

bring our reflections into subjection, that we can make our minds one in faith. Then, let me ask you, when you pray God to so hedge up the way of our enemies that they never shall be able to come to this Territory, will not your prayers be very likely to be answered? If the faith of this people, called Latter Day Saints, had been united in one, as it should have been four months ago, when they asked the Father, in the name of Jesus, to stop our enemies on the other side of the South Pass, I can assure you, as the Lord God lives, they never could have seen this side of it. But they are in the Territory. When we are united and ask God to let the wicked slay the wicked, as they ripen in iniquity, it will be done, and they will not have power to overcome this handful of people in the mountains. He will place between them and us a barrier they cannot surmount. He will build a wall between us such as they have never thought of, and they will fall upon each other and slay each other.

I know where the difficulties are, but I have not time now to explain them. If we are one and are concentrated in the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ and through the chain and thread drawn out for us to follow up, we will find the fountain head, and then, if I should ask this people to pray for a certain thing, they would pray for it, but do they now? No, they pray for everything else. I have made that request until I am tired of making it. Many will pray for this, and the other different from what I had advised them only twenty minutes before. Their faith is not concentrated, as I have frequently told you, though they are improving and will come to a knowledge of the truth.

The First Presidency have of right a great influence over this people, and if we should get out of the way and lead this people to destruction, what a pity it would be. How can you know whether we lead you correctly or not? Can you know by any other power than that of the Holy Ghost? I have uniformly exhorted the people to obtain this living Witness each for themselves, then no man on the earth can lead them astray. It is my calling and office to dictate in the affairs of the church and kingdom of God on earth. That is what you have chosen me to do for many years, with br. Heber and others for my counselors, two of whom have passed behind the veil, and I now have a third, br. Daniel H. Wells, who is as good a man as ever lived. You have asked me to tell the people what to do to be saved—to be the mouth of God to this people. Does your faith agree with your profession? Let me continue to exhort you, until you can train your hearts, your feelings and your affections to such a degree that when I ask you to pray for a certain object, you can think of it when you go home.

Brethren and sisters, may God bless you.—I bless you all the time. Hallelujah, praise the name of Israel's God, for my soul exults in His name. We are happy and free from the yoke of bondage. The breath of the Almighty can scatter our enemies to the four winds and blow them into oblivion, if we have the faith. You can read how the kings, prophets and mighty men in Israel used to slay their fellow beings, required so to do because of the wickedness of those very men who stood at the head of Israel. If they had been sanctified and holy, the children of Israel would not have traveled one year with Moses before they would have received their endowments and the Melchisedec Priesthood, but they could not receive them and never did; Moses left them and they did not receive the fullness of that Priesthood. After they came to the land of Canaan they never would have desired a king, had they been holy. The Lord told Moses that he would show himself to the people, but they begged Moses to plead with the Lord not to do so.—Moses was angry at the sins of the people and did wrong, inasmuch that when the Lord showed himself to him he hid him in a cleft in a rock and only let him see his hinder parts. Through the conduct of the people, Moses sometimes felt like fighting. After he had been with the Lord forty days in the mountain, he came down and saw the idolatry of the people and smashed to pieces the tables that were written by the finger of God, and ground up the golden image they were worshipping and scattered it to the four winds; and the Lord slew many of the idolaters.

I want to see this people so full of the power of God that they can ask and receive. God help us so to do: Amen.

THE END OF GREAT MEN.—It is a remarkable fact, that the career of four of the most renowned characters that ever lived, closed with some violent or mournful death.

Alexander, after having climbed the dizzy heights of his ambition, and with his temples bound with chaplets dipped in the blood of countless nations, looked down upon a conquered world, and wept that there was not another one for him to conquer, set a city on fire, and died in a scene of debauch.

Hannibal, after having, to the astonishment and consternation of Rome, passed the Alps; after having put to flight the armies of the mistress of the world, and stripped three bushels of gold rings from the fingers of her slaughtered knights, and made her very foundations quake—fled from his country, being hated by those who once exultingly united his name to that of our God, and called him Hannibal—died at last by poison, administered by his own hands, unlamented and unwept in a foreign land.

Cesar, after having conquered eight hundred cities, and dyed his clothes in the blood of one million of his foes, after having pursued to death the only rival he had on earth, was miserably assassinated by those he considered his nearest friends, and in that very place, the attainment of which had been his greatest ambition.

