

Your servants the committee have viewed the Colorado river, with all its beautiful hills and vallies and fertile soil, with deep regret, when viewing the countless thousands of inhabitants on either side thereof, without the knowledge of God, or the doctrine of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and say in their hearts, would it be expedient to form a mission of these true and full blooded Ephraimites, who from principle and the love of the truth have borne the most extreme burdens, fatigue and hunger to prosecute the mission, to procure lumber sufficient to build the two houses, to open the door to all the regions which we have named, which regions have never yet had an opportunity to hear the gospel, and to be made acquainted with the plan of salvation; or shall they continue to suffer the fatigues of hunger wet and cold in a rigid inclement climate for the pitiful sum that it shall avail them after undergoing those hazardous perils, or shall they, like Timothy and Titus, with Paul hazard the perils of sea and land through the Southern States and West India Islands, and all the Lamanite world, go forth and proclaim to them the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and teach them to build up Zion.

Are there not thousands of the rich planters who would embrace the gospel, and, if they had a place to plant their slaves, give all the proceeds of their yearly labor, if rightly taught, for building up the kingdom, being directed by the President of the whole church to make the right application? We answer yes, we believe they would.

Your servants the committee are of the opinion that a concert and reciprocity of action between the North and the South would greatly advance the building up of the kingdom.

The committee is well informed of the Cherokee and the Choctaw nations who live between the State of Arkansas and the Colorado river of the Texas, owning large plantations and thousands of slaves, and that they are also very desirous to have an interview with the elders of this church upon the principles of the Book of Mormon.

This committee is of the opinion that they can choose soldiers for this expedition, who are as undeviating in the principles of the doctrine of Christ and the Book of Mormon as the sun in his daily course, and as indefatigable in their exertions in this cause as the earth is in its daily revolution.

This committee views it as a matter of investigation, whether would the Southerner with his slaves and abundance of wealth do better to take them to some slave-holding point, keep them in lively exercise according to his former customs and habits, turning over his yearly proceeds into the hands of the Trustee in Trust for the whole Church, or to abolish slavery and settle himself in a climate congenial to his nature and entirely derogatory to his former occupations in life.

After having procured the lumber for those two houses, the committee is of the opinion that the preaching the gospel and raising funds in the south would be a far more speedy way of accomplishing the work than any other that could be introduced at the present time.

We your servants, therefore, will wait patiently the result of your council, and submit ourselves to the same with all cheerfulness, our only object being to advance the cause and kingdom of God, stand ready to take hold wherever your wise council may consider it to be of the most advantage.

This committee view with deep regret the many different teachings this church has received concerning the distribution of their property, such as raising funds for the printing of tracts, evidences of the Book of Mormon, and pamphlets of various descriptions, which we consider has not advanced the cause in the least degree, but has tended directly to sap the foundation of building the houses.

We, therefore, believe that no person embracing the doctrine of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, should give any part or parcel of their property without a direct counsel, written or oral, from the First Presidency of the Church:

Whereas the committee having appointed George Miller and Lyman Wight to write the views of the committee, each wrote separate and apart, having laid the same before the committee, the committee resolved that both productions be sent without alterations.

We the committee conclude by subscribing ourselves, your friends and well wishers in the Lord, praying a speedy answer from your worthy council, or the word of the Lord.

LYMAN WIGHT,
GEORGE MILLER,
PHINEAS R. BIRD,
PIERCE HAWLEY,
JOHN YOUNG,

Select Committee to write expressive of the views of the branch of the Church at Black River Falls.

JOSEPH SMITH, Sen., P.C.,
BRIGHAM YOUNG, P.T.,
WILLARD RICHARDS, Clerk.

And went into council on the subject matter of those letters during the remainder of the evening.

Monday, 11.—At home till 9; then spent the day in council in the lodge room over Henry Miller's house.

Present Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Willard Richards, Parley P. Pratt, Orson Pratt, John Taylor, Geo. A. Smith, William W. Phelps, John M. Bernhisel, Lucien Woodworth, Geo. Miller, Alexander Badlam, Peter Haws, Erastus Snow, Reynolds Cahoon, Amos Fielding, Alpheus Cutler, Levi Richards, Newel K. Whitney, Lorenzo D. Wasson and William Clayton, whom I organized into a special council to take into consideration the subject

matter contained in the above letters, and also the best policy for this people to adopt to obtain their rights from the nation, and insure protection for themselves and children; and to secure a resting place in the mountains, or some uninhabited region, where we can enjoy the liberty of conscience, guaranteed to us by the constitution of our country; rendered doubly sacred by the precious blood of our fathers, and denied to us by the present authorities, who have smuggled themselves into power in the States and nation.

