

REMARKS

By President Brigham Young, Bowery, forenoon of Oct. 6th, 1856.

[REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.]

I feel disposed to be as speedy as possible in our operations with regard to helping our brethren who are now on the plains, consequently I shall call upon the people forthwith for the help that is needed. I want them to give in their names this morning, if they are ready to start on their journey to-morrow morning, and not say, 'I will go next week, or in ten days, or in a fortnight hence,' for I wish you to start to-morrow morning.

I want the sisters to have the privilege of fetching in blankets, skirts, stockings, shoes, &c., for the men, women and children that are in those hand-cart companies. Great credit is due to the sisters of this community, for they are much more ready to respond than the brethren; this I have proven. You recollect when I called upon you to donate for the Indians; at that time the sisters donated until I told them to cease, otherwise I do not know but that they would have brought all they had.

Now there are people of your own nation, country and color, who need your assistance, and I will give you the privilege of bringing blankets, hoods, winter bonnets, stockings, skirts, garments, and almost any description of clothing.

Our brethren and sisters could not bring much with them on the plains, even if they had had it. Some have left their clothing with the wagons, having hired their baggage hauled. Now, sisters, when you go home, prepare forthwith and bring in your offerings, and we will make this Tabernacle a place of deposit for them.

The prophet spoke of tithes and offerings brought into the store-house of the Lord, and we will make the donations of clothing an offering, also the sending out our teams, furnishing flour, &c., to help the brethren in, and not call it tithing.

I request the elders of Israel who have been on missions abroad, also those that are now on missions, to keep the Spirit of their missions, if they have it; do not lay off your gospel armor. Laboring abroad is but a small portion of the good an elder can do. If you have an interest for strangers and foreigners, those whom you have never seen, why should you not have a greater interest for your friends and neighbors, for your own families? I said to my son Joseph, this morning, mingle not with those that you associated with previous to going on your mission, unless they will follow you instead of your following them. I say to my young brethren, to brs. William H. Kimball, George D. Grant, my son Joseph and others, never associate with the rude and rattle-brained, unless they will follow you instead of your following them.

Our elders have got to take a stand to never follow the crowd, but to walk in the footsteps of their Redeemer, and say to their former companions 'if you wish to associate with me you are at liberty to do so upon righteous principles, but I will not follow you.'

Take that stand, brethren, and keep your armor bright, for your spiritual labors are wanted in this city and Territory more than they are in England. You can do more good here than in England; and you want an increase of that faith that you have possessed and needed while on your missions; you need it to increase day by day. Then it will be here as br. Franklin remarked when he said, 'After we have been gone two, three, or more years, when we return to our brethren we can perceive an increase, whereas if we were to stay with them all the time we cannot so readily perceive it.'

If you stay here you know but little about the increase of wickedness among the wicked, of the sin and iniquity that are in the world. But go and spend a year or two in the world, then come back here and spend a year or two and go again among the wicked, and you can see an increase of wickedness among them. So it is with the Saints; and the Saints are going one way while the wicked are going another.

It is the labor of the elders in Israel to gather out the righteous and gather up every holy principle; and the faithful will be gathered together and Jesus will reign over his people, and the devil over his; that will make the dividing line. Do you not see that we form a dividing line, by gathering the good and letting the bad remain outside?

It is the practise of a great many, when they go to preach the gospel and return home, to lay off their armor, saying, 'I have performed my duties; my mission is done; my labors are at an end; I will lay off my armor.' In a little while they neglect praying in their families, forget secret prayers, perhaps tittle a little, and meet with the friends they used to associate with, and the first they know they are in the dark.

So it is with many who come here for the first time. They have performed a great labor; their duties have been hard upon them, and they feel, 'Now we have got to Zion; all is peace and safety, and we are secure.' They lay off their armor, forget their God and the covenants they have made with him, neglect their prayers, and by and bye they have the spirit of apostacy.

Let every man and woman understand that if they enjoy the faith of the gospel, here is the place for you to enjoy more of it. Did I ever lay down my armor? Did I ever lay down my watch? No. I appeal to the men of Israel that have known me almost 25 years in this church, did you ever see br. Brigham when he had not a word for the wicked and the righteous, a word of counsel for any and

all? No, never. My armor is on, and I keep it bright.

It is your duty, just as much as it is mine, to labor faithfully. You think that the First Presidency should take care of the church, and you say, 'All is peace, all is right; we have performed a good mission, and now let us return to our former practices.' If you do, the curse of God shall rest upon you. This is an expression I seldom use.