Benaparte, whose mandate kings and emperors

obeyed, after having filled the earth with the terror of his name, deluged it with tears and blood, and clothed the world with sackcloth, closed his days in lonely banishment, almost literally exiled from the world, yet, where he could sometimes see his country's banner waving over the deep, but which could or would not bring him aid.

Thus four men who, from the peculiar situation of their portraits, seemed to stand as the representatives of all those whom the world called great; those four who, each in turn, made the earth tremble to its very center by their simple tread, severally died—one by intoxication, or, as some suppose, by poison mingled in his wine—one a suicide—one murdered by his friends—and one in lonely exile. How are the mighty fallen!—[Graham's Mag.]

THE DESERET NEWS.

ALBERT CARRINGTON, EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9.

WOOD AND NAVY—wanted immediately at the News' office.

NOTICE.

All persons who furnished horses, mules, wagons, harness, or other description of property to the Y. X. Company, are requested to appear, personally or by agent, at the Church cattle yard in G. S. L. City, on Saturday, the 19th inst., when the animals and other private property in the possession of said company will be turned over to the several rightful claimants. A general and prompt attention is expected, that the late Y. X. Company may be enabled to close the accounts.

THE CALIFORNIA MAIL arrived on the 3d inst., but as usual brought no news of importance, except a lengthy and splendid reply to President Buchanan's letter to the memorialists in Connecticut, (which we shall print at an early date) and word that all or nearly all the California editors are blowing and striking in perfect phrenzy about the late massacre of emigrants by Indians at the Mountain Meadows, pouring all the blame, as is so customary, upon the 'Mormons.' Of course the 'Mormons' should feed, clothe and civilize the wild and degraded red man, with, comparatively, scarcely a farthing's worth of assistance from the Government, and then, when passers have poisoned, cheated, abused and wantonly slain the Indians, forsooth the cankering venom of recreant editors is ruthlessly poured upon the 'Mormons' for not turning out in mass and standing between savage vengeance and those who excited it, which they well know, or should, is no more our business than it is theirs, and is in fact the immediate duty of the Parent Government.

Messrs. California editors, so long as the whites prefer to wantonly trample in the dust the untutored aborigines, so long they may expect to meet that indiscriminate vengeance so traditional with the race; and by bearing this fact, known of all, in constant mind, you may avoid the sin of continually heaping false accusations upon an innocent people.

MISSIONARIES.—Elders Silas Smith, Edward Partridge, Sixtus E. Johnson, Ward E. Pack, William King, Smith B. Thurston and Joseph Smith arrived in San Francisco, from the Sandwich Islands, on the 22d of October. They were all in good health, and were preparing to prosecute their journey, at as early a date as possible, to their homes from which they have been absent since the spring of '54.

Elders William Wall, Orson Miles and John Q. Knowlton reached their homes, from their several missions, on the 2d and 3d inst.

EARTHQUAKES.—Earthquakes are getting to be quite common again in this locality. At a quarter past six o'clock on the evening of the 19th, a single shock was experienced, which, although of brief continuance, was severe to a degree unequalled by any felt during the present season. Much alarm was created in many quarters, and persons might have been seen making a sudden exit from their several places of abode. The wall of the old Herald building, on Montgomery street, below Sacramento, now occupied as the office of the French paper 'La Phare,' was cracked in two places from top to bottom, to the great consternation of the 'typos' engaged therein. Several other buildings were more or less injured.

Since writing the above, the city has been visited by three other shocks of earthquake—one at 8 minutes after twelve o'clock, another at 25 minutes before one o'clock, and a third at 20 minutes past one. The first two were comparatively slight, amounting to mere vibrations. The last was nearly equal to that of the 15th February, 1856. The direction apparently was from southwest to northeast, accompanied by a low rumbling sound, like distant thunder, which preceded the elevation of the ground. People rushed from their beds in their night-clothes into the streets, and the largest and strongest built houses shook to their foundations.

So far as we are advised, the tremendous

shock of earthquake felt here on Monday night was not experienced in the interior. Telegraphic despatches to this effect have been received from Sacramento and San Jose.—[West. Standard.]