Tuesday, 12.—At home in the morning; at 11 a.m., I told brother Cole I wanted the room over the store for more important purposes, and wished him to remove the school to Henry Miller's house immediately, which he did.

The brethren who were in council with me yesterday assembled there in the afternoon and evening.

Gave the following recommend to Elder Orson Pratt:—

"City of Nauvoo, Ill., March 12, 1844.

To whom it may concern:—

We, the mayor and recorder of said city, do certify that Orson Pratt, Esq., the bearer, a counselor in the city council of said city, is sent as an agent by the authorities of said city, or corporation, to transact such business as he may deem expedient and beneficial for the community which he represents; and as such agent, and gentleman of principle and character, he by us is recommended to the due consideration of all the executive officers of the government, both houses of Congress, and gentlemen generally of the United States.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal of said corporation at the time and place aforesaid.

JOSEPH SMITH, Mayor.

WILLARD RICHARDS, Recorder."

A dull cloudy day.

A meeting of the inhabitants of the tenth ward was held this evening at the school house on the hill, in Parley Street, to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a store on the principle of co-operation or reciprocity. The subject was fully investigated, and the benefits of such an institution clearly pointed out.

The plan proposed for carrying out the object of the meeting was by shares of five dollars each.

The leading feature of the institution was to give employment to our own mechanics, by supplying the raw material, and manufacturing all sorts of domestics, and furnishing the necessities and comforts of life on the lowest possible terms.

A committee was appointed to draft a plan for the government of said institute, to be submitted for adoption or amendment at their next meeting, after which an adjournment took place till next Tuesday evening, at half past six o'clock, at the same place.

Wednesday, 13.—In special council from 9 to 12 a.m. Orson Hyde, Wilford Woodruff, and James Emmett were present, in addition to those of the preceding day. Willard Richards was appointed historian and William Clayton clerk of the council.

It was decided that Amos Fielding should return to England, when I and my brother Hyrum gave him the following letter of attorney:

"This is to certify that the bearer thereof, our worthy brother, Elder Amos Fielding, hath been appointed by the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, our agent to transact such business as may be deemed necessary for the benefit of said church, and such as he shall see proper throughout the island of Great Britain.

He is hereby authorized to receive monies for the Temple in Nauvoo, the poor, or for the Church, and the brethren will be safe should they deposit money in his hands for any purpose pertaining to the church business in this place.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and placed the corporation seal of the city of Nauvoo, this 13th day of March, A.D. 1844.

JOSEPH SMITH,

HYRUM SMITH,

Presiding Elders of the whole Church of J. C. of L. D. S.

Thursday, 14.—In special council over the store from 9 till 1.

At 2, went to see brother John Wilkie; he had sent to me to come and see him; he wanted to know what he should do.

I told him of the order of tithing, &c., and he wanted I should come again.

At 4, went to Assembly Room again. Lucien Woodworth sent on a mission to Texas. At 7 adjourned to next Tuesday at 9 a.m.

Friday, 15.—Dull, cloudy day, north wind; frosty night.

Spent the day in council.

Being in a strait to raise money to assist the hands in the Pine country, I sent Elders B. Young and W. Richards to borrow some money from Mr. Orme, who, it is believed, had a large sum of money lying idle, but did not get any.

I copy from the Law of the Lord:—

"This day President Joseph Smith rode over to brother John Wilkie's, at his special request, to give him some instructions relative to his duty in regard to tithing and consecration.

Brother Wilkie has for a long time back been struggling with his feelings, designing to do right, but laboring under many fears and prejudices in consequence of having in some degree given way to believe the base reports circulated by individuals for the purpose of injuring the authorities of the church, and also from various other causes. His faithful companion has persevered diligently, and with fervent prayer has called upon God

in his behalf, until she has realized her utmost wishes.

