

according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah viii, 20. So I may reasonably ask, as the Lord never revealed himself to those Presbyterian ministers nor blessed them, as he revealed himself to Abraham and Jacob and blessed them, may it not have been because those reverend gentlemen of the Saratoga conclave never did the works of Abraham and of Jacob, and therefore are not entitled to such great blessings at the hands of the Lord? Abraham and Jacob never condemned polygamy, but those Presbyterians have. Abraham and Jacob never said it was a crime, but those Presbyterians have. Abraham and Jacob never said it was an affront to civilized society, but those Presbyterians have. Abraham and Jacob never said it was worthy of fine and imprisonment, but those Presbyterians have. Abraham and Jacob were polygamists and were not ashamed of it, but those Presbyterians are not polygamists, or if they have any more than one wife each, whether their own or anybody else's, they are ashamed of it and hide it up, so that nobody shall know anything about it. As a consequence, Abraham was called the father of the faithful and the friend of God, but I have never heard of anybody applying such distinguishing and ennobling terms to the members of that Presbyterian assembly, and this for a very good and substantial reason—their works would not entitle them to any such distinctive designation. Rather do their works entitle them to be termed the denouncers of Abraham and Jacob and the enemies of God.

The story of Jacob and Joseph his son is one of the most pathetic in the sacred volume. After Joseph had discovered himself to his brethren in Egypt and had told them to fetch their father also, "God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob!" and he said, "Here am I." And he said, "I am God, the God of thy father, fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation; I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again." Gen. xli, 2, 3, 4. Thus God continued to lead and to bless Jacob to the last, polygamist as he was, and gave him and his household favor in the sight of the Egyptians, to the temporal salvation of himself and his children and their families. In his last days, Jacob called his children together and blessed them, bestowing the greatest blessing upon Joseph, to whom he said, "The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors, unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills." Here it is evident that Jacob not only considered himself blessed abundantly of God, but that his blessings exceeded the blessings of his progenitors, notwithstanding the fact that he was the greatest polygamist of them all, so far as the record goes. This does not look as if Jacob was of the same mind as those Presbyterian clergyman were, though he was favored of God far more abundantly than they have been.

Wherein was Jacob blessed more exceedingly than his progenitors? The blessings of Abraham and Isaac, in some respects, were restricted as to territory, but Jacob said his blessings extended "unto the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills." His blessings were not restricted in the least as to territory, though he was a polygamist, and God was not ignorant of that important fact.

Then, again, Jacob was the father of the twelve men who were the founders of the twelve tribes of Israel, and after whom respectively those tribes were named and are known to this day. In this respect also the blessings of Jacob were greater than the blessings of his progenitors, and it may have been because he had more wives than they had, but I do not say that it was. Still, these two facts exist together, whether co-dependent or not—that the blessings of Jacob and the number of his wives alike exceeded those of his progenitors. Indeed I certainly ought to consider that his wives were among the greatest blessings that he had, for without them he could not have had legitimate posterity, nor many other of the blessings which he received at the hand of the Lord and enjoyed. As the Bible says, "Whoso findeth a wife, findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord." Proverbs xviii, 22. By

a fair and irresistible process of reasoning, therefore, I must infer that whoso findeth four wives, as Jacob did, findeth four good things, and obtaineth four-fold favor of the Lord. Wives may not be regarded as blessings by those Presbyterian ministers. At any rate they denounce Jacob's practice in having four blessings of that kind, and would fine any man and send him to the penitentiary for indulging in matrimonial blessings to such an extent as that in these days. The result shapes itself thus—shall we accept the conjugal policy of Abraham and Jacob, the particular friends and special favorites of God, or the conjugal policy of those modern Presbyterian preachers, who are neither the friends nor the favorites of God, so far as their record shows? We cannot hesitate long to decide on this important question, if we are really believers in the Bible as the word of God. But if we are infidel to that sacred book, as those Presbyterian ministers appear to be, we may hesitate a good while, unless, like them, we hastily jump to the conclusion to accept a conjugal policy in opposition to that disclosed in the history of Abraham and Jacob, and denounce the same as a sin, a crime, which ought to be severely punished.