The Panama 'Star,' of Sept. 16th, has advices from Callao to Aug. 30th, stating that a severe shock of earthquake occurred in Peru on the 20th. The city of Paiva suffered severely. The shock lasted about a minute and forty-five seconds, and every house in the city was more or less shattered. The authorities immediately caused one hundred and twenty-two houses that were left in a dangerous state, to be taken down. Several churches were completely destroyed. The damage there is estimated at \$100,000. The river of Paiva, which had been dry, suddenly rose, in other places the ground opened and jets of dark colored water were ejected. The total estimate of damage done by the earthquake is placed at half a million of dollars.

MINUTES

OF A GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE ELDERS OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS MISSION OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS, HELD AT HONOLULU, OAHU, OCT. 4, 1857.

At 8 o'clock a. m. Conference was convened. Singing, "We'll sing the songs of Zion." Prayer by Pres. Smith.

Singing, "Come Holy Spirit, heavenly dove." Elder Silas Smith was unanimously sustained as President of this Conference.

Elder Edward Partridge was called to act as clerk.

Elder H. W. Bigler made some very edifying remarks in relation to his feelings concerning this mission and the work of the Lord generally.

Elder J. S. Woodbury followed: Said he never felt better in spirit and a greater determination to press onward in the cause of truth than at the present time. He felt that there had been a good work done on the Islands, although the good resulting therefrom may not be perceived at a casual glance. Inasmuch as he had been called again to labor in this mission he desired to take hold with renewed energy and perform the mission assigned him.

Moved and carried that we sustain and uphold Pres. Brigham Young and his Counselors as the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints throughout all the world.

Moved that we in like manner sustain the Twelve Apostles in their offices and callings. Carried unanimously.

Moved and carried that we sustain the Seventies, High Priests and all the other constituted authorities of the church in their several stations and callings.

The native Conferences were next reported in the following order:

Lanai, represented by Elder W. E. Pack, 2 Seventies, 8 Elders, 5 Priests, 4 Deacons, 1 cut off. Total, 139.

The Saints in this Conference are as usual alive to the work. Meetings are held regularly three times on Sundays and three during the week.

The Saints feel well. Food is plenty at present, or at least there is supposed to be sufficient to last till more can be raised. The affairs in general are as flourishing as we have known them.

Mani, represented by Elder Edward Partridge, 6 Seventies, 29 Elders, 56 Priests, 65 Teachers, 62 Deacons, 26 died, 33 cut off, 15 baptized since last Conference. Total, 1165.

The Saints in this Conference feel awake to their duty at some places, while at other places they are quite dilatory and seemingly careless in regard to those things that should most engage their attention.

Hilo, represented by Elder Eli Bell, 4 Seventies, 5 Elders, 6 Priests, 10 Teachers, 10 Deacons, 6 died, 23 cut off, 8 baptized. Total, 197.

This Conference is much the same as heretofore, a few of the Saints appear to feel pretty well, but the most of them are very negligent when there are no foreign Elders with them.

We traveled around the Island and preached at many places where Mormonism had not before been heard, but were unsuccessful in baptizing any, although they were willing to listen to what we had to say.

Kohala, represented by Elder S. E. Johnson, 4 Seventies, 7 Elders, 17 Priests, 29 Teachers, 25 Deacons, 7 baptized, 8 dead, 19 cut off. Total, 622.

At Kohala we have had to contend with many inconveniences. It was difficult for us to obtain food sufficient for us to subsist upon, it being a general time of scarcity in this district. Elder Johnson made a tour through the district of Kona and baptized 4; he thinks a good work might be performed in that district.

Oahu, represented by Elder Wm. King, 2 Seventies, 14 Elders, 19 Priests, 10 Teachers, 9 Deacons, 3 baptized, 24 cut off, 9 dead. Total, 371. The work is at a very low ebb.—Meetings are seldom held except when called by a foreign Elder.

Kanai, represented by Elder Geo. Spiers, 2 Seventies, 10 Elders, 20 Priests, 13 Teachers, 23 Deacons, 3 baptized, 15 dead, 45 cut off.—Total, 576.

The work upon this Island is about as when I was there in 1855. Meetings are kept up in a few branches, while at other places it is almost impossible to get meetings among those who profess to be called Mormons. Preached at new places whenever opportunity presented.

Molokai, represented by Elder Joseph Smith, 2 Seventies, 3 Elders, 2 Priests, 4 Teachers, 4 Deacons, 3 baptized, 63 cut off, 3 died. Total remaining, 52.