Brother Wilkie now feels anxious to do right in all things, and especially to pay his tithing to the full. President Joseph showed him the principles of consecration, and the means whereby he might realize the fullness of the blessings of the celestial kingdom, and as an evidence that he desired to do right, he paid over to the Trustee in Trust the sum of three hundred dollars in gold and silver for the benefit of the Temple, and which is now recorded on consecration. \$300.

He also signified his intention of paying more as soon as he could get matters properly arranged. The President then pronounced a blessing upon him and his companion, that they should have the blessing of God to attend them in their basket and in their store; that they should have the blessing of health and salvation and long life, inasmuch as they would continue to walk in obedience to the commandments of God.

May the Lord grant his Spirit and peace to abide upon brother Wilkie and his companion through the remainder of their days; may their hearts expand and become enlarged to receive the fullness of the blessings of the kingdom of heaven; may they have the light of eternal truth continually springing up in them like a well of living water; may they be shielded from the powers of Satan, and the influence of designing men, and their faith increase from day to day until they shall have power to lay hold on the blessings of God and the gifts of the Spirit, until they are satisfied, and finally may they live to a good old age, and when they have lived while they desire life, may they die in peace, and be received into the mansions of eternal life, and enjoy a celestial glory for ever and ever, even so, amen."

The editors of the Times and Seasons published a short account of "Our City, and the present aspect of affairs," which we insert:—

"Believing that our patrons and friends are pleased to hear of our prosperity, we feel happy in apprising them of the same, through the columns of our paper.

Owing to the scarcity of provision, and the pressure in the money market during the past winter, commercial business has been somewhat dull; consequently those who were not previously prepared, have been obliged to employ the principal portion of their time in obtaining the necessary means for the sustenance of their families; therefore little improvement has been made. But old boreas is now on his receding march, and spring has commenced its return with all its pleasantness.

Navigation is open, and steam boats are almost continually plying up and down our majestic river; they have already brought several families of emigrants to this place, who have cordially joined with their friends and brethren in the great work of the upbuilding of Zion, and the rolling forth of the kingdom of God.

The work of improvement is now actively begun, and in every direction may be heard the sound of the mason's trowel, the carpenter's hammer, the teamster's voice; or in other words, the hum of industry, and the voice of merriment. Indeed, to judge from the present appearance, a greater amount of improvement will be done the ensuing summer, than in the preceding one.

Almost every stranger that enters our city, is excited with astonishment, that so much has been done in so short a time; but we flatter ourselves, from the known industry, perseverance and diligence of the Saints, that by the return of another winter, so much more will be accomplished, that his astonishment will be increased to wonder and admiration.

Quite extensive preparations are being made by the farmers in this vicinity, for the cultivation of land; and should the season prove favorable, we doubt not that nearly, if not a sufficient amount of produce will be raised to supply the wants of the city and adjacent country.

We are also pleased that we can inform our friends abroad, that the Saints here of late, have taken hold of the work on the Temple, with a zeal and energy that in no small degree excites our admiration. Their united efforts certainly speak to us, that it is their determination that this spacious edifice shall be enclosed, if not finished, this season.

And a word we would say to the Saints abroad, which is, that the Temple is being built in compliance with a special commandment of God, not to a few individuals, but to all; therefore, we sincerely hope you will contribute of your means as liberally, as your circumstances will allow, that the burden of the work may not rest upon a few, but proportionately upon all.

Where is the true hearted Saint that does not with joy and delight contemplate the endowment of the servants of God, and the blessings he has promised his people on condition they speedily build the Temple? Certainly you cannot reasonably expect to enjoy these blessings, if you refuse to contribute your share towards its erection.

It is a thing of importance, and much depends upon its accomplishment; therefore, we wish to forcibly impress the matter upon your minds, hoping you will become aroused to a sense of your duty; that every company of Saints, every elder that comes here, and every mail, may bring money and other property for this important work, which when completed will stand, in one sense of the word, as a firm pillar in Zion, and which will greatly facilitate the prosperity of the great cause of truth, which we all are actively engaged in."

Saturday, 16.—At home. At 1 p.m., I sat in council with W. Richards, O. P. Rockwell and Bishop Miller.

The Female Relief Society had two meetings in the Assembly Room, as it would not hold all

at once, and sanctioned the "Voice of Innocence from Nauvoo."

