

## MINUTES OF A CONFERENCE

Of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, held at Logan, June 23rd and 24th, 1889.

Conference commenced at 10. am., about 2,000 persons being present.

The Logan choir sang "Go when the morning shineth."

Prayer by B. Young, jun.

Wellsville choir sang "I'll praise my Maker while I've breath."

President D. H. Wells addressed the congregation on the union of the Saints, the blessings of peace and prosperity enjoyed by them in these mountains, and the gift of the holy priesthood and its accompanying power and spirit to enable us to overcome the evils in our nature and the influences around us. He said, in gathering out of Babylon, we should leave, not only all its corruptions, but, as far as possible, our own faults and imperfections, or else we brought Babylon with us. He spoke of the progress of the people, and their privilege of enjoying the light and revelations of the Holy Ghost, if they lived faithfully before the Lord, and communed with him in earnest secret prayer. He referred to the "Order of Enoch," the "Word of Wisdom" and other commandments which should have been received and practised in the early days of the Church, and urged the observance of them. He said from sixty to one hundred thousand persons in the United States, die annually from the excessive use of intoxicating liquors; and said the time would come when Latter-day Saints would be known in the world, not merely by their name, but by their strict observance of the "Word of Wisdom."

He contrasted the dishonest course of many public men in the world with the faithfulness of our leaders and the wise and just appropriation of the means that passes through their hands. He dwelt upon the benefits of co-operation, the necessity of observing the celestial law before we could gain a celestial glory, and of having our minds prepared to receive with joy every principle that may be revealed for our salvation; and above all things of not opposing that which we cannot understand, but of seeking the Lord, in faith and humility, for the light of His spirit to enlighten our minds and to enable us to comprehend His purposes and counsels.

Elder G. Q. CANNON said a new era was dawning on the people, and a marked change was observable in the character of the teachings from our leaders. The Lord was moving on His servants, to plead with the people to prepare for the changes that are coming. God had chosen the Latter-day Saints to effect a great reformation and revolution in the world, for its good and salvation. He spoke of the wisdom and of the beneficial effects of co-operation, and regretted the blindness and darkness of the minds of many in regard to this and other important movements inaugurated by the servants of God. Men have in every age been inspired to lead out in movements for the benefit of the people, but then as now, they have had to contend with the reluctance and opposition of the people themselves to those measures designed for their own benefit. He spoke of the tyrannical aristocracies existing in the old world, and said the Gospel was designed to prevent the existence of such an aristocracy, whether of money or land, amongst us. Co-operation is one of the measures designed to bring about that equality in temporal as well as spiritual things, which must exist among the Latter-day Saints. He spoke of the evils attending the past mode of conducting mercantile affairs. He did not blame the brethren for making money by merchandizing, etc., in the past, but showed the evils that would result from the establishment of a monied aristocracy in our midst, and now the time has come for a change in these matters, and all are required to co-operate with President Young in every measure for the elevation and salvation of the people of God, and their universal benefit in temporal matters.

The Smithfield choir sang "How will the Saints rejoice to tell."

Conference adjourned till two o'clock. Benediction by Elder E. Snow.

2 p.m.

Logan Choir sang "O Lord Thy people bless!"

Prayer by Elder Woodruff.

Wellsville choir sang "Now pray we for our country."

Elder W. H. HOOPER spoke of the evidences of the blessings of God upon the people and settlements of Cache Valley.

He referred to the attempts made a few years ago to winter stock in this valley by the Government, as well as others, which proved an utter failure, winning for the valley the name of a "cattle grave yard." It was also deemed too cold for the cultivation of cereals and vegetables; but to-day, under the counsel and fostering care of President Young, prosperous settlements have been established throughout the county, while the people have been sustained and abundantly blessed with the necessities and comforts of life. He said there had never been an hour since the organization of this Church but what the hand of God had been over it, even in the darkest hours of trial and apostasy.

He referred to the calling out of the Mormon Battalion, paying a high but just tribute to their memory and services, and showing how the Lord blessed them, and overruled even this design of our enemies for the good of His Saints. He said the secret of the prosperity and welfare of the Saints is their obedience to counsel as much now as in the past; and the blessings resulting from this partial obedience in the past should encourage us to greater faithfulness in the future.

He rejoiced in the privilege of being associated with the people of God, and of assisting in the development of His purposes, and said that though we had done a mighty work in years gone by, still more remained to be done; but though labors and duties may appear very difficult and almost impossible in prospect, yet we should find our strength abundantly equal to them, when the time came to encounter them. He exhorted the Saints to obedience to counsel, truthfulness to each other, faithfulness in all the relations of life, and the observance of the "Word of Wisdom." Said if all who heretofore used tea, coffee, tobacco, snuff, whisky, etc., had kept an account of such expenditures, they would have found that these unnecessary and injurious articles cost more than their clothing. Urged the necessity of beautifying our homes, however humble they may be, and of making them attractive and charming to our children, and seeking to educate the latter in the knowledge and love of the truth.

