

vital forces of a corpse being sufficient three hours after death to impress the sensitive plate in the dark. The conclusion is that there exists in man a vapor of life, which is the quintessence of movement. Its cause the experimenter confesses himself unable to determine, but he supposes the movement to be connected with vibrations of the soul, and to be palpable intelligence. A similarity is noted between the sun's photosphere and the vital atmosphere of man.

The rate of chirp of the cricket, Prof. A. E. Dolbear notes in *The American Naturalist*, seems to be entirely determined by the temperature, and this to such a degree that one may easily compute the temperature from the chirps per minute. Thus at 60 degrees F. the rate is 80 per minute. At 70 degrees F. the rate is 120, a change of four chirps a minute for each degree of change. Below a temperature of 60 degrees the cricket has no energy to waste in music, and there would be but 40 chirps per minute.

The rusting of iron under paint is usually supposed to be due to minute cracks in the paint. A study of the subject by Edmund Simon shows that paint resists temperature changes, but is always hygroscopic, and when swollen by moisture readily admits water and gases. To prevent the rusting Herr Simon recommends three or four coats of very adherent paint containing the largest possible quantity of oil.

### BANNOCK STAKE CONFERENCE.

Rexburg, Idaho, Dec. 14., 1897

The quarterly conference of the Bannock Stake convened at Rexburg Sunday and Monday the 12th and 13th inst.

There were present on the stand Elder John Henry Smith of the Apostles' quorum; the Stake presidency, members of the High Council, Bishops of wards and others.

After a brief meeting held by the adjacent Sunday schools at nine o'clock Sunday morning, the regular quarterly conference was called by President Thomas E. Ricks. The choir led by Prof. C. L. Durrans, sang *Come O Thou King of Kings*, etc.

Prayer was offered by Patriarch Arza E. Hinckley.

Elder Ricks in his opening address welcomed all to our meeting and reported briefly the Stake in good condition, both spiritually and financially, exhorted all to a continued diligence in keeping the commandments of the Lord. The remaining time of this meeting was occupied by Elders Fred Smith, P. Tempest and Rolla D. Harris in discoursing upon the first principles of the Gospel. These speakers had recently returned from foreign missions.

Sunday, 2 p.m.—Elder F. Rigby spoke of the necessity of the Latter-day Saints being men of honesty and integrity and exemplary in every respect and particularly those selected to fill missions abroad. They should be competent men and filled with the Spirit of the Gospel. He suggested that parents should spare no efforts in patronizing our Stake academy that the youth of Zion may be properly educated.

Elder Wm. C. Hill, recently returned from a mission to the Northern and Eastern states, and Elder F. S. Bramwell of the Montana mission occupied some time relating their missionary experiences, after which Elder John Henry Smith followed and advised the young men to qualify themselves for missionary labors. More efficient laborers are needed everywhere.

At 7 p. m. a Priesthood meeting was held and reports from the various

Bishops was heard and much valuable instruction given.

Monday, 10 a. m.—The speakers were Elders Thos. E. Bassett, Ben E. Rich, Christo Hyldahl, John L. Roberts, W. J. Young and J. H. Smith. The latter discoursed upon the blessings resulting from obedience to the Gospel and magnifying our callings.

Monday, 2 p. m.—Elders George Cole, George Hyde and Ricks spoke of our educational interests, after which Elder J. H. Smith followed with a powerful discourse upon the principles of virtue.

The conference throughout was a pronounced success.

The choir did excellent work and called forth words of admiration by many of the speakers.

Benediction by Patriarch Arza E. Hinckley.

THOS. E. BASSETT,  
Acting Secretary.

### SALT LAKE CITY'S 5JO.

It is quite safe to say that nowhere on the earth was there an audience like that which gathered Friday in the historical theater of Salt Lake City. In parquette and dress circle were 500 men and women over seventy years old. Those from seventy to eighty wore red rosettes; from eighty to ninety, blue rosettes; from ninety to — white rosettes. There were four white rosettes to be seen.