The time is approaching that the Saints must be Saints, or the curse of God will be upon them and will follow them, and they will find it out. Destruction will be upon them and they will waste away, and their wives and their children and their substance, and they will be forgotten. 'Mormonism' is not to be trifled with; the gospel of our salvation is not to be trifled with. You who have on the armor of righteousness, keep it bright and wear it day and night; never lay it off, not for a moment.

As for labor, toils and suffering, I tell you that the person that keeps his eye upon the mark never considers what he passes through, never thinks of it, whether it be in walking and pulling hand-carts, or traveling on foot, going without food and shelter, wandering to and fro, to labor for the people. Saints never think of what they suffer or pass through, it never comes into their minds. I beg of you, and pray you in Christ's stead, to hearken to what has been said to you, and keep your armor on. Here is your home where you can be useful; and you that have been useful here can be more useful. Plead with the Saints, plead with the people, until we get this community prepared to receive more than they have.

As it was observed by br. Spencer, the Lord has blessings for the people; they might have angels visit, if their lives had been according to their profession; and the power of the Lord would have defended this people. But no, we must be driven from city to city, and hunted from land to land; why? Because we do not live our religion; that is the only reason.

If you ask me whether the time will ever come when you may have the privilege of laying off your armor, and ceasing that watchful care that we have now to keep; not before the dividing line is drawn, and all Israel gathered and saved; not before the wicked are thrust out, and Jesus Christ comes to take charge of the church on earth. Then He will be seen in the midst of the congregation and will give counsel; then we can behold his face and talk with him as we do with one another; then the veil of darkness will be taken from the eyes of the people. Until then we shall have to keep our armor on, and, figuratively speaking, fight with sword in hand against our enemies all the time.

There is not time to lay off our armor; there is not time enough to get drunk, if you did but know it, from this time henceforth and for ever. And if men do get drunk they must look out, or the devil will lead them captive at his will. There is no time for us to lay off our gospel armor to spend an evening in a dance, if we presume to take to ourselves that time, for such a course will bring the power of Satan upon us, and the wrath of God will abide on us, if we go to parties and dance, saying, 'I will lay off my armor and serve myself.'

You have not time to go into the canyon to get wood and say, 'I will lay off my armor,' in order to do evil, and abuse yourselves and your cattle. You have not time to spend one hour in any such way. You must keep your armor on, and stand with sword in hand, from moment to moment, and fight the devils until we conquer them. Shall we conquer? Yes, in the name of Israel's God we shall; you may safely rely on that.

My feelings are not deceiving me, and the Lord is not deceiving me or this people. We have to be a righteous people on the earth; we must repent of our backslidings and wickedness, and live to the glory of God.

You have no time allotted to you to lay down your armor, until the dividing line is drawn between the righteous and the wicked, and Jesus personally takes the reigns of government on this earth. Then you will have no desire to sin, but will live in the light of the Lord; and that is what the Lord is trying to bring this people to. Will we walk up and receive the blessings that are for us? Yes.

I now want brethren to come forward, for we need 40 good teamsters to help the brethren on the plains; you may rise up now and give your names.

MINUTES OF THE SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS, CONVENED IN THE BOWERY ADJOINING THE NORTH END OF THE TABERNACLE, GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, AND COMMENCING MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1856, AT 10 A.M.

President Brigham Young presiding.

On the stand:—

Presidents Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Jedediah M. Grant.

Of the Twelve Apostles—W. Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow and F. D. Richards.

Seventies—Joseph Young, Levi W. Hancock, Henry Herriman, Zera Pulsipher, A. P. Rockwood, Benjamin L. Clapp and Horace S. Eldredge.

High Priests' Quorum—John Young, President.

Presiding Bishop, Edward Hunter.

Patriarchs—John Young and Isaac Morley.

Presidency of the Stake—David Fullmer, President.

Clerk of Conference—Leo Hawkins.

Reporters—Geo. D. Watt and J. V. Long.

Called to order by President D. Fullmer.

Singing by the Choir.

Pres. Brigham Young stated that the Semi-annual Conference was now open, and that the first business was to forthwith start assistance to those now on the plains. Called upon those who were willing to go, or send teams, to come to the stand and report; saying that if there were not enough teams, teamsters, &c., volunteered, he would close the conference, and, with br. Kimball, start back to help those companies.

Pres. Kimball remarked, It is moved and seconded that Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Jedediah M. Grant go back to help the P. E. Fund Emigrants. Unanimously agreed.

Pres. B. Young spoke upon the necessity of a reformation among the Saints.

