

such a scheme practicable, it would form a link between the Old and New Worlds which would materially aid in bringing about that union of nations and universal brotherhood yet to be effected, and a trip in a palace car across a highway east up in the midst of the great deep, would certainly be far more agreeable than the gentlest rocking—with accompanying nausea—on the bosom of the sea in the finest ocean steamer ever sent out of port.

SANPETE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Sanpete Stake of Zion, was held on August 16th and 17th, 1879.

Conference convened in the bowery at 10 a. m. of the 16th. There were present, President Canute Petersen and his counselors, also the bishops and other local authorities.

After the usual opening exercises, Prest. Petersen said that some of the Apostles were expected, but had not yet arrived. Spoke of the peculiar time we live in, and expected them to continue to be peculiar until "judgment is given to the Saints."

Bishop Seely related some of his experience while on a mission to the States, from which he had recently returned.

Apostles Erastus Snow and Jos. F. Smith arrived, the latter addressed the conference in a very instructive manner, upon the principle of obedience, showing that the Lord will chasten those whom he loves if they keep not his commandments. Exhorted the Saints to be faithful that they may be able to claim the promises made to them.

2 p. m.

Singing and prayer. The statistical report of the Stake was read which showed the total number of souls to be 9,801. Also the report of the superintendent of Sunday Schools, which gave 17 schools, and an attendance of 2,518 teachers and pupils.

Elder Junius F. Wells expressed his pleasure at meeting with the Saints in conference, and bore his testimony to the truth of the work of God.

Bishop Andrews of Nephi also bore his testimony that God has been with and blessed his people.

Elder Erastus Snow said he and many of his brethren had labored diligently and with all the strength God had given them in the interest of this people. But many had given themselves over to the pursuit of filthy lucre and become darkened in their minds; showed that if such pursuits were our only aim and end, our condition is a most unenviable one. Exhorted the Saints to be diligent and avail themselves of every right that they yet enjoy; to be faithful, keep the commandments of God, and be forbearing with their enemies.

Sunday, 10 a. m.

After the usual opening exercises, President Maiben read the financial report of the Manti Temple.

Elder Folsom addressed the conference upon the necessity of having faith to perform the labors required of us.

Prest. Snow addressed the conference upon the principles of good and evil, light and darkness, truth and error. Showed that man by the enactment of laws could not make that wrong which in itself was right, nor make that evil that in itself is good. Exhorted the Saints to study the laws of life, and observe the same; said that the law of plural marriage was revealed at a time when the great tendency is to destroy and dry up the fountains of life in mankind; that the trials growing out of the observance of that law were as nothing compared with the evils growing out of monogamy; that those who faithfully observed the laws of life written or unwritten, would raise up children who would become rulers in the kingdom of God.

Recess to two p. m. Singing and benediction.

Sunday, 2 p. m.

After singing and prayer the sacrament was administered. The following names were presented to the conference as missionaries to Scandinavia and unanimously sustained:

Christian Jensen, Moroni; C. Anthon Christensen, of Fountain Green; Niels C. Larsen, of Manti; Mons. Nielsen, Ephraim; O. L.

Hansen, Gunnison; N. C. Aedler, Spring City; Niels Thompson, Ephraim; Christian Olsen, Fairview.

President Snow said many of the younger portion are assuming the marriage relation. The heads of families must cease to be grannies, be willing to let their children spread out, and take possession of the land and prevent it from going into the hands of the enemies of the people. We are willing all honorable men should come into our midst who mind their own business and seek not to corrupt our young people; such are always welcome. We wish all men to investigate our doctrines. Some names of the brethren will be presented to move over the mountains towards Green River, and any who may feel moved upon by the spirit, should report themselves. Brother Silas S. Smith has been appointed a general counselor in that mission. At present, all those who go there will report themselves to President Peterson before leaving here, and on arriving there, to Silas S. Smith.

The following list of names was then presented to the conference and sustained unanimously to go to the Green River Country.