Sunday, 17.—Last night Nauvoo was visited by a very strong wind from the west; it blew down a portion of the west wall of the new hall, (28 by 40 feet on the ground,) which the Seventies had commenced on Bain Street, and they had raised ready for the roof.

The wind continued very strong all day. In the evening had a smart snow storm, which covered the ground, and was succeeded by a frosty night.

Attended prayer meeting.

Monday, 18.—The frost of last night was so severe, as to form ice inside the houses.

I staid at home to recite German with brother Niebauer.

Tuesday, 19.—Met in council in the Assembly Room. Elders Samuel Bent, Uriah Brown, Samuel James, John D. Parker, Orin Porter Rockwell, Sidney Rigdon, William Marks and Orson Spencer met in council in addition to the former names.

In the afternoon, heavy driving rain. N. W. wind; dull cold day.

Wednesday, 20.—Severe cold N. W. wind, with a snow and hail storm until 10 a.m. Afternoon dull. W. wind.

Spent the morning and afternoon in the Assembly Room, studying the languages.

Elder Woodruff read me a letter which he had written to Col. Solomon Copeland concerning his nomination to be a candidate for the Vice President of the U. S.

The Illinois Springfield Register has the following:—

"GENERAL JOSEPH SMITH A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT.

It appears by the Nauvoo papers that the Mormon Prophet is actually a candidate for the Presidency. He has sent us his pamphlet, containing an extract of his principles, from which it appears that he is up to the hub for a United States Bank and a protective tariff. On these points, he is much more explicit than Mr. Clay, who will not say that he is for a bank, but talks all the time of 'restoring a national currency;' nor will Mr. Clay say what kind of tariff he is for. He says to the South, that he has not sufficiently examined the present tariff, but thinks very likely it could be amended.

Gen. Smith professes no such fastidious delicacy. He comes right out in favor of a bank and a tariff; taking the true Whig ground, and ought to be regarded as the real Whig candidate for President, until Mr. Clay can so far recover from his shuffling and dodging, as to declare his sentiments like a man.

At present we can form no opinion of Clay's principles, except as they are professed by his friends in these parts.

Clay himself has adopted the notion which was once entertained by an eminent grammarian, who denied that language was intended as a means to express one's ideas, but insisted that it was invented on purpose to aid us in concealing them."

DISCOURSE

By President Heber C. Kimball, Bowery, June 7, 1857.

[REPORTED BY G. D. WATT.]

I feel as though I would like to express a few of the sentiments and feelings that are passing in my mind. We have had much preaching, exhortation, correction, and reproof, and some might say a great deal of chastisement, though I call chastisement neither more or less than reproof or correction. When we are corrected by our leaders it is to set us right, to show us the wrong course and induce us to pursue the right one. If I do wrong, if I get astray, it is perfectly right that some one should correct me, and when I am corrected it is not right for me to justify myself, for if I do I sustain the course of an incorrect purpose. When I am corrected, it is my duty to listen, to reform and walk in the straight and narrow way. If we will not learn by precept nor by example, we have to learn by the things we suffer. Is it not better for people to learn by correction than by bitter experience? The old saying is that "experience is a hard master."

There are some who are not so much benefited by preaching as they might be, because they do not remember and apply what they hear. It has a pleasing effect upon the ear, like a tune well played upon a musical instrument, but makes so little of an impression that it cannot be repeated by the hearer. The word does not enter the ear and proceed to the heart, which is the place of deposit. There the word of God should be deposited, which would be at the seat of government in the human form. We each have a seat of government within us, because we are incorporated bodies. Every man that comes into this world is an independent being, upon the same principle that our Father and our God is independent, only he is independent to a greater degree, being further advanced in perfection. He came here and helped to organize this earth, and having had an experience in organizing earths before he came here, he was capable and had every principle necessary to create this earth and fill it with inhabitants. If there had not been a seat of government in Him and all those powers and faculties necessary to propagate the human species, he never could have done that work. We are his sons and daughters.

Now what course is it for us to take as a people? It is for us to unitedly go to work and live our religion, practise it in our lives, and the more you live it and practise it the better you will be, and it will beget a love of truth and righteousness in you that you never can get rid of in time nor in eternity. Then our posterity will also partake of that holy principle which is in us, wherefore they will naturally love the truth from their infancy. A great many people do not think that