Pres. Kimball called on the blacksmiths in the congregation to retire; as they were wanted to shoe the horses and repair the wagons of those about to start to assist the brethren on the plains.

He then presented the authorities of the church as follows:

Brigham Young, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Prophet, Seer, and Revelator. Heber C. Kimball, First Counselor, Prophet, Seer, and Revelator. Jedediah M. Grant, Second Counselor, Prophet, Seer, and Revelator.

Orson Hyde, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and Parley P. Pratt, Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, John Taylor, George A. Smith, Amasa Lyman, Ezra T. Benson, Chas. C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow, and Franklin D. Richards, members of said Quorum. John Smith, (eldest son of Hyrum) Presiding Patriarch.

John Young, President of the High Priests' Quorum.

Joseph Young, Levi W. Hancock, Henry Herriman, Zera Pulsipher, Albert P. Rockwood, Benjamin L. Clapp and H. S. Eldredge, Presiding Presidents over all the Seventies.

John Nebeker, President of the Elders' Quorum; James H. Smith and Aaron Seeva his counselors.

Daniel Spencer, President of this Stake of Zion; David Fullmer and Thomas Rhoads his counselors.

Heman Hyde, Eleazer Miller, Phinehas Richards, Levi Jackman, Ira Eldredge, John Vance, Edwin D. Woolley, John Parry, Winslow Farr, William Snow, Daniel Carn and Ira Ames, members of the High Council.

Edward Hunter, Presiding Bishop of the whole church; Leonard W. Hardy and Jesse C. Little his counselors.

Lewis Wight, President of the Priests' Quorum; William Whiting and Wm. Smith, his counselors.

McGee Harris, President of the Teachers' Quorum; Adam Spiers and David Bowman his counselors.

Alexander Herron, President of the Deacons' Quorum; John S. Carpenter and Frederic A. Mitchell, his counselors.

Brigham Young, Trustee in Trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Daniel H. Wells, Superintendent of Public Works.

Truman O. Angel, Architect for the Church.

Brigham Young, President of the Perpetual Emigrating Fund to gather the poor; H. C. Kimball, W. Woodruff, O. Hyde, G. A. Smith, E. T. Benson, J. M. Grant, D. H. Wells, Edward Hunter, Daniel Spencer, Thomas Bullock, John Brown, Wm. Crosby, A. Lyman, C. C. Rich, Lorenzo D. Young, P. P. Pratt, O. Pratt, F. D. Richards, and Daniel Mackintosh, his Assistants, and agents for said Fund.

George A. Smith, Historian and General Church Recorder; W. Woodruff, his Assistant.

Not one negative vote was given.

Pres. Grant spoke upon the necessity of every man's having the Holy Ghost, at all times, and in all places.

Pres. Kimball said, it is proposed to divide the 18th ward by 2nd East Temple street.—Carried unanimously.

Carried unanimously, that John Sharp be Bishop of that ward, and that it be designated the 20th ward.

Pres. Kimball addressed the congregation.

Pres. Kimball moved that Seth Taft be dropped from his Bishopric. Carried unanimously.

Pres. B. Young made a few remarks.

Singing by the choir.

Benediction by Pres. Joseph Young.

OCT. 6, 2 P. M.

Singing by the choir.

Prayer by Elder E. Ellsworth.

Singing by the choir.

Elder C. H. Wheelock expressed his feelings on returning to the valleys of the mountains, and while on his mission.

Elder James Ferguson bore testimony to the truth of Elder Wheelock's remarks in relation to the hand-carts, and appealed to the Saints in behalf of those who are still on the road.

Elder W. C. Dunbar sung a 'Hand-cart song,' and spoke of the joy and happiness that he had experienced, while engaged in traveling and preaching for the last 14 or 15 years, and of the increased wickedness in the world and righteousness in these valleys.

Elder Edward Bunker sketched the travels of his hand-cart company, and alluded to their having been led by the Lord all the way.

Elder Ellsworth sung, 'Hand-carts rolling.'

Elder C. G. Webb said he had assisted to make the carts, and believed that they could be made to run one eighth easier, and at the same time be much stronger; spoke of the unfavorable circumstances under which the companies started this year, also of the good influence of the brethren in Iowa City.

Singing by the choir.

Elder Lorenzo Snow requested the returned missionaries to meet Elder F. D. Richards on the stand, immediately at the close of the meeting.

Benediction by Lorenzo Snow.

Adjourned to to-morrow at 9 a. m.

6 P. M.

A large number assembled in the Tabernacle.

Singing by the choir.

Prayer by Elder John Banks.

Singing.

