

## SOUTHERN CONFERENCE.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Elder Albert Carrington, Church Historian, for the following minutes of the

## SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTHERN MISSION.

ST. GEORGE, UTAH,  
Friday, Nov. 4th, 1870.  
10 o'clock a.m.

Meeting called to order by Elder Joseph W. Young.

Singing.

Prayer by Elder Henry Harriman.

Singing.

Elder Joseph W. Young delivered some preliminary remarks, setting forth the benefits resulting from the Saints assembling themselves in Conferences and other meetings.

Elder James G. Bleak spoke of the individual responsibilities resting upon the Latter-day Saints.

President E. Snow, among other things, referred to some of the subjects dwelt upon at the recent Conference held in Salt Lake City.

Singing.

Benediction by Elder Joseph W. Young.

2 p.m.

Singing.

Prayer by Bishop J. T. Willis.

Singing.

Elder Harrison Burgess spoke of the providences of the Lord exhibited in the history of the Latter-day Saints. He referred to several incidents occurring in his experience of thirty-eight years in the Church.

Elder Miles Romney stated that he had been in the Church since 1837, having been baptized among the first in England. He bore testimony to the truth of the work of God in the last days.

Bishop Edward Bunker spoke of the manifest goodness of God in preserving the Latter-day Saints from the wiles of their enemies. He warmly exhorted the people to pay their just debts promptly.

Elder Joseph W. Young spoke of the necessity of the youthful portion of the community keeping themselves subject to the wholesome restraints of their parents and guardians.

Singing.

Benediction by Elder Charles Smith.

Saturday, Nov. 5th, 1870, 10 a.m.

Singing.

Prayer by Elder John Nebeker.

Singing.

Elder Levi W. Hancock briefly related a few incidents of his forty years' experience in the Church, concluding by expressing an earnest desire to continue in well-doing.

President E. Snow said he would like the speakers to instruct the assembled people on the principle of co-operation. He reviewed the exertions of the people of the Southern Mission in enlarging the Cotton Factory and in procuring, from the East, a large importation of machinery for the purpose of making cotton and woollen goods. He invited the Bishops and others present to hand in lists of names of good, faithful and industrious men living in the North for submission to the First Presidency, for the purpose of having them called as missionaries to St. George, Santa Clara and Washington. He concluded by instructing the people in the duty of paying their tithing, county and other taxes and all just dues promptly.

Elder Jacob Gates said he had been in the Church more than thirty-five years, and reviewed some of the evidences of spiritual growth among the people; after which he urged the necessity of co-operation in temporal affairs, that we may increase material wealth. He concluded by earnestly exhorting the people to increased faithfulness.

Singing.

Benediction by Elder Joseph W. Young.

2 p.m.

Singing.

Prayer by Elder Jacob Gates.

Singing.

Elder Henry Harriman spoke of the protecting power of God that has been over His people in the present age. He exhorted the people to unite their temporal interests, especially in manufactures and in stock raising.

Elder John Bennion expressed his appreciation of the privilege of meeting with the people in Conference. He spoke of the advantages of co-operative sheep culture and of the improved state of the wool market consequent upon the establishment of cloth factories in our settlements.

Elder Joseph W. Young said the people should be encouraged spiritually

and temporally, by the progress they had made in obeying the gospel. He gave wholesome counsel to the youth of the community to rightly order their lives, advising that they do unto others as they would have others do unto them. He referred to the benefits resulting from co-operation in merchandizing, manufacturing and stock raising, and advocated the increased raising of cotton. He spoke strongly against the youth of the community reading the trashy novels and periodicals issued so largely by the cheap press of the country.

Singing.

Benediction by President Erastus Snow.

6 p.m.

A priesthood meeting convened which, after singing and prayer by Bishop Edward Bunker, was addressed by Bishop W. W. McArthur, Elder Wm. Carter, Bishop J. T. Willis and President E. Snow.

Sunday, November 6th,  
10 a.m.

Singing.

Prayer by Elder James G. Bleak.

Singing.

Elder James G. Bleak spoke of the object of the gathering of the people to Utah and of the necessity of their continuing to show the character of their faith by increased good works. He taught them in relation to the law of tithing, and concluded by exhorting them to elevate themselves socially and morally, as well as religiously, according to the spirit and requirements of the gospel.

Patriarch William G. Perkins followed and expressed his gratitude for, and appreciation of the privilege of hearing the will of God as revealed in this our day, and exhorted the people to be diligent in serving the Lord of Hosts.

Singing.

Benediction by Elder Joseph W. Young.

2 p.m.

Singing.

Prayer by Elder David H. Cannon.

Singing.

