



GEORGE Q. CANNON.....EDITOR

Wednesday,.....Oct. 14, 1868.

## THE CONFERENCE.

THE Conference just terminated has been one of the most important and interesting that we have ever attended. Notwithstanding the absence of hundreds of men at the railroad, the New Tabernacle was crowded at every meeting; and at several of the meetings hundreds were compelled to stand or were unable to gain admission to the building. The importance of the instructions given on this occasion will be comprehended by our readers, when they peruse the sermons delivered as they appear in our columns. We have been threatened by men in our midst with complete overthrow when the railroad should be completed. They have marked out the plan by which that is to be accomplished, and proclaim, without disguise, their intention to labor for the accomplishment of that object. We have felt that we would be guilty of blind fatuity if we were to sit supinely down and allow them to carry their threats into execution without making an effect to ward off their attacks.

We have redeemed this country from its wilderness condition at the cost of immense and incessant toil; and our first settlement here was attended with such difficulties and privations as would have appalled any people less reliant on God and less determined to worship Him according to the dictates of their own consciences. Year after year we have labored to make the country productive, to increase our prosperity, and to gather around us the elements of home-comfort, refinement and material progress. With our prosperity came its consequent attendants—commerce and trade. This is the natural result of prosperity; but such natural result is not always the same in its development as it has been here—that many of those engaged in such business should be the open and active enemies, or secret and insidious foes of the people with whom they were doing business, and from whom they were drawing wealth. No one supposes that if we had remained as poor and indigent as we were when we first came here, there would have been any strenuous efforts made by individuals not of our faith, in the interests of trade here. There would have been no inducements for such people to come. There would have been no money to be made by doing it. The country was a desolation, forbidding, and not presenting any evidences of the future productiveness which, under the providences of God, has since been developed.

We came to this country worn out and weary with the oppressions and cruelties which we had suffered in our former homes, seeking peace and a peaceful home where we could worship God unmolested, and without fear or oppression. In this land we found that peace which we sought, and God has blessed it far beyond the most sanguine expectations of the majority when they came here. We have enjoyed peace, and with it the privilege of worshipping our God. But now we are threatened that this shall not last any longer. Self-preservation is the first law of nature. It is our duty—we owe it to our God, to our religion, to our families and to posterity—to take measures to preserve that peace which God has so signally blessed us with up to the present. And it would be suicidal in us to contribute of our means to sustain those who are banded with our open and avowed enemies. This subject was laid before the Conference with great plainness, and a vote was taken to withdraw the hand of fellowship from all those who persisted in the policy of sustaining our enemies.

This Conference has been most remarkable as being the first Conference for upwards of thirty-two years, when the Twelve Apostles were all present. There are but three members of the original Quorum now here who ever saw the full Quorum of the Twelve

together—President B. Young, & Elders Orson Hyde and Orson Pratt. The occasion was one that was joyfully appreciated by everyone present, and a feeling of thankfulness pervaded every heart, that they were permitted to witness such a meeting—the First Presidency full, as well as the Quorum of the Twelve, and all present. Many interesting reminiscences have been indulged in on the occasion, and delightful contrasts drawn between the present unanimity and concord which prevail among the members of these Quorums now, and those which existed in the early days of the Church, when the Prophet Joseph found some of the men who ought to have sustained him cordially so perverse and unmanageable.

## CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE STORE.

FOR years past the necessity of being self-sustaining and of confining their trading and mercantile operations to those who had the welfare of Zion at heart, and were willing to spend their time and means for the upbuilding of the kingdom of God upon the earth, have been persistently and continually urged upon the attention of the Latter-day Saints by their leaders. Owing to the teachings on this subject, the great necessity of adopting such a policy has long been very apparent to the people at large, but through circumstances, too well known to need recounting here, it has not been so generally adopted as was desirable.

For some time past, through the various settlements of the Territory, this matter has been more forcibly brought to the notice of the Saints, and the position and absolute necessity of universally carrying it out has been very clearly demonstrated.

It is well known that for all kinds of merchandise imported into our Territory the people have been charged enormous prices; and even then the stores and people in the country have often been very inadequately supplied. The profits thus derived from mercantile pursuits here have been large, and as the whole of the members of the community contribute to swell these profits, it is but right that they, generally, should more largely participate therein. To effect this the establishing of a co-operative whole-sale store has long been acknowledged as necessary, and many of our leading and most liberal business men have felt the desirability of inaugurating such a movement. But for various reasons,—the scarcity of capital being one of the principal,—such an organization has never yet been carried out. Attempts have also been made in years past to effect combinations among our merchants, but no plan was proposed that was satisfactory to them. We are happy, however, to be able to announce that now a plan has been formed, which we feel convinced will be a successful one.