Elder W. Woodruff spoke in relation to the hand-cart companies, and on the necessity of reformation.

Elder John Banks rehearsed some of his experience, while on his mission in the States.

Elder David Grant made a few remarks.

Br. Wilkes sung 'This new land of ours.'

Pres. Grant delivered a brief and powerful sermon on reformation.

Benediction by Elder Edmund Ellsworth.

OCT. 7, 9 A. M.

Pres. Kimball counseled the assembly to keep as still and quiet as possible.

Singing by the choir.

Prayer by Pres. Grant.

Singing by the choir.

Elder Daniel D. McArthur spoke on the necessity for the Saints to live a prayerful life.

Elder James McGaw spoke of the benefits of the hand-cart system of emigration.

Elder France related incidents of his travels since leaving the valleys, and his experience while on his mission in England.

Elder David Grant addressed the congregation for a short time.

Pres. Kimball requested the missionaries, who have lately returned, to come to the stand.

Elder W. C. Dunbar sung 'Oh Zion, dear Zion.'

Elder Spicer W. Crandall spoke of the blessings enjoyed by the hand-cart company under Elder D. D. McArthur, to which he was attached.

Elder W. C. Dunbar sung, 'We are going to dwell in famed Utah.'

Elder N. H. Felt alluded, in brief, to his mission with Elder Taylor to establish 'The Mormon.'

Elder J. D. T. McAllister sung the 'Cricket song.'

Singing by the choir.

Benediction by Elder D. Spencer.

2 P. M.

Singing by the choir.

Prayer by Patriarch John Young.

Singing by the choir.

Elder John McDonald made a few remarks relative to his mission.

Patriarch John Young referred to the 1st conference held in this valley 9 years ago today, and contrasted it with the present.

Elder H. W. Church testified to the truth of the work we are engaged in.

Elder Canute Peterson gave an account of his mission to Norway, and at Pres. Kimball's request, addressed the congregation in Norwegian.

Elder Wm. Butler related some of his experience, while on his mission to England.

Elder Boley spoke upon his mission in Pennsylvania.

Elder E. Ellsworth bore testimony to the truth of the work of the Lord, and that Joseph, Brigham, Heber and Jedediah were Prophets of the Lord.

Br. John Woolley was voted to be Bishop of the 9th ward.

Proposed that the missionaries who have just returned go and strengthen their brethren throughout the Territory of Utah. Carried unanimously.

Pres. Kimball gave a few words of advice to the missionaries.

Pres. B. Young moved that the conference adjourn to April 6th, 1857, at 10 a. m. at this place.

Pres. Grant called upon the Bishops and all other persons to live their religion.

Pres. B. Young exhorted the people to let the words of br. Grant sink into their hearts and stay there; and blessed the congregation in the name of the Lord.

Elder W. C. Dunbar sung, 'I would be a Mormon.'

The choir sung, 'Awake, put on thy strength, Oh Zion.'

Pres. B. Young closed the conference with prayer.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Attention Company!

HENRY MAIBEN'S Dancing Schools

are Postponed until further notice. 32-1

TAKEN UP,

ON South Mill creek, a grey MARE, blind in the right eye, badly saddle-marked; supposed to be ten or twelve years old.

32-3 JOSEPH STALLINGS.

India Rubber and Gutta Percha!

WILL the Brethren bring their worn out India rubber shoes, gutta percha belts, and such like articles, to the Tithing office, and receive pay on tithing. We want them as soon as possible.

32-3 D. H. WELLS.

WANTED.

WHEAT, Corn, potatoes, buckskins, castor oil beans, butter, eggs, cheese, home-made cloth, &c., &c., &c.

FOR SALE.

Cotton Cloth, Prints, Gingham, Canton Flannel, coffee, tobacco, salmon trout, hats, caps, shoes, shoe thread, powder, castor oil, ink, stationery, history, scientific and miscellaneous works, &c., &c., &c., for sale by H. L. Southworth, South Temple street, sign of the Elephant, half block west of Tabernacle. 32-1

OILS! OILS! OILS!

BLAIR & THOMAS will pay \$2.50 per bushel for castor oil beans, or will manufacture on shares. Our oil took the first prize at the State Fair, and is pronounced by our tanners good for leather, and we warrant it superior for lights, the hair and all lubricating purposes, and we have proven by experiment that one pint of our oil is sufficient to grease 16lbs of wool, ready for carding. Bring your beans forthwith to our manufactory in the 15th ward.

BLAIR & THOMAS. Oil in exchange for produce of every kind and the cheapest ever offered in this market. 32-4