When we arrived at this field from our April

Conference, we had some difficulty in finding any who professed to have a name in the church, however, we succeeded in finding a few, but were unable to induce them to do anything for us and were under the necessity of stopping with an unbeliever.

Elder Partridge made a report of the Hawaiian books of Mormon. Some 114 books have been disposed of, but the money has not as yet all been collected. Amount of money received to date amounts to \$97 75. Books yet remaining that have not been disposed of, 66.

Prest. Smith made some instructive remarks relative to the situation of the mission, believes the affairs to be in as prosperous a condition as they have been since we arrived at the Islands. The debts are mostly liquidated, still there are some that have not as yet been paid. There is sufficient due the mission to settle the liabilities which, however, it is doubtful about obtaining. Said the time had now arrived for some of us to be released, also it is the request of Prest. Young that quite a number should be permitted to return home. In view of his being released he tendered his resignation and nominated Elder Henry W. Bigler as his successor, which nomination was unanimously sustained.

Moved and carried that we accept of the past labors and appreciate the instructions of Prest. Silas Smith and that he is now released from further duties in the mission.

Also, moved and carried that the following Elders be released from the mission with the privilege to return home to Zion as soon as practicable, and that they leave with our faith and prayers for their speedy passage to the home of the Saints:—Edward Partridge, Ward E. Pack, Wm. King, S. E. Johnson, George Spiers, Wm. W. Cluff, S. B. Thurston, Eli Bell, S. M. Molen, Joseph Smith, J. R. Young and J. A. West.

Adjourned for one hour. Doxology. Dismissed by Elder Joseph Smith.

Twelve o'clock, Noon.

Conference met according to adjournment. Singing. Prayer by Elder J. S. Woodbury. Singing.

Prest. Bigler arose and made a few remarks and nominated Elder James Keeler (who is expected soon to arrive from the coast) as his first counselor and Elder John S. Woodbury as his second counselor. Nominations unanimously sustained.

The President then made the following distribution of the remaining Elders:

Lanai conference—A. L. Smith, president.

Moved and carried that the Maui and Molokai conferences be again united under the name of the Maui conference.

Mani—Wm. France, president, Thos. Clayton, Wm. Naylor and T. A. Dowell, assistants.

Hilo—John Brown, president; R. A. Rose, assistant.

Kohala—F. A. H. F. Mitchell, president; F. W. Young, assistant.

Oahu—J. S. Woodbury, president.

Kanai—Wm. B. Wright, president.

Prest. Smith made some remarks, laying before the conference the situation of the mission and making many appropriate suggestions in relation to the same.

The subject of the gathering was introduced and each one expressed himself upon the subject, and all seemed to feel, in consideration of the many failures at Lanai, that it would be advisable to select one or more other places where the Saints may be gathered with less difficulty if possible.

Moved and carried that a committee be appointed by the presidency of the mission to go and look at the different islands and try and select a more suitable place than Lanai has proved to be for the temporary gathering of native Saints, and that said committee report progress at our next conference.

It was resolved that we endeavor to introduce the spirit of the reformation among the native Saints on these islands, and re-baptize those who shall come forward confessing their sins with a determination to live nearer as becometh Saints of God.

Moved and carried that we adjourn till candle light. Singing.

Dismissed by Elder Partridge.

Half-past six o'clock p. m.

Conference convened pursuant to adjournment. Commenced by singing, "O, Zion, when I think of thee," &c. Prayer by Prest. Bigler. Singing.

The subject was broached of a printing press being sent from the coast. A letter on the subject from br. Cannon was read before the conference and remarks made relative to it.

Moved and carried that we concur with the arrangements that have been entered into by br. Cannon concerning a press, and also that we use our faith, prayers and works for the success of the same.

Prest. Bigler expressed his feelings in short in regard to his future labors on these lands, &c. Prest. Smith felt that he had used his best endeavors for the building up of God's kingdom while presiding over this mission and now felt to return with a clear conscience having done his duty.

The Elders all briefly expressed their feelings, after which each one received a parting blessing.

Moved and carried that we adjourn our conference till the 6th of April, 1858, to meet at such place as may hereafter be appointed by the president of the mission.

Singing.

Benediction by Prest. Smith.

SILAS SMITH, } Presidents.

H. W. BIGLER, }

EDWARD PARTRIDGE, clerk.