A number of gentlemen met together yesterday afternoon, and discussed this subject, and decided that the establishment of a co-operative wholesale store is feasible. Among the few who were present nearly forty thousand dollars in money were subscribed; and one gentleman proposed to put his entire stock of goods into the concern. The feeling in favor of such an establishment was unanimous, and measures will be taken to lay the matter before the people of the Territory, and to carry it into operation immediately. In order to further the objects of the movement now contemplated, this city and the adjacent settlements, during the next six days, will be canvassed by the following named gentlemen, who have been appointed to address the people on the subject at the times and places specified below:

## In Salt Lake City, Elders

Joseph Young, Sen.,	18th Ward	Sunday Ev'g.
Jacob Gates,	12th "	Monday "
Joseph W. Young,	11th "	Tuesday "
O. Pratt, Sen.,	19th "	Sunday "
	20th "	Monday "
F. D. Richards,	8th "	Sunday "
	9th "	Monday "
Joseph F. Smith,	10th "	Sunday "
Edward L. Sloan,	16th "	Monday "
W. Woodruff,	14th "	Sunday "
	15th "	Monday "
Geo. Q. Cannon,	17th "	Sunday "
A. M. Musser,	7th "	Monday "
John Van Cott,	1st "	Sunday "
	2nd "	Monday "
	3rd "	Tuesday "
R. T. Burton,	5th and 6th	Sunday "
	4th "	Monday "
A. P. Rockwood,	Sugar House,	Sunday "
R. L. Campbell,	Mill Creek,	Monday "
	Little Cottonw'd,	Tuesday "
H. S. Eldredge,	Bountiful,	Sunday morning.
Wm. Clayton,		
H. S. Eldredge,	Centreville,	Sunday afternoon.

Members of the Quorum of the Twelve presiding at distant places, and Presiding Elders of settlements will also hold meetings, and lay this matter before the people, and take the necessary steps to secure subscriptions.

Elder A. O. Smoot will meet with the people of Provo, on Sunday and; he with Elder J. F. Smith will hold meetings throughout Utah county, making their own appointments. At all of these meetings the plan will be laid before the people, and subscriptions for shares will be received, and until other arrangements are made they will also be received at the office of Hon. W. H. Hooper.

A little reflection will readily suggest to every one the importance of this movement. We have dwelt upon co-operation considerably of late in our columns with the view of calling attention to the subject. It operates admirably in many places in Europe, and can be made to work to excellent advantage in this Territory if carried on in a business like manner.

From all that we know, we are convinced that great care will be taken in selecting men every way trustworthy and reliable to carry the scheme into operation, men whose names, with the blessing of God, will be a guarantee of the success of the undertaking.

The unanimous feeling of the meeting to which we have referred was that President Young should dictate the necessary measures to carry out the plan. Of course all the details are not yet elaborated, but every one may feel assured that the greatest care will be taken to arrange the whole system to the entire satisfaction of the shareholders; whose wishes in the premises will be consulted.

We hope there will be a general attendance of the people of the wards at the meetings called to lay this matter before them.

## IS IT A "GIANT SUPERSTITION?"

Now that the railroad is drawing near to this Territory and city we presume there will be no end to the various opinions respecting us which will find their way into the columns of the public journals. The great "Mormon question" will be viewed from nearly every stand point, and if the people of the Eastern and Pacific States do not get correct ideas of it, it will not be for want of correspondents' letters upon the subject, for, without doubt, they will be very numerous. But no correspondent who is not a "Mormon" can judge this question fairly and understandingly. Such a man cannot recognize, or attach a proper degree of importance, to the causes which have produced the results to be seen every where in this Territory. We have an instance of this in a correspondence written from this city, which we have recently noticed in a Cincinnati paper. The writer calls "Mormonism" a giant superstition, and attributes the moulding and managing of the people to its being such. In other words, "Mormonism" holds the people together, and utilizes and directs their energies, and just now, he says, he fails "to see how such a mass of ignorance can be moulded and managed, by aught save a giant superstition."

This is an easy way for an ignorant, shallow-brained writer to dispose of a question, which is acknowledged by the leading minds who have paid attention to it, to be one of the most interesting and important of the day! For the want of ability to treat this subject intelligently and philosophically there will be many more correspondents, doubtless, who will dismiss it with a comment similar to the above. But thinking, unprejudiced men see something more in "Mormonism" than a "giant superstition." Superstition, however gigantic, has never borne such fruits as "Mormonism" has produced in Utah. Let the history of superstition be searched and where can a parallel be found? Superstition has never taken people of various nationalities, languages and creeds, educated diverse one from another, and made them homogeneous. Superstition has never induced such people to take up their abode in the wilderness, to contend with privation and difficulties, to build cities and form settlements, like those of the Territory of Utah, which, for productiveness and beauty, for peace, good order and the security for life and property which there prevail, are the admiration of all who behold them. Superstition never did perform such wonders, and we have no reason to believe that it ever will. If the labors which have been accomplished in this country by the Latter-day Saints, be the fruits of superstition, then we may properly inquire, where truth and its fruits can be found.