The following general authorities of the Church were unanimously sustained by the vote of the Conference:

Brigham Young, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. George A. Smith his first and Daniel H. Wells his second Counselor.

Orson Hyde, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles and Orson Pratt, sen., John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, Charles C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow, Franklin D. Richards, George Q. Cannon, Brigham Young, jr., Joseph F. Smith and Albert Carrington members of said Quorum.

John Smith Patriarch of the Church.

Elias Smith, President of the High Priests' Quorum, and Edward Snelgrove and Elias Morris as his counselors.

Joseph Young, President of the first seven Presidents of the Seventies, and Levi W. Hancock, Henry Harriman, Albert P. Rockwood, Horace S. Eldredge, Jacob Gates and John Van Cott, members of the first seven Presidents of the Seventies.

Edward Hunter, presiding Bishop of the Church, and Leonard W. Hardy and Jesse C. Little his counselors.

Brigham Young, Trustee in Trust of the Church.

Truman O. Angell, Architect for the Church.

Horace S. Eldredge, President of the Perpetual Emigration Fund to gather the Poor.

Albert Carrington, Historian and General Church Recorder, and Wilford Woodruff his assistant.

The following Local authorities were unanimously sustained by the vote of the assembled Conference:

Erastus Snow, President of the Southern Mission.

Joseph W. Young, President of this Stake of Zion; Robert Gardner and James G. Bleak, his Counselors.

Walter E. Dodge, John O. Angus, William Empey, Erastus W. McIntire, Samuel Myres, John R. Young, Marias Easign, Joseph Birch, Richard Bentley, Miles P. Romney, John M. McFarlane and Erastus W. Snow as High Counselors in this Stake of Zion.

William G. Perkins, Patriarch in this Stake.

William Fawcett, Local President of the High Priests' Quorum.

Walter Granger, President of the Elders' Quorum.

Daniel D. McArthur, Presiding Bishop of St. George Ward with Wm. Carter and David H. Cannon his counselors.

David Milne Bishop of 1st Ward St. George.

Henry Eyring Bishop of the 2d Ward St. George.

Walter Granger Bishop of 3d Ward St. George.

Nathaniel Ashby Bishop of 4th Ward St. George.

John Woodruff Freeman Bishop of Washington Ward.

Edward Bunker Bishop of Santa Clara.

Joshua F. Willis Bishop of Toker-ville.

John Parker Bishop of Virgen City.

Charles N. Smith Bishop of Rock-ville.

Lorenzo W. Roundy Bishop of Kan-arra.

Wilson D. Pace Bishop of Harmony.

Richard S. Robinson Bishop of Pinto.

William Snow Bishop of Pine Valley.

James Henrie Bishop of Panacca.

Meltiar Hatch Bishop of Eagleville.

George H. Crosby Bishop of Hebron.

James Leithead Bishop of St. Thomas, and Presiding Bishop over the settle-ments on the Muddy and Junction City at the mouth of the Rio Virgen.

George Leavitt Bishop of West Point Ward.

Daniel Stark Bishop of St. Joseph Ward.

Helaman Pratt Bishop of Overton.

Levi Stewart Bishop of Kanab.

Henry Lunt, Bishop of Cedar Ward.

Jacob Hamblin, President of the In-dian missions, East and Southeast of the Rio Virgen.

Andrew S. Gibbons, President of the Indian mission on the Muddy.

Warren M. Johnson, President of the Elders' Quorum on the Muddy.

Luke Syphus, President of the Elders' Quorum in the Western Valleys.

Charles Stapley, Jun., President of the Elders' Quorum in Kane Co.

John Larsen, President of the Teach-ers' Quorum, St. George.

Henry Eyring, President of the Priests' Quorum, St. George.

Ephraim Wilson, President of the Deacons' Quorum, St. George.

Erastus Snow, Trustee for the build-ing of the St. George Tabernacle, and James G. Bleak and Daniel D. McAr-thur his assistants.

Miles Romney, Architect, and Ed-ward L. Parry, chief mason, of the St. George Tabernacle.

The Presiding Elders of branches and the Bishops' Counselors as they are sustained by their respective Bishops. The Bishops of the several Wards as Assistants for and in behalf of the Perpetual Emigration fund to gather the poor.

James G. Bleak, Clerk and Historian of the Southern Mission.

On motion of President E. Snow, James G. Bleak, John M. McFarland and Miles P. Romney were appointed a committee to conduct a course of lectures to the public during the ensu-ing winter.

President Snow spoke forcibly of the necessity of parents and guardians af-fording full educational facilities to the rising generation. He asked the local officers who had been sustained by the vote of the present Conference to be sure and sustain themselves by their works in the midst of the people. He exhorted them to seek diligently after the spirit of their respective callings and to faith-fully discharge their duties as servants of God.

