

arose; I feel better now, and as though I had been refreshed in spirit. I thank God I am able to talk to you, as the saying is, in my old age. The Lord has been very merciful to me. The devil has sought to kill me from the day I was born; but God has had an agent with me to keep me from his power, and so far I have been preserved. I hope the Lord will not let me live an hour longer than I can live in his service. But I am a feeble man—weak like the rest of you. If anybody supposes that the Presidency and Apostles here are never tempted of the devil, they are mistaken. We are tempted all the time, more or less, and we have to war against these things in order to stand and maintain our position. I pray God that His blessings may rest upon us. I rejoice in this conference. It has been a glorious time. There is a good spirit here; and the testimonies that have been given unto us by the power of God have been choice. The angels are watching over us. The eyes of all the heavenly hosts are over us. Those who have lived in other dispensations understand this dispensation far better than we do, and they are watching over the labors of the Elders of Israel. I pray that we may pursue that course wherein we may be justified before God, and have power to conquer and overcome; and when we have finished here, that we can go home to receive our reward. The great library in the celestial kingdom of our God contains the history of the dealings of God with all the world, for it belongs to this world. Your history is there; mine is there; our testimonies are there; and we will have to meet them. I hope and pray that my sins may be blotted out of the book of remembrance and not be remembered against me. I hope and pray this will be the case with you; for blessed is the man that will meet this blessing when he comes to the end. God bless you. Amen.

### THE WATER QUESTION.

MARYSVALE, Utah, Oct. 11, 1895.—The question of canals and reservoirs is one that interests the citizens of Utah perhaps more than any other people, as the reclamation of the arid region is one of the practical problems that they are solving. Utah was the pioneer in irrigation, and demonstrated to the world the possibilities to be reached by its application to agriculture, and in the reservoiring of the water she must not be left behind as her future growth depends largely on the increasing of her irrigation water supply by this method.

Attempts have been made and the enterprise of her citizens has been rewarded at several points in the Territory. The reservoir at Gunnison, in Sanpete county, is a pronounced success and is bringing an ample reward to those who invested in it. Sevier county has suffered on account of a scarcity of water the last few years, and there are extensive tracts of land that might be brought under cultivation if the water system was increased. For years past this theme has come before the people in different lights; last year there was talk of law-suits to determine rights to the water, which would have cost, to begin, at least five hundred dollars, and before they ended, ten times that; and then there would have been engendered a

bitterness of feeling between the litigants and the different localities that time and means would not heal. Lovers of peace recommended other methods, and suggested that the cheapest way out of the difficulty was to construct reservoirs. A number of excellent sites exist in the region. For years the necessity of securing such sites has been agitated, and committees have been sent to hunt them up. Such a committee, consisting of J. W. Sylvester, N. M. Peterson and W. G. Baker, examined the north end of Marysvale valley, just where the canyon narrows up, and secured the property where it was to be located. They held this claim for years, waiting for the people to take hold of the enterprise, but failed to get co-operation until last season, when the Marysvale Reservoir company was incorporated, and they took hold of the work and have now completed one dam and have near completion the second one. The lower dam is about six miles northwest and down the canyon from Marysvale, and will hold the water back for three miles up the canyon, covering about 500 acres of land at an average depth of fifteen feet. The dam is put in a cut through cement formation 60 feet wide, 17 feet deep and 400 feet long. The foundation is down to solid formation, on which is built a granite wall 10 feet thick and 8 feet to the top of the bulk head, and backed with clay puddle; the apron is made of cut rock and filled with cement and the ends with another wall the same as the front, so arranged that it cannot be washed out. The height of the dam is 20 feet, and each side of the outlet is built up of solid masonry 20 feet high, 10 feet thick and is 40 feet long. This is all backed with clay puddling. The wings are 17 feet long and 10 feet thick and are protected well by ripp-rapp work put in with very large stone, both in front and rear of the dam. The headgate is built of 16x24 inch red pine timber well braced. There are eight five-foot outlets. The face of the dam proper is ripp-rapped from bottom to top with rock; there is used in this dam about 8,200 perch of rock. The full length of the dam is 400 feet, 100 feet wide at bottom and 20 feet on top. The upper dam is being put in of solid masonry; its full length is 120 feet, with overflow 50 feet at the bottom, 60 feet at the top, width 30 feet, length of the dam 20 feet, the width of the dam at bottom 30 feet, 20 feet at top. The rock used is grey quartz. The outlet is through solid rock and is 150 feet long, 10 feet wide and 4 feet high. The gates are set in solid masonry, on an iron frame, and steel gates are to be used. There will be four openings 2 ft. 6 in. by 4 ft. 6 in. There is eighty feet of water slope in front of the dam proper made up of quartz shale. This dam will hold the water over some 800 acres of land at an average depth of 10 feet, and it is estimated that it will irrigate fifty to seventy-five thousand acres of land.

The work on this reservoir system will be completed in about two weeks, and it is a commendable enterprise; but in our opinion Sevier county should own it and the water should belong to the land and the land to the water, and if the different canal systems of the county were combined

in one company and stocked so as to take in this system, the question of irrigation water would be solved for this region.

Every effort to secure water is commendable, and should be encouraged; out where it is possible the people who own the land should own the reservoirs on which the water is to be used.

R. G. LAMBERT.

### IOWA CONFERENCE.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia.,

Oct. 2, 1895.

Hoping we shall not weary the readers of your journal, we forward a brief report of the Iowa conference of the Northern States mission, for publication. Sept. 28, 29 and 30 belong the dates set for meetings, accordingly the Elders from the various fields, with their usual pleasure in punctuality, and desire to assemble with Saints and fellow-workers, landed in Council Bluffs the evening of the 27 ult., ready to participate in the long looked-for feast of the coming three days.

Conference commenced Saturday, the 28, at 10 a. m., with J. R. Clark, president of the mission, present, and C. L. Miller, president of the conference, presiding. Singing, Come All Ye Sons of God. Prayer was offered by Elder J. R. Clark.

Brother McMillen was the first speaker. He showed that faith is a fundamental principle of our religion and that it is the principle by which all the great results of godliness have been accomplished.

After the singing of a hymn, Elder W. E. Cridole spoke a short time on repentance as a godly sorrow for sin, and a turning away therefrom.

Brother Rineason, one of the released Elders of the Illinois conference, spoke feelingly upon his early experience in the Church. On seeing a grandson of President Brigham Young in the audience he was reminded of the kind way the President had treated him forty-two years ago, as he was journeying to California. Notwithstanding the scarcity of those days he was told he should never want for bread. He joined the Church, went not farther, and at that time a blessing was pronounced upon his head by President Heber C. Kimball which had been fulfilled forty-two years later, viz.: that he should go to the nations of the earth as a messenger of life and salvation. He had realized one of the greatest joys of his life in lately baptizing his only sister.

Brother J. F. Christensen showed from the Scriptures that baptism by immersion is the only proper way of performing this ordinance.

The morning session was then dismissed by Elder P. J. Garn.

At 2 p. m. meeting was again opened with prayer by Elder C. L. Miller.

Elder Dayton was the first speaker and discoursed on the first principles of the Gospel. Bore a strong testimony to the assistance he had received from the Almighty since leaving home.

Brother Oita Johnson spoke on the subject of baptism, handling it in an able manner.

After singing "Redeemer of Israel," Brother P. J. Gamgane, gave an interesting discourse on the subject of the Holy Ghost. He was followed by Elder D.