

to the first principles of the Gospel for a future life. Satan tries to make us believe that we can receive the blessings through belief without the other principles. If we obtain the fellowship of the Holy Ghost and keep it, and keep the commandments of God we will never be overcome. The meek and lowly are teachable and will not be led astray. If we do not live the principles of the celestial kingdom we cannot receive a celestial glory.

The general and Stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elder C. H. Grace was honorably released from the position of Stake clerk and recorder, and Thomas C. Winn was voted in to fill the vacancy.

Conference was then adjourned for three months. Closing prayer was offered by President William Paxman.

On Sunday evening, after conference, at 7:30 o'clock, Elder Maeser, general superintendent of the religion classes, gave a very interesting lecture, explaining the different steps, in religion class work. A class of children from ten to twelve years of age was present on the stand, and Elder Maeser went through a class exercise as it is to be conducted in religion class work.

C. H. GRACE, clerk.

### A PIONEER'S STORY.

ROCKLAND, Idaho, April 28, 1897.

I am a son of John Robinson, who embraced the Gospel in the state of Maine, where I was born. On October 19, 1837, we came to Nauvoo, eight of us in the family, two years before the Prophets were martyred. I knew them when they were alive, and I saw them after they were brought from Carthage, after the martyrdom. Together with all those now living who were there in those days, I well remember what we had to pass through, without mentioning in detail what happened up till the February of 1846, when we began crossing the Mississippi river on the ice for the West. Though I was young I remember well that nearly all the time during February and March, we had snow, rain, mud, sickness, death, and some dancing and amusements of various kinds to cheer and drive off the grim monster, while we were leaving our comfortable houses behind.

So we wound our way westward until we came to what we called Summer Quarters, where we stayed until we went into Winter Quarters. Through that, winter we had a great deal of sickness in our family by scurvy, but no deaths; and in the spring of 1847 President Young counseled all who wished to cross the plains that year for the West to be sure and take provisions enough to last them eighteen months, and seed to sow and plant to raise a crop the next year.

My father acted according to that counsel, loaded his wagons and started, and was among the first to land on the west bank of the Elk Horn river, which was about twenty-five miles from Winter Quarters. There we waited for further orders. As we were in a wild Indian country we had to move with some considerable caution. When the Saints had nearly all

arrived, we were organized into companies of hundreds, fifties and tens. We were in Elder Taylor's company, and Bishop Hoagland's ten. Not being large enough to drive a team, and as father had some loose stock, I had to drive them. Bishop Hunter and myself drove the loose stock for the company most of the way, the Bishop riding a mare twenty-two years old.

I was baptized into the Church of Christ by Elder Taylor in the Platte river. We had some ups and downs crossing the plains but they did not try the people as they were tried in Illinois. Brother Joseph Horne was in our company, and also Brother Geo. Q. Cannon. I think the latter will remember a little pair of cows he drove in his team, which he called Jack and Gill.

We landed in Salt Lake Valley with that company in good order the first part of October, 1847, and we all went to work preparing for the winter. We made adobes and built uthouses. Of course we did not have any floors in them that winter, but they were warm, and sheltered us very well from the weather. We had an open winter and the stock did very well on the ranges. Of course we had to keep up some teams to do our work with and we used to cut some hay on the ice for them. The grass that grew in the sloughs when the water was frozen we used to cut on the ice. So we managed very well through the winter for our teams.

The next spring many people were short of provisions, so we had to dig roots and gather greens to subsist upon. Many ate beef, caught fish, and managed the best they could till harvest. We were sometimes a little hungry, but the Lord opened the way and we did very well considering the circumstances, until the harvest of 1848. You all know the balance up until April, 1897.

LAWRENCE ROBINSON.

### STAKE PRIESTHOOD MEETING.

The monthly Priesthood meeting of the Salt Lake Stake was held in the Assembly Hall May 1, commencing at 11 a. m. Stake President Angus M. Cannon and his counselors, Elder Joseph E. Taylor and Charles W. Penrose, presided. The roll was called showing as follows: One High Councilor, four Patriarchs, Elders Elias Morris, George B. Wallace and William O. Dunbar of the presidency of the High Priests' quorum, twenty-one presidents of Seventy and seven home missionaries.

All the wards of the Stake were properly represented, excepting the Second, Twelfth and Thirteenth city wards, and Farmers, of the county.

The First, Third, Fifth, Sixth, Tenth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth quorums of Elders were represented by their presiding officers.

The lesser Priesthood was represented by members from the Second, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Twentieth city wards, and Big Cottonwood, Sandy, West Jordan, East Jordan and Riverton of the county.

The Sunday schools of the Stake

were represented by Elder Thomas C. Griggs, superintendent of these schools.

Upon the recommendation of their respective Bishops, twelve young brethren received certificates authorizing their ordination to the office of Elder, each of whom promised to honor and magnify this office and calling to the best of his ability if ordained.

A letter from Elder John W. Taylor was read, asking for the names and addresses of friends of the work in Colorado and Wyoming, his mission field. His address was given as 879 South Corona street, Denver, Colorado.

Instructions were given by Elders George Goddard, Joseph E. Taylor, Charles W. Penrose and Angus M. Cannon; their subjects being the necessity of better congregational singing in such meetings as required that form of devotional music; the need of greater care in the taking of certificates by persons moving from one ward to another; the advisability of providing labor, wherever possible, for the unemployed; the improvement of the morals of the community; the training of the young in the idea that virtue is necessary to the full exercise of the powers and privileges of the Gospel; and that chastity, once lost, is lost forever, in spite of all amends that can be made; the need of teaching the young men and boys their great responsibility in this matter; the proper order of the exercise of the powers of the Priesthood, that all things may be done under the rightful authority of those who preside over the wards and other organizations; the necessity of men holding the Priesthood training themselves in its offices and ordinances, the cultivation of the companionship of the Holy Ghost; the need of greater directness and conscientiousness in the performance of the ordinances of the Gospel; the principle of proper respect and deference for the authority of presiding officers; and the danger of running after the various whims and notions rampant in the world.

Adjourned to meet in Stake conference on Saturday, June 12, at 10 a. m.

LARIMER, N. D., May 1.—August Norman, a young man who has been making his home at Route Hillstead's farm off and on, came there yesterday afternoon. Mr. Hillstead was absent. About 1 o'clock this morning he went to Mrs. Hillstead's room and demanded admission. She blocked the door. He said he would kill all the family if she did not open the door. She refused. Norman went upstairs and cut the throat of Peter Hillstead, aged 15, with a razor. After trying again to get into Mrs. Hillstead's room he proceeded to carve the thirteen months old son Thomas, after which he cut the throats of Adolph and Oscar, aged eleven and three. He then forced his way into Mrs. Hillstead's room, assaulted her, promising not to kill her if she would yield. She did so and thus saved her life and the life of her two daughters. The two oldest sons are still alive but with little hopes of recovery. The murderer stole a horse and is at large.