He dwelt at some length on the principle of co-operation, showing its benefits and necessity, as a means of uniting the Saints in temporal as well as spiritual things.

Elder W. Woodruff expressed the hope that the Saints would be profited by this Conference. We have had preaching enough to build up a dozen Zions, if the Saints only remembered and practiced what they heard. What joy and consolation it would have been to Joseph Smith, if he could have had a vision of the condition of the church to-day. President Young is simply carrying on the work the foundation of which was laid by the Prophet Joseph. He spoke of the desire of new revelation, but said we had not yet obeyed and carried out those revelations which the Lord gave in the rise of the Church; had wasted money enough in tea, coffee, tobacco, liquor, etc., to have built up a big Zion in these mountains. We must learn to obey what the Lord has told us before we can expect him to impart more to us. We must learn to co-operate in our mercantile, manufacturing, farming and mechanical pursuits, before we can be prepared to receive all the Lord has in store for us. He said the Lord has determined to have Zion built up on the earth, and no power can prevent it, and if He could not find men and women now on the earth to carry out his purposes, He would send them from the spirit world. He dwelt upon the blessings of the sealing power, contrasting our position as Latter-day Saints, with that of the millions who have lived without the Priesthood during the last 1,700 years, having no claim upon their husbands, wives, or children in the eternal worlds.

He spoke very interestingly on a variety of subjects, such as public and private prayer, kindness to our families, wives, children, friends and even the brute creation; to be just, merciful and kind in our government, showing the folly of men quarreling with their wives or with each other; and concluded by urging the Saints to prayerfulness and integrity, not to be ashamed of their religion, or any of the revelations of the Lord; but to study them and seek to understand them.

Smithfield choir sang "Do They Pray for Me at Home." Meeting adjourned till to-morrow at 10 a. m. Benediction by Elder D. P. Kimball.

Thursday, June 24.

Conference assembled at 10 a. m.

Logan choir sang "Great God attend while Zion Sings."

Prayer by Elder John W. Young.

Wellsville choir sang "The Lord shall Comfort Zion."

Elder Geo. Q. Cannon said we had received sufficient instructions, during this Conference, to make us the peculiar and favored people of the Almighty if we carried them out in our lives. There never was a people of whom we have any account, who were so highly favored as we are. Ever since he became acquainted with the gospel, he had loved it because its principles were calculated to bless and elevate, not only one class of individuals, but the masses of those who would receive and obey it. This is not the case with any other system. The governments of the earth have failed to remedy and correct the evils extant in society, because they are not adapted to develop the capacities and to answer the necessities of the people. Even under our own, the best form of government ever delivered to man, previous to the restoration of the gospel, the same evils exist to a great extent. But God has revealed to us the order of heavenly government. We are the most free and orderly people on the earth. Tyranny and oppression are unknown among us, or if there be any thing which some feel to be oppressive, it is the result of individual mismanagement or ignorance, and not through the operation of the principles of the Government of God.

This system of government is designed to bestow upon all who will become submissive thereunto, everything necessary for their present and eternal purification, perfection and exaltation in temporal as well as spiritual things. We have to attend to a great many things in order to become the people that God designs we should be. We must learn to confide, with all our hearts, ourselves, our wives, our children and all our substance, to the care and direction of the Priesthood placed to guide us. How shall we reach that union in temporal things we must enjoy, and which will alone correct and remove all the evils to which the world is subject? We must change the management of our temporal affairs, we must be organized upon the basis of heavenly principles, through the principles of the Almighty. These evils will be averted by our being banded more closely together, temporally as well as spiritually.

Wealth rules in the world. We have the elements of wealth in our possession, and we must concentrate our means and our influence to resist the encroachments of our enemies. God has made the path plain for us. Schools of the Prophets are organized in various parts of the Territory, and have been the means of doing great good; as also ladies' Relief Societies, Sunday Schools, and every other means of spreading the influence and power of the truth. He spoke of Co-operation as a means of uniting and exalting the people, said whoever opposed or sought to weaken the influence of this institution had not the spirit of the gospel, and was opposing the Kingdom of God. The sisters are organized and can do a great deal to further the progress and development of the purposes of God and the union of the Saints. The teachers should not confine their teachings, when visiting in their respective wards, to merely so-called spiritual matters; but should also be capable of imparting instruction in temporal things. Spoke very forcibly of the responsibilities resting upon our sisters, in the training of their children, their influence upon the young, and the great good they can do, through their organizations as Relief Societies, and by visiting the homes of the Saints, and endeavoring to carry with them and impress upon those they visit, the spirit of the gospel, explain its principles, and also instruct them in relation to the laws of health, cleanliness, housekeeping, etc.