Noah T. Guymon, Jr., James Woodward, James C. Woodward, William A. Woodward, Boyd P. Peterson, Andrew Anderson, Jr., Marinus Peterson, Orson Miles, Hans Neiselt, William Cordingly, Samuel Jewkes, Samuel R. Jewkes, Alma Jewkes, William Miles, Fountain Green; Harry D. Candland, Chester; F. N. Christensen, Andrew Anderson, Ephraim; Thomas Pritchett, John Sanders, John Saline, M. M. Sanders, Fairview; John Jorgensen, Hagan Andersen, James Borg, James Monroe, Alma Staker, Jr., Jefferson Tidwell, Moroni Seely, Christian Miller, Peter P. Miller, George Reynolds, J. W. Seely, Mount Pleasant; James Fjeldsted, Gunnison.

The general authorities of the Church and also the authorities of this Stake of Zion were then presented, and all were unanimously sustained, Elder James Warham was sustained as president of the High Priests' Quorum of this Stake, vice Walter F. Cox, deceased, with W. S. Snow and N. C. Christensen as his counselors. Antony W. Bessie was sustained as a High Counselor.

Prest. Snow said he wished this conference to know that Prest. Peterson and his counsel were appointed and authorized to organize the Saints into branches who shall settle between here and Green River, and also to add to the list of names already selected to go east to settle, and asked the conference to sustain the appointment which was done unanimously.

Elder Joseph F. Smith spoke upon the importance of the endowments. Said there should be one or more shorthand reporters in every Stake of Zion so that in all the gathering of the Saints there might be some one who could report verbatim the sermons of the servants of God, that their sayings might not be lost. There should be schools established wherein the useful arts could be learned by our young men and women that we may become an independent people.

On motion of President Peterson the conference was adjourned until the 15th of November, 1879, to meet at Mount Pleasant.

Singing by the choir, and benediction by President Joseph F. Smith.

GEORGE TAYLOR,
Clerk of Conference.

SEVIER STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Quarterly Conference of Sevier Stake was held at Richfield, Saturday and Sunday, August 23d and 24th, 1879.

On the stand were—of the Stake Presidency, President Franklin Spencer and counselor A. K. Thurber; Patriarch Tarleton Lewis; all the bishops of the Stake except one, and many of their counselors; also Bishop R. N. Alfred, of Chester, Sanpete, and Elder Wm. W. Burton of Oden.

Conference was opened in the usual way by singing and prayer.

The first meeting was addressed by President Spencer, Counselor Thurber, Bishops A. T. Oldroyd, J. H. Wright and Geo. H. Rust.

At 2 p. m. the house was well filled, and, although the people are very busy with their harvest, the Richfield Hall was far too small

to accommodate all who were assembled.

Elder W. W. Burton, in a very interesting discourse, bore testimony to the truth of this work; showed that many attempts had been made, and plans adopted to induce the witnesses to the Book of Mormon to deny their testimony, but all in vain. Referred to the advancement the world has made in astronomy and other sciences, and that the scientists of the world differ on some points. They take the honor to themselves, shutting God out altogether. But men inspired by the Almighty, could give correct information regarding these matters.

Bishop Alfred related some of his experience in the Church, he having been in it at an early day. Remembered being enrolled, while young, among those who stood ready to defend the Prophet Joseph Smith and the work of God. On one occasion, the mob, 4000 strong, were coming upon about 200 of the brethren; the Lord interposed in behalf of his people—multiplied them in the eyes of their enemies—the latter were seized with fear and fled. Spoke of conspiracies which had been formed to carry out the designs of wicked men and get ambitious persons into office. The Lord inspired his servants and those evil designs were frustrated.

Bishop D. L. Harris said, among other things that he could remember some talk and letters made use of while he was a boy concerning Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon, etc., previous to the organization of the Church. Was personally familiar with many things which transpired in the early history of this Church. He had, by invitation, attended meetings where conspiracies were formed and covenants made against the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum. Heard Joseph Smith declare, earnestly and in tears, that God had revealed to him the principle of celestial marriage, and said he and his people must accept this principle or be damned. His enemies declared they would kill him if he did, and he asked, "My brethren what shall I do?" On one occasion the Prophet told him and others, "let your blood flow, suffer your heads to be severed from your bodies, rather than say a word against God or his anointed." Thought such advice was good for us to-day.

