints had witnessed in Logan for some time, the Conference closed.

The choir sang.

Benediction by President B. Young, Jr.

GEO. L. FARRELL,
Clerk of Conference.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Meetings at Parowan and Cedar.

KANARRA, Wednesday,
March 27, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

The company spent the Sabbath at the beautifully situated little city of Parowan. The weather was delightful; and in the morning, about fifteen minutes after the tolling of the bell, could be seen in the neat, well seated meeting-house, full five hundred persons, anxiously waiting the arrival of Elder Taylor and the brethren of the Twelve.

When all the brethren of the company had been comfortably seated on the stand, a motion was made to the choir leader, Brother Thomas Durham, and a well trained choir at once awakened our emotional feelings with their soft, sweet music.

When prayer had been offered, and after another hymn had been sung, Elder Orson Pratt spoke. He said after the expiration of twelve years he was pleased to meet with the Saints at Parowan, and to witness the growth of the place during that time. It was a great privilege conferred upon them and the Saints of the southern country to have a temple among them.

The Lord had said there were certain blessings which could not be received, except during the poverty of the Saints, unless it was in a temple. The Endowment House in which we had officiated in the ordinances was only temporary; but now it was no longer acceptable for that purpose, for our condition was such as to make it imperative on our part to build temples. He esteemed it a great and glorious privilege to journey with his brethren to the House of the Lord. Many blessings never conferred upon any peoples in former temples had been reserved to be revealed in this dispensation of the fullness of times. The speaker felt fully persuaded that as far as the Lord was concerned, he was waiting to bestow those blessings upon us; in fact he was willing to confer them in the Kirtland Temple. He there revealed to the Prophet Joseph the dedicatory prayer, and many of the faithful there received great and glorious manifestations; the ordinances of washing of feet and anointing of the head with oil were given there. At the dedication of the second temple, which was built in Nauvoo, still greater blessings were received. Many in the first temple had testified that they saw the heavens opened, and that angels appeared to them, and in others other ways were his glories manifested. That temple was constructed according to revelation.

A few weeks after the dedication Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery entered into the Temple and prayed to the Lord, and great and glorious things were made manifest to them on that occasion. Bro. Pratt here referred to page 369 of the new edition of the Doctrine and Covenants, which contained a record of what was seen and heard at that time. Referred to the vision that Joseph had, in which the Prophet Moses appeared to him, revealing and bestowing on him the keys of the gathering, this being the dispensation when scattered Israel would be gathered together from the four quarters of the earth, which had never before been done. After this Elias appeared to him, committing the gospel of the dispensation of Abraham, saying that in us and our seed all the generations after us should be blessed. After this vision had closed, another glorious vision burst upon them, when Elijah stood before them, saying, "Behold the time has fully come," &c.

The dispensation of the fullness of times brought in all the keys and authorities and glories and promises made in all the former dispensations, concentrating them, as it were, in one, to bring about the union of all the former and latter-day Saints, both of heaven and earth.

As temples had been built, so God had increased his blessings in number and magnitude. Should we not now hope in faith that God would accept our present Temple at our hands, and unveil the heavens to those who were pure in heart, and also hope that in this house ordinances never before revealed might be administered?

It was now our duty to obey and fulfil the command written in the Book of Covenants, given just

before the Saints were driven from Missouri, commanding us to seek the face of the Lord.

How should we prepare ourselves for this important occasion? Through prayer and watchfulness and by observing all the laws and ordinances of his kingdom.

In the millennium, when man and beasts, birds and fishes, as well as the earth, would be more or less changed, in the temple or temples he would hold converse with his people. Ezekiel saw this time. It was said to him, "Son of man, behold the place of my throne and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever, and they shall not pollute my holy name anymore." If it were necessary that temples should be built in order to receive the Lord in the days when the curse would be more or less removed, how much more so in these days of darkness?

The Lord had given us the high priesthood and the ordinances pertaining to it, and without which no man could look on the face of God and live; that meant to converse with him face to face. Moses sought to sanctify the children of Israel, in order that they might be prepared to behold the face of the Lord. But because they had not prepared themselves, they could not endure his presence; and therefore the Lord was angry with them. If the Latter-day Saints did not prepare themselves to behold the face of the Lord, we should certainly incur his displeasure.

Elder Pratt concluded by saying, that he hoped what he had said would have a tendency to induce us to prepare ourselves for the great day when the curse of God would be removed from the earth, and all flesh should see him together.

Elder Joseph F. Smith, the next speaker, said it was not characteristic of the Lord to bestow great blessings on any people who were unworthy of them. It was the privilege of the Latter-day Saints to enjoy the light and testimony of the living God, and without which we could not be fully acceptable to him.

It had been said that man was as prone to evil as the sparks were to fly upwards. As our little children appeared unto us, we doubtless appeared before our Heavenly Father. Where there was good family government, and love and affection abiding in the family circle, there was not so much necessity to correct and chide the children; yet because of their youth, failing to comprehend our desires, they oftentimes caused us anger. Could we love our children better than the Lord loved us? Yet we were deserving of chastisement. Such being the case, we should show leniency to our children.

We professed to be servants of God—did our works correspond with our profession? Certain words of wisdom had been given to us to regulate our habits of life, which were applicable to all. Did we observe them, or did we pay little attention to them? According to his observations, he said, they were regarded as something of no moment, hardly worthy of consideration. If men and women young, and old, were asked why they indulged themselves in things discountenanced by the Lord, the most childish excuses might be heard. There was a similar laxity on the part of the Saints with regard to keeping the laws of God. Men would break the Sabbath-day by going to the cañons, hunting their stock, etc., and try to justify themselves in doing so. We were commanded to swear not at all and never to take his name in vain. Yet how many were there who were not only in the constant habit of breaking this commandment themselves, but actually did it in the hearing of their children, thus affording them a license in perpetrating the same sinful practice, for children were always ready to imitate the ways of their seniors. Could such men stand excused before God, and could they see their children imitate their lives?

If the Latter-day Saints lived up to the knowledge they professed, how long would it be before they would be prepared to see the face of the Lord and Zion redeemed? God had said he would cut his work short in righteousness, and that the time would come when fearfulness should take hold of the transgressor in Zion. In our present condition how could we expect other than chastisement from God.

Some considered it the act of an enemy if they should be told of their faults; whereas they should receive it as that of a friend. The