But I have not done with Jacob yet. I have said he was the father of the twelve tribes of Israel, collectively. His twelve sons, which he had by his four polygamous wives, were the heads of the twelve tribes respectively, according to their several names. Thus Israel, the chosen people of God, were essentially of polygamous origin, and they were a polygamous people, that form of marriage being expressly provided for in their laws and marriage customs. Polygamy prevailed among the Israelites, to a greater or less extent, until their eventual dispersion among monogamous nations, and prophecy intimates that plural marriage relations will be restored to Israel after its final restoration to Palestine. That the polygamous origin of the tribes of Israel will be considered sinful or criminal in the future by redeemed Israel is an idea that cannot be entertained, for John the Revelator, when carried away in the Spirit, saw "that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of Israel." Rev. xxi, 10, 11, 12. Here it is plainly foreshown that the polygamous family relations of Jacob will be held in remembrance and honored in the heavenly world by means of the inscription of the names of his twelve sons, children of his four polygamous wives, upon the gates of the holy Jerusalem, which shall come down from God to the new earth, and in which the redeemed of the Lord shall dwell. This agrees with the saying of Jesus, "Many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven." Matt. viii, 11. Now those many who will sit down with those ancient worthies must be persons who are in harmony with them and not opposed to their career while in mortality. But what will become of those who have not the faith of those worthies, but who denounce them as sinners and criminals because they believed in plural marriage and lived in polygamous households? Jesus himself plainly intimated what would become of such unbelievers, denouncers of the works of Abraham and the prophets, when he said, "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out." Luke xiii, 28. JACOB.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FORTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

EXTRA SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 21.—The committee on privileges and elections was authorized to appoint a sub-committee to sit during recess and continue the Spofford-Kellogg investigation.

The President has approved the joint resolution amendatory of the sundry civil appropriation bill approved March last. The most in-

teresting feature of the joint resolutions are the repeal of the clause which authorized and empowered the Secretary of war to lease the water power at Moline to the Moline Water Power Company, and an appropriation of \$40,000 for the extension of the military telegraph lines from Helena, Montana Territory, and from Fort Elliott, Texas, westward.

The report of the conference committee on the disagreeing vote of the two Houses on the judicial expenses bill was taken up and adopted by a party vote.

The resolutions authorizing the committee on privileges and elections to investigate Mr. Ingalls' case was adopted.

The resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Walker, calling on the President for information as to the lives and property lost in certain Indian wars was taken up and adopted.

The bill to provide for filling vacancies in the office of chief engineers of the United States army, passed.

The bill is the same as one of the amendments to the army appropriation bill adopted in the committee of the whole and nonconcurrent in last night by the Senate.

Kellogg introduced a bill to provide an ocean mail steamship service between the United States and South America; referred.

On motion of Davis, of West Virginia, the Senate took up the letter carrier deficiency bill. The appropriation committee reduces from \$415,000 to \$400,000 appropriation for the payment of letter carriers for the fiscal year ending June, 1880, and to extend the service for said year.

Beck said the appropriation committee, in view of the estimates and communications from the Postoffice Department, had made the amendment in order to get a conference committee of the two houses to come to an agreement as to what was right, the committee desired earnestly to do justice to the letter carriers. These two amendments were concurred in. The remaining amendments were concurred in, and the bill passed. The House joint resolution authorizing the completion of the Washington monument passed. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 21.—Cobb made a personal explanation regarding the statement in the Indianapolis Journal concerning the Massachusetts regiment, and brought on a discussion lasting two hours. The army appropriation bill was presented by the committee on enrolled bills, and signed by the Speaker, and the House proceeded to the consideration of the political assumption bill. The republicans then filibustered against any disposition of the bill.