Sunday, 10 a. m.

After the usual opening exercises H. P. Miller, Stake Superintendent of Sabbath Schools, read a report of the Sabbath Schools of the Stake and stated that the condition of the schools was favorable and encouraging—much energy being manifested by superintendents and teachers.

A statistical report of the Stake was read by Bishop Joseph S. Horne.

President Spencer exhorted the Saints to take good care of their children, and teach them the principles of the Gospel, that they may become useful in the Kingdom of God. Spoke at some length about the taking care of and sale of grain, building up our co-operative institutions and encouraging home industries. Desired the people to be cautious and wise, live the lives of Saints and be faithful in the Kingdom of God.

Counselor Thurber referred to the early settling of these valleys. The "Mormons" were the first to raise the American flag on this soil—then belonging to the Mexican government, and they are yet willing to maintain and uphold the Constitution of this country. Spoke of wicked men, judges and others, who had sought to destroy this people, and who are dead and in oblivion as far as influence or good will among the people are concerned.

In the afternoon the General and Local authorities of the Church were presented by Counselor Thurber, and sustained by unanimous vote.

The meeting was addressed by Bp. Alfred, Elders Burton, E. K. Hanks, and F. G. Young, Counselor Thurber and Prest. Spencer. Much valuable instruction was given, strong testimonies borne, and the people were exhorted to diligence in performing their duties, especially in the care and training of their children, which is an important work. Counselor Thurber, in his remarks enjoined upon the people the necessity of securing titles to their land, becoming legal citizens and voters, thereby placing themselves in a

position to wield an influence at elections and elsewhere. Desired the Saints, especially the young, to understand that marriages performed by a magistrate, bishop or Elder, although sanctioned by law, are considered of little worth in this church, and the children born in such unions are not raised in the covenant and cannot legally claim any right to the priesthood.

During Conference excellent singing was furnished by the Richfield, Glenwood and Monroe choirs, under their respective leaders.

On Monday, the Relief Society, Y. L. M. I. Association and the Primary Association held their conference. The Y. M. M. I. A. met on Friday evening, the 22nd. At these meetings a good spirit prevailed, interesting and encouraging remarks were made and a time of rejoicing realized.

WM. MORRISON,
Stake Clerk.

Per Jos. S. HORNE.

MILLARD STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Millard Stake of Zion, convened at the State House in this city at 10 a. m., on Saturday, the 23d inst.

There was rather a poor attendance, in consequence of many being away, working on the railroad and elsewhere. Elder Edward Partridge spoke concerning science and religion, and was followed by Elders Benjamin Bennett and Thomas Yates.

In the afternoon, the statistical reports were read, from the two wards in Fillmore City and from Scipio, Oak Creek, Kanosh and Meadow. President Hinckley made a few remarks, and called the following bishops, who expressed their feelings and determinations with regard to the Latter-day work; Daniel Thompson of Scipio, D. R. Stevens, of Holden, and H. B. Bennett of Meadow. President Hinckley said he had called upon the brethren to speak that he might know how they feel, as we many times differ in our ideas. He encouraged the Saints to do right and keep their powder dry.

Saturday, Aug. 24.

The morning meeting was addressed by Elder Nephi Pratt on the subject of the lack of progress in religion in this age of science and learning.

Bishop J. D. Smith spoke as to our duties in becoming self-sustaining.

[2 p. m.]

Elder E. Partridge presented the Authorities of the Church, both general and local.

Bishop Alexander Melville urged upon the Saints the importance of securing breadstuffs for the ensuing season, as our harvest is short.

E. Partridge gave his ideas concerning the course to be pursued in establishing home industries to insure success financially.