On motion Edward Covington was cut off the Church for adultery in the Harmony Ward.

On motion John Iverson, of Pinto Ward, was cut off the Church for total inattention to his duties as a Latter-day Saint.

On motion Conference adjourned till 10 a.m., the first Friday in May, 1871.

Benediction by President E. Snow.

JAMES G. BLEAK,

Clerk of Conference.

## Correspondence.

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK,

October 26th, 1870.

Editor Deseret News:—Dear Brother:—Since the afternoon of June 5th, when, in company with you and several of the brethren, I partook of a sumptuous repast at President Snow's, Brigham City, I have had the pleasure of visiting my native land, after an absence of thirteen years. I had a very pleasant trip on both land and sea. I reached the capital here on the 5th of July. Soon after my arrival I was informed of my appointment to preside over the Copenhagen Conference, which position I felt incompetent to fill, but through humility and the grace of God I trust (though a youth) I may be a father in counsel, and set an example before the Saints and the world that is worthy of imitation.

I am pleased to find so many faithful Latter-day Saints in these lands, and I would that I had it in my power to lib-

erate every one of them from the yoke of oppression under which they groan. The people appear almost dead to "Mormonism." They will hardly give it a thought, and it is astonishing how ignorant they are in regard to saving principles, or even the scripture. While conversing with one gentleman on the subject of our faith, I asked him if he had a Bible? "Yes," he replied, and arose immediately to get it for me. You can imagine how full I was of mirth as well as astonishment when he presented me with a catechism used by school children containing the ten commandments, the Lord's prayer, etc. This is a fair sample of Bible students in the rural districts.

I visited a number of my old acquaintances who knew me when I was but a child, and I had the pleasure of bearing them a faithful testimony of the gospel of peace, and although they did not question my sincerity they were not disposed to receive my testimony.

On the 15th and 16th instanc our Autumn Conference was held here, during which time we received a variety of teachings, all pertaining to the duties of Latter-day Saints.

There were seven new missionaries called and sent into different parts of the Conference, which contains ten branches, 967 members and fourteen missionaries, exclusive of the traveling elder and myself. Seventy-seven have been baptized during the last six months, and 106 emigrated. I hope with the additional aid that we have for the winter to be able to create a little awakening up from a slumber which seems to have fallen upon the minds of the people.

I am pleased to report that we have an excellent Sunday school here, with a little more than 100 attendants. It not only has a tendency to invite the young people to come and associate together and thus prevent them from going into bad society, but it will prove of lasting good to all, and enrich the mind if the proper attention is bestowed.

I am inclined to be a little proud of the sons of Denmark; they are not so deeply sunken in corruption as proud America. I don't hear of robberies or murders here like we do further West. I see a great many more children here than I did in Chicago or New York; I hardly think infanticide is practised here to such an alarming extent as in America. One old lady here I seen who has served four years in the penitentiary for disposing of certain drugs, that hundreds of our medical men in the principal cities of America accumulate large fortunes by selling. This adds to the credit of the nation; still I do not wish to flatter them in that respect, for if I remember right I was here only two days before I was "yelped" at while passing by a row of shaded windows. When I contrast these scenes with those of our mountain home, and the society we are surrounded with there, I feel thankful that it is only for a season that my lot is cast among the Christians (?) of these lands.

I am making a study, with but rather slow progress, in learning the language. I found that I had almost entirely forgotten it. President Cluff is progressing much faster than I am. He speaks it with comparative ease; at first I felt almost discouraged, but now I hope to master it.

The prospects for next year's emigration is not very encouraging at present: nearly all are poor and have not the means with which to effect their emancipation from Babylon.

The DESERET NEWS comes quite regular, so we learn through it the arduous struggle our enemies are making in Zion for the supremacy in power. I must confess I feel very much mortified and indignant at reading the various attempts made to force the people to extreme measures to defend their rights. May the day speedily come when the wicked will receive their portion, when the law will go forth from Zion and peace will reign predominant over the face of the earth!

How cheering it is to the heart of every Latter-day Saint to know that although hosts as it were, of demons possessing tabernacles together with all the craftiness possessed by the emissaries of Satan are unitedly laboring to accomplish the utter destruction of the priesthood and the power of God—now, as in former days, that it will stand, and the gates of hell cannot prevail against it!

May God bestow His blessings upon His Saints and throw around them his protecting arm and endow His servants with superior wisdom and intelligence is my constant prayer! Peace be upon Zion and her defenders. Love to all who know me. Yours truly,

P. MADSON.