Kenna, from the committee on enrolled bills, reported the army appropriation bill, and it was signed by the Speaker. The House then resumed in the morning hour the consideration of the bill prohibiting political assessments.

The bill to establish post-roads in certain States passed.

The Senate amendments to the House bill for the appointment of the Mississippi River commission came up. After a debate, in which Barker opposed the bill as the introduction of a gigantic scheme that would cost \$100,000,000, and in which Garfield sustained it as a great work in which men from the north and from the south could clasp hands together, the amendments were concurred in—166 to 11.

ST. GEORGE STAKE CONFERENCE.

John D. T. McAllister, President of the Stake, presiding.

The proceedings of Conference commenced with a Priesthood meeting at 10 a. m. Friday 13th inst.

At 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. of Saturday the 14th and Sunday the 15th meetings continued.

Elder Erastus Snow of the Twelve Apostles was with us on Saturday and Sunday, and on Saturday morning as well as towards the close of the Sunday afternoon meetings dispensed to us freely of the good word of God relating to our temporal and spiritual duty.

President McAllister, although still somewhat weak in body, enjoyed much liberty, and a goodly flow of the Holy Spirit, in deliver-

ing the opening address to the Saints on Saturday morning.

The other speakers in the order in which they addressed the conference were—Bishop Thomas S. Terry, of Hebron, Bishop Geo. H. Crosby, of Leeds, Elder Harrison Burgess of Pine Valley, Elder S. M. Lee, of Panaca, Bishop Robt. Knell, of Pinto, Bishop Joseph S. Huntsman of Gunlock Ward, Bishop Marius Ensign, of Santa Clara, Elder Miles P. Romney, of St. George, Elder Milo Andrus, of Price Ward, Elder Edward Bunker, Jr., of Bunkerville, and Presidents Thos. J. Jones and Henry Eyring, of the Presidency of the Stake.

Among the themes dwelt upon by the speakers were the following: Our duty to read, study and inwardly digest the word of God as set forth in the Bible, the Book of Mormon and Doctrine and Covenants; also the necessity of our diligently attending public worship, and practically carrying out the counsel of God as set forth in the ministrations of his holy priesthood; the duty of such as have wronged their fellows to make restitution in this life, that the sins of such may go before them to judgment instead of following after; our duty to faithfully make our cash and free-will offerings towards building the Manti Temple; doctrinal sermons on the restoration of the gospel and on the organization of the Church of Christ in this generation; the necessity of encouraging co-operation, the better to prepare ourselves to enter into the Holy United Order; and the organization of a Stake board of trade. These and kindred subjects fully and very profitably occupied the attention of the Saints during conference.

Full statistical ward reports were read, also Sunday School reports, Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations and Relief Societies reports; reports of home missionary labors and of Quorums of High Priests and Elders; also a biennial report of the St. George Builders' Union.

The general authorities of the Church also the Stake authorities were sustained by unanimous vote of the Saints.

We have had an active, good spirited, peaceful time in our conference, and have reason to expect that God's blessings will crown the faithful labors of his servants who dispensed to us the word of life.

JAMES G. BLEAK
Clerk of St. George Stake.

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NOTICE.

LAND OFFICE, Salt Lake City, U. T.
June 12th, 1879.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and secure final entry thereof at the expiration of thirty days from the date of this notice, viz:

Heber Coff, of Salt Lake Co., U. T., for the E 1/2, S 1/4 Sec. 1, and N 1/2, NE 1/4 Sec. 2, T. 38 N. 1, W., and names the following as his witnesses viz: Hyrum Lancaster, of Salt Lake Co., U. T. and James C. Brown, of Salt Lake Co., U. T.

JNO. B. NEIL,

Register.

CHAS. W. STAYNER,

Attorney for applicant.

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Which if not claimed will be sold to the highest bidder on Saturday, June 28th, 1879, at 10 o'clock a. m. at the estray pound in this city.

JOSEPH HORNE,

District Poundkeeper.

Salt Lake City, June 20th, 1879.

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