He said the time would come when the Teachers, the Bishops, or some of the authorities of the Church would dictate unto us as to how and where we should build our houses, keeping our gardens and farms in proper condition, our yards clear, and our houses and surroundings pure and healthful. God does not ask us, at present, to sacrifice our lives as martyrs to His cause, but to yield ourselves a living sacrifice in willing obedience to the counsels of His servants. He said he felt that the majority of the people were willing thus to be governed; but we need to cultivate faith, and to seek to enjoy more of the Spirit of the Lord that we may be prepared for the changes which are at hand. He said we must improve in our farming operations; that millions would yet live where thousands now do. That we must make it a study to economize and right-

ly apply all the products and elements around us to improve the earth.

He concluded by an exhortation to the people to purify their minds, bodies, houses and surroundings; to beautify their homes, build the Tabernacle and fence in the lot upon which it stands, and surround it with shade trees, and to prepare by every means in their power for the great blessings awaiting those who are faithful in keeping their covenants and the commandments of God.

His remarks were intensely interesting and practical, and made a very strong impression on the minds of the Saints.

The Smithfield choir sang "When there's love at home."

The following names were then called as missionaries, and unanimously sustained by the Conference:

Jeremiah Hatch, Louis Vandeburgh, Howell, Wm. Henry King, Thos. Richardson, Wm. Douglass, Thos. Tarbett.

Elder B. YOUNG, jr., spoke of the excellent instructions given during this Conference and wished for the trump of an angel to sound them in the ears of the Saints, so that they might all hear and remember them. He illustrated the folly and evil of allowing ourselves to be influenced by the wrong actions and bad example of others, even if they are those from whom we have a right to look for better things. He spoke of the rights and duties of the teachers, and the kind and humble manner in which they are received, during their official visits, by the First Presidency, as an example to all of us to honor them in their calling and to listen to their teachings. He shewed the necessity of exercising great care and wisdom in our associations, and of guarding our wives and families from all contaminating influences, illustrating it by relating several examples, that had come under his notice, of not being sufficiently careful in this respect. He spoke in very high terms of the faith and labors of the Saints in the South, and of their union and consequent prosperity, and urged the Saints here to be as diligent, united and obedient to counsel that they may be saved from future evils.

Logan choir sang "The vintage's evening hymn," music composed by Bro. A. C. Smyth of Logan.

Meeting adjourned for one hour. Dismissed by Prest. D. H. Wells.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. Meeting called to order by Prest. B. Young.

Wellsville choir sang the anthem, "Put on thy strength O Zion."

Prayer by Elder W. Woodruff.

Smithfield choir sang "The time is nigh, that happy time."

President B. Young requested strict attention while speaking. It is now, as anciently, the Lord could only teach the children of Israel a little at a time. He said it was our duty, *en masse*, to observe the "Word of Wisdom,"—not to smoke or chew tobacco, nor to use hot drinks. He then gave a very clear exposition of the spirit of the "Word of Wisdom," in its application to our every day lives, and the preservation of our health. He expressed disappointment that the Saints had not responded fully to the request made of them at previous conferences, to donate their means for the gathering of the poor, which they could save by abstaining from the use of tea, coffee, tobacco, &c. He spoke very fully upon co-operation not only in mercantile matters, but in farming, manufacturing, etc., showing the beauty of the principle in its bearings in all the relations of life. He also dwelt very forcibly on the necessity of governing our tongues, and of not finding fault with those whom it is not our province to correct.

He called for fifty men to go into Logan Canyon and open the road to the Divide between here and St. Charles in Rich County. He said he wanted the meeting house built. He spoke of the wealth and blessings which would have accrued to the people if they had listened to his advice and been obedient to his counsel.

Aaron D. Thatcher was called to go on a mission.

Wellsville choir sang "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning."

Dismissed by Prest. D. H. Wells.

## IMPROVED KENTUCKY SHEEP FOR SALE.

BISHOP LAYTON, of Kaysville, is the duly appointed agent of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, to sell the SHEEP imported by their agent, Bishop Smoot, this season. There are still on hand nearly one hundred head, mostly improved Kentucky, with a few South Downs, which will be sold to the first purchasers. The parties who have made application, will take due notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

By order of the Board of Directors. ROBT. L. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

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