

CONFERENCES OF THE CHURCH.

EMERY STAKE.

The quarterly conference of the Emery Stake of Zion convened at Castle Dale, November 4 and 5, 1893. Present on the stand: C. G. Larsen and William Howard of the Stake presidency, Elder Francis M. Lyman of the Council of the Apostles, the Bishops and most of the leading Priesthood of the Stake.

After the usual opening exercises President C. G. Larsen reported the condition of the Stake; he said the people as a whole were trying to lead consistent lives, but some were careless about attending their meetings and performing other duties incumbent on the Saints of God. He exhorted such to repent. The organizations of the Stake were nearly complete. The health of the people is good; the crops are abundant, but there is no market for grain, hence very little money is in circulation. Good schools are in operation in all the wards, but the Church schools are not so well attended as could be wished.

The following Bishops reported their wards, corroborating the statements of President Larsen: Peter Johnson, Huntington; Henning Olsen, Castle Dale; Frederick Olsen, Ferron; Wm. Lamph, Castle Gate; George Frandson, Price; E. D. Fulmer, Spring Glen, and H. P. Rasmussen, Moien.

Elder Lyman then addressed the conference on punctuality and order in meetings. He said much confusion could be avoided by a proper arrangement of the seats before meeting. He explained the necessity of keeping ward records and of each person keeping a diary.

In the afternoon, after the administration of the Sacrament by the Priesthood of Castle Gate, Elder Lyman occupied the time in giving general counsel to the Saints. He thought it better to speak of the virtues of the people than of their vices. As a people we do not sin because we love wickedness but are always sorry when we make a false step. Church discipline was explained by the speaker. Persons doing wrong in a strange ward should be dealt with in the ward where the acts were committed and then reported to their own ward.

Nov. 8th.—The Bishops continued their reports as follows: A. E. McMullin, Wellington; L. P. Ovesen, Cleveland; Jasper Robertson, Orangeville; Calvin Moore, Lawrence; and Emery ward was reported by Counselor Hans C. Wakeman. All were in a fairly prosperous condition.

Elder Lyman advised the Bishops and counselors to lead out in attending meetings by taking at least two members of their families to Sunday and fast meetings. He continued on "Church discipline."

Elders Orange, Seely and Wm. Howard spoke briefly in the afternoon meeting a term which the General and Stake authorities were sustained.

Elder Lyman then defined the duties of missionaries, High Councilors, and the Stake Presidency. He explained that politics did not form part of our religion. Gave excellent advice to the young on marriage and chastity.

Elder Larsen made closing remarks, admonishing the Saints to follow the excellent council given during the conference.

The weather was fine, the meetings were crowded, and an enjoyable spirit prevailed. The Castle Dale choir furnished sweet music for all the meetings.

Elder Lyman held meetings at Orangeville on the evening of the 6th and at Huntington on the 7th in which excellent advice was given, especially to the young.

A. E. WALL, Clerk.

MISSISSIPPI.

On the 28th and 29th of October the Mississippi Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was held in a large warehouse fitted up for the purpose at the home of William J. Patterson, on Green's creek, Lawrence Co., Miss.

There were present J. G. Kimball, of the Southern States mission; W. D. Rencher, president of the conference; J. I. May, J. H. Euce, A. D. Nebeker, J. J. Holbrook, J. M. Phelps, J. F. Haycock, A. J. Blackwell, S. H. Nicholson, J. W. Walker, D. H. Doxey, E. J. James, N. A. Heisel, and James R. Grantham, traveling Elders.

Elder Rencher made a few opening remarks on our object of meeting together and the remarkable testimony we were bearing to the world.

Elder Euce followed briefly on the principle of faith.

Elder James spoke on faith and repentance and was followed by Elder Grantham, showing the necessity of works as well as faith, which he proved by numerous quotations from the scripture.

Elder Heisel bore a faithful testimony to the truthfulness of our message.

Elder Doxey dwelt upon the first principles, and Elder May delivered an interesting address on the mission of John the Baptist and showed that it was not completed till he had conferred his authority upon chosen instruments in this dispensation.

Afternoon meeting—Elder Phelps spoke on the subject of the office work of the Holy Ghost.

Elder Walker spoke upon the temporal and spiritual conditions of our people at home.

Elder Haycock followed on the proper manner of preaching the Gospel without purse or scrip, and bore testimony to the divinity of what the world calls Mormonism.

Elder Rencher spoke from Heb. ix, 14-18, comparing the New Testament to a father's last will and testament; hence whatever of promised blessings we found written therein we have a right to claim as our own, and no one has a right to debar us from those blessings, unless he break the will—destroy the New Testament.

Elder Nebeker showed how faith is produced by evidence, whether it be true or false, and exhorted all to contend earnestly for the faith that once was delivered to the Saints.

On Sunday morning Elder Nicholson was the first speaker. He dwelt

upon the plan of redemption as wrought out by our Savior.

He was followed by Brother W. J. Patterson, president of the branch at this place, who spoke of the covenant established through Jesus Christ between God and man, and bore an impressive testimony to the truthfulness of the Gospel.

Elder Blackwell spoke upon repentance and the judgments which follow the testimony of the Elders and cited several instances of recent date.

Elder Holbrook occupied the remainder of the time upon the signs that our Savior promised should follow the believer and the necessity of following the narrow way that leads to life.

All then partook of a bounteous repast prepared and brought by the Saints and friends.

At 1 p.m. Elder Joseph M. Phillips baptized three souls who applied for that ordinance.

Meeting was called at 2 o'clock. President Kimball was the speaker. He sought to show why he was a Mormon, first touching the organization of the primitive church, with its gifts and blessings, and asked where it could be found. He then proved an apostasy, from the scriptures, followed by a restoration which he testified had taken place, and read several of Joseph Smith's prophecies, showing him to have been a true prophet.

Council meetings were held on both days at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., showing six counties closed and sixty-two baptisms since last conference. Much valuable counsel was given, which was appreciated by the Elders.

As a whole the conference is in a prosperous condition. The Elders all feel well in their labors and are enjoying good health as a rule.

S. PHELPS, Clerk.

HAWAIIAN.

Heretofore it has been customary on these islands to encourage all the Saints who possibly could do so to gather from the various fields to headquarters, Laie, for the general conference held here each April and October. But during this term a different plan has been followed, and district conferences were held at the close of the term on all the large islands of the group, that the Saints might remain on their respective islands and attend conference. The two main reasons for this departure from the established rule were, first, that a much greater proportion of the Saints might have the privilege of attending the meetings; and second, that the least possible expense to the people be incurred during these stringent times. The natural result of this was a much lighter attendance at our general conference here at Laie.

Three district conferences were held on the large island of Hawaii—one at Niihii for the Kohala and Hamakua districts, one at Kahuwa for the Hilo district; and one at Naalehu for the three districts of Kona, Kau and Puna. These were all well attended (there being about 500 at the Niihii "Hu"), and greatly enjoyed by the people; as also were those held on the other islands. The Maui conference was held at the Waikapu branch, the Kaula at Holua, and the Oahu (which was the closing one before the general "Hu.")