

of the jail unopposed. When the assault took place he was one of the participants. The readers of the News will remember that a few weeks ago there was present in this city Col. M. B. Darnell, of Iowa, who was an eye witness to the shooting at Carthage. A relative of his, a young man who was with the mob, names Sharp as one of the persons who engaged in the actual shooting. He was indicted with others, but all were acquitted by a jury selected, as was well understood by the people then, and as testified to by Col. Darnell from personal knowledge, from among the mobocrats themselves.

No language can make the crime in which Thomas Coke Sharp was a leading participator appear more heinous than it is. He has gone to his final account, where he will receive from a just Judge that reward which his works merit. The people of Utah are satisfied to let the matter rest there. The News refers on this occasion to the awful tragedy of June 27, 1844, because it feels it to be a solemn duty to make the record in connection with the passing from mortality of one of the men chiefly responsible for the assassination of the Prophet and Patriarch.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The adjournment of the General Conference Sunday afternoon brought to a close one of the most interesting gatherings of the kind in which the Saints have participated. It was truly a time of refreshing, of peace, of encouragement and rejoicing to the members of the Church, and in this respect has never been excelled in the history of latter times. The spirit of instruction and revelation rested upon speakers to a marked extent. The remarks were forceful and addressed to living topics in the experience of the Saints, being accompanied by the power and under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

One feature which was made prominent in the spirit of the Conference is a matter of comfort and encouragement to those engaged in the work of the Lord. This is the development of unity and spiritual growth that is manifest among the people. The increase of humility, brotherly love, charity, earnestness in the cause of truth, intelligence, union, and of every element to the furtherance of the work of righteousness, was clearly manifest, bearing witness of growth in the knowledge of truth and in grace and good works throughout the body of the Church, among the youthful as well as those of more mature years. Never at any time have the Saints presented themselves so compactly in this regard as at the present, thus giving evidence of the power and blessing of God that attend their progress.

The instructions at all of the meetings were indeed plain and precious. Counsel and admonition in the temporal affairs of the people were presented with a clearness and precision that brought them within the comprehension of all. In a spirit of gentleness and persuasion, faults were pointed out, a means of remedying them shown, and methods indicated for avoiding

temptation and danger in the future. The principles which should guide the Saints in their daily life were placed before the assemblages in a simple, powerful manner, and attention directed to the blessings that follow obedience to the laws of God.

An instance of special importance and interest to the Saints was at the Sunday morning meeting, when President Woodruff gave to them information relating to the work for those who have passed beyond the veil. This revelation through the Prophet of God of the Divine will was attended by the manifestation of the Holy Spirit among the people, giving to them a comprehension and testimony of the truth of the glorious principle enunciated, and which was hailed with joy by the Saints.

The instructions regarding the sacrament, the united order, and other principles of vital importance, will also call forth a harmonious response from each member of the Church who is walking in the path of duty. Altogether the counsel, the exhortation, and the exposition of heavenly principles that have been witnessed during the Conference just closed, are of a nature to cause great rejoicing among the Saints and to lead them to an increase of diligence in serving the Lord.

REMEMBER THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC!

The events of the past few days are surely enough to justify the people of Utah in entertaining unfriendly feeling for the Southern Pacific, which in its treatment of the industrial army and of this Territory has shown a heartlessness that is almost without a parallel in railway history. And it out of this unfriendliness there should grow a determination on the part of Utah people to cease all save the most compulsory relations with the S. P., the latter company would receive just such treatment as its own course has invited and most thoroughly deserves.

We suppose the local courts have it in mind to inquire into the railroad's action in this grave matter; and we trust they will be able to deal with it effectively. We would not therefore try to prejudice the issue by any premature or one-sided comments. Yet there are certain features of the S. P.'s conduct that are so monstrous as to admit of no palliation. The treatment of the pauper passengers in transit was, in the first place, undeniably barbarous and inhuman. The wrong to these passengers in dumping them upon a community which cannot give them employment and is under no obligation to give them anything else, was despicable. The crime against the Territory, in throwing this chaotic and troublesome element into our community, with supreme indifference as to what the results might be in the way of rapine or starvation, to say nothing of the enforced expense in the endeavor to maintain order, was as outrageous and high-handed as any act of a tyrant against the peace and property of a subject people. If all these facts do not constitute an arraignment from which the S. P. railroad

will find it difficult to escape, there is less human nature in the heart of the community than we have looked for.

For the poor, starving, shivering army, we have the utmost pity and sympathy. But those attributes, however helpful at times, will not satisfy their present needs. The main body are less to be blamed than are the leaders, and so far as Utah's present grievance is concerned, none of them is held so much at fault as is the railway corporation that has so shamefully ill-treated them. But there is nothing in this Territory for them, and to hope the community can feed and warm them indefinitely is too unreasonable to be thought of. Every effort to induce them to move on or go back and to assist them peaceably so to do, ought to be encouraged, apart from carping political criticism or unwise local outbreak. As human beings and American citizens they have rights and liberty of action. What they may not be forced into doing they may be perfectly willing to do of their own accord. Persuasion is at any rate better than compulsion, and we trust none but the coolest and wisest advice will be listened to. In the meantime, let the Southern Pacific railway be remembered for the service it has done us; and since we shall want to continue to do legitimate business with the golden Pacific coast, let us not lose too much time in getting another railroad through that will have a little regard for the people at its Utah end.

THE PASSING OF MR. COOK.

For the information of those who take an interest in antiques, the News notes the presence in the city of Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston. He addressed an audience in one of the churches in this city on Sunday night, and a small number of curiosity-seekers in another church last night. As a pecuniary venture the reverend speaker's coming cannot be deemed a success, and if he depends on the silver-quarters of the Salt Lake public to help him out of the country, he would better join the "army" at Ogden at once and take his chances on free food, fuel and transportation hence. The time has long since passed when a heart and tongue like those enclosed within the mortal frame of Mr. Cook would be able to draw any sympathy from a Western audience. In sheer pity for his old-time popularity a considerable houseful turned out Sunday night to hear him discuss the Mormons. But in common self-respect, a number of his non-Mormon auditors got up and left the building in disgust during the course of his fanatical drive. His coming and his lectures have proven a sorry fiasco; firstly, because his already tottering reputation is now completely shattered, and secondly, because in his dotage he has to be sternly informed that no one on earth cares a copper cent what he thinks, says or does about the "great Utah problem." It is a terrible fall for one who esteems himself so highly—a fall for which his senility will be less harshly blamed than will the stupid judgment of those who brought him here or permitted him when once here to discharge his mouth.