Considering the circumstances under which the Latter-day Saints came to this country, there is nothing that has been done on this continent in the same length of time by any people, however favorably situated, that will at all compare with what has been performed here during the twenty-one years of our settlement, and yet, as an easy way of accounting for these results, the system which has produced them is declared to be a "giant superstition!" What consistency! If superstition will make men peaceable, loving, united, industrious, patient, intelligent and loyal citizens—if it will teach them to build lovely and attractive cities, to form thriving settlements, to establish orderly and well-regulated society, to organize a liberal and equitable government, with light taxes and a treasury unencumbered by debt—for all these results we witness in Utah, then we say let us have more superstition. If superstition should produce such fruits, all men would be justified in praying for its increase.

We recommend to correspondents who deal with this subject henceforth to select some other reason than "superstition" and "delusion" for the striking unity witnessed in Utah and for the remarkable labors which follow that unity. Any man having two grains of common sense should either say nothing about the subject or select a better reason for all that he sees than "giant superstition."

## APOLOGY.

AN unfortunate accident, causing a breakage to our press, has unavoidably delayed the printing of this issue of the NEWS. We trust our subscribers will overlook the inconvenience arising therefrom.

## HOME ITEMS

## FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY.

POLICE.—The following cases were disposed of by his Honor, the Doctor, this morning:

John Evans, charge, drunkenness, plead guilty; said he had quit drinking as a general thing, but on yesterday evening, feeling unwell about the stomach, he took a little alcoholic medicinal preparation, which overcame his usually well balanced head and prostrated his reasonable understanding. Five dollars and cost let him out.

David Jenkins charged with a straight drunk, plead guilty like a little man and paid the city five dollars for the honor.

Dr. O. H. Speed, from Fillmore, on a charge of drunkenness, plead not guilty of the charge, but acknowledged to being inebriated, though such, would not have been the case, had not some of his friends over-persuaded him too freely, to "hist in the pizen." Ten dollars was his bill of fare, which being unsettled the Doctor was remanded to the "stone wickup" to negotiate a final settlement by greenbacks, labor or otherwise.

Evan Jones, fined five dollars for being drunk, which he paid.

S. Bates, plead guilty of a cessation of all knowledge concerning his actions last night. As far as he could remember back (yesterday) he was decidedly tight, which grew into a big limber drunk about midnight, when he was carried to the prison on a wheelbarrow, in a state of superlative intoxication. Fifteen dollars was the extraction.

Walter Reed, alias Scott, charged with stealing a span of mules belonging to Bolivar Roberts, from Sweetwater, last June, and selling the same to Mr. Merrick, of Franklin, Cache Co., pleaded not guilty. Witnesses were examined on the part of the prosecution and the case adjourned till 5 p.m. this evening.

OMINOUS.—On Tuesday morning as Bro. Jas. McKnight's little boy was passing up Parley's Park with his team, he was overtaken by W. F. & Co's. He reined his team out of the road as far as possible for the bluff, the stage driver drove ahead, but instead of reining off, he drove so that one of the coach wheels caught the hind wheel of the boy's wagon, which consisted of the running gears only, the reach snapped and, in an instant, the wagon was in a heap bottom up. There were two men and the boy on the wagon. They were all badly hurt—the boy, it is feared, fatally. The coach did not stop, but passed on as if nothing had happened.

M. J. S.

## FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY

MARRIED on Saturday, September 3rd, by President D. H. Wells, Mr. Stephen Alley of this city, to Miss Emma Turner, late of Sheffield, England.

SPIDER SILK.—Bro. Caleb Luker, who resides at Black Rock, brought us, enclosed in a small box perforated with holes, a species of spider which he caught while cutting wood, north of the point of the west mountain, and about three quarters of a mile up the mountain. His attention was attracted by the spider's web, which was remarkable for its glossiness. He hunted for the spider, and found it snugly esconced in a "nice house of silk"—a cocoon. He took it home, put it in the box, and a few leaves with it; and it spun some silk of a light color, inside of which a large number of eggs are deposited; but from his forgetting to put fresh leaves in the box it died. The box, the silk and defunct spider are now in our office where they can be seen. The subject is worth enquiring into, for by the quantity of eggs in the box the spider must be prolific; and if it should be found to be more easily taken care of and attended than the regular silk worm, it might be