President Hinckley realized the responsibility that was on him, and felt that the Lord had blessed him, and enabled him to perform his duties thus far. Spoke of the continual labor required to build up the kingdom and spread the gospel abroad. There was a Relief Society meeting on the evening of Saturday, but I am not able to say anything concerning it, but presume they will make their own report. We feel to regret the absence of the Apostles at our conferences, and still we are constrained to acknowledge that we have been blessed, and have received much excellent instruction.

Respectfully, P.

UTAH STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Quarterly Conference of Utah Stake of Zion was held in Provo City, commencing 10 a. m. August 30th, 1879.

Counselor Daniel H. Wells, of Salt Lake City, A. O. Smoot and David John, of the presidency of Stake, with many of the Ward Bishops of the Stake were in attendance.

After the usual devotional exercises Bishop John Brown addressed the Conference, referring to the progress of events as being in accord with the prophetic spirit, exhorting the Saints to live close to their religion.

President A. O. Smoot followed, on the many weaknesses of the people, cautioning against the power of the adversary and exhorting all

to be on their guard to resist his approaches.

Councillor David John said: To become brilliant and useful in the kingdom as Latter-day Saints, we should watch ourselves and cultivate the Holy Spirit, as without it we cannot honor and magnify the priesthood given us for the development of the human and divine nature of man. Our pride and ambition should be in the work of God. Our efforts as bearers of the Priesthood should be to raise mankind.

Saturday, 2 p. m.

The statistical report of the Stake for the quarter ending July, 1879, was read, showing the total of souls as 14,581; births 111; deaths 46; actual increase 46; 65 in last quarter.

The report of the Stake organizations of Relief Societies showing 1,771 members enrolled was read, after which the Authorities of the Church both general and local, were presented and sustained by the unanimous vote of the people.

A communication from Bishop David Evans of Lehi was read, tendering his resignation as Bishop of Lehi, on account of old age, being 75 years; it was accepted.

Prest. Wells, after making favorable mention of the labors of Bishop Evans, alluded to the national movement inaugurated to injure the work of God in attempting to curtail the emigration of the Saints, advised the maintenance of political rights and the purity of the jury system, no good man could conscientiously excuse himself from jury service while his influence was of effect in sustaining law and order; spoke of the need of the people to be prepared to defend their rights, not to act aggressively, but on the defensive at all times.

Sunday 10 a. m.

After the administration of the sacrament, Apostle Albert Carrington humorously alluded to his late incarceration in the penitentiary, and expressed his appreciation of the kind attention of the Warden and other officers of the penitentiary while under their care; then gave an outline of the intricate nature of the business of the Executors in carrying out the provisions of the will of the late President Brigham Young, continuing at length exhorting the Saints to hold the wealth of this earth as secondary to self improvement and the culture of their minds and moral natures.

Bishop O. F. Whitney of Salt Lake City followed, reviewed the false ideas of the world in regard to the immaculate characters which their imagination gave the apostles of old, and from such false premises they concluded that men who were at all imperfect could not now claim to be apostles. He cited the cases of Peter, who denied his Master, and Judas who betrayed him, to show that the ancient apostles were far from perfect, and claimed that the apostles of to-day could not be expected to be immaculate or perfect, since they were chosen from the ranks of weak humanity and possessed failings like other people. It was not expected that men should become perfect all at once, but it was certainly their duty to approach perfection as rapidly as possible, and with the aid of the Holy Spirit and individual exertion become shining lights in the Kingdom of God. While we strive for the mastery of our evil natures, God will pardon our inherent weaknesses, but for our wilful disobedience he will hold us in strict accountability.

Sunday, 1.30 p. m.

President D. H. Wells occupied the greater portion of the time in an instructive and interesting manner, speaking of the allurements of wealth and the simplicity of the Gospel, followed by President A. O. Smoot, who briefly reviewed the teachings given at the Conference and instructed the newly appointed missionaries in their duties to preach and teach the Gospel of Christ in earnest, making known to the people that they are on the Lord's side.

Benediction by President David John.

The organist and choir added greatly to the enjoyment of the conference by the effective rendition of the new music procured from England, by our returned missionary Brother John R. Twelves.

A. JONES, Clerk.