In the family circle were a large number of widows and their children, and orphans. In the gallery were the newsboys of the city. The old building has held many a noted meeting, but none ever so unique as that of Friday. From floor to gallery it was filled with men, women and children who largely represented those who cannot afford to pay for the privilege of attending any kind of meeting. They were out yesterday through the exertions of a few big-hearted men. The use of the Theater for the afternoon was free; the street cars carried all rosetted people to and from it free; the singers gave their services, and the star of the occasion gave the entertainment. I doubt if "Dante" ever "fooled" a more attentive or delighted audience than he had yesterday afternoon. The old folks were not demonstrative, but they "took it all in," and will help each other to explain how the skillful thaumaturgist's tricks were done, for months to come. Everybody was happy! To those who had not reached the years of red rosette the faces of the old were a revelation of young hearts beneath gray heads and bent shoulders, a realization of the fact that however the storms of time may ravage the surface life still blooms within and needs only occasion to call it into youthful enjoyment. With a white rosette upon his breast, Counselor Joseph F. Smith by his side, sat the venerable President Woodruff watching Dante's tricks with as much enjoyment as did the boys in the gallery.

But of all the boys in the great auditorium none were so happy as the two "old boys," "Charley" Savage and George Goddard, the one hearing seventy and the other eighty-five. When time came to open the entertainment, these two boys came before the curtain arm in arm. The younger one introduced the older one, who was to talk a little to the old folks. Then the older boy refused to let his chum go and there they stood like two happy old cronies, the one talking and the other blushing like a girl. Mr. Goddard said that twenty-two years ago Mr. Savage had conceived the idea of gathering the half-forgotten old people, and giving them a day of pleasure away from home. The first meeting was in the summer of 1875, and ever

since the old people, without regard to sect, sex or color, had been taken out of the city in summer and entertained in the Theater in winter.

It was a noble thought, and the faithfulness of these two men to this benevolent scheme has made for them a fund of love in the hearts of the old people that might be envied by the crowned heads of the world. If, in the dim unknown, there shall come a time when "we shall know each other there," I would rather have the welcome that Charley Savage and George Goddard will receive from the "old folks," whose lives they have thus brightened here, than to possess all the perishing wealth of the world.

CHARLES ELLIS.

### DAVIS STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Davis Stake convened at Kaysville on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 11th and 12th, 1897. There were present on the stand on Saturday, President Joseph F. Smith of the First Presidency of the Church, President Lorenzo Snow of the Council of the Twelve Apostles, the presidency of the Stake, High Councilors and a majority of the Bishops.

On Saturday morning Elder John W. Hess, president of the Stake, gave a brief account of the labors of the Stake presidency; he said that during the month of November they had held ward conferences in all of the twelve wards in the Stake, holding three meetings in each one—first, with the Bishopric, seeing if they were working in unison; second, with all of the Priesthood of the ward in which meeting they instructed the different quorums in regard to their duties—they also had every acting teacher report his labors amongst the people; third, a general meeting of all the Saints was held in which all of the ward authorities were presented and sustained. He reported the Stake in good condition, with a marked improvement among the people. President Snow then delivered an excellent discourse, the subject being, man's relation to God. President Joseph F. Smith read the 139th psalm: "O, Lord, thou hast searched me and known me."

On Saturday afternoon Elder Jos. M. Grant, first counselor in the Stake presidency, made a few remarks; he testified to the truth of the Gospel, and he corroborated the report of Elder Hess in the morning. President Joseph F. Smith addressed the congregation; spoke of the way the Spirit of God enlightens the heart of the children of men; read from the 1st Corinthians, chapter 2, commencing at the 7th verse; he also spoke on foreordination, predestination and the free agency of man. Elder Ephraim P. Ellison, W. W. Willey, James I. Atkinson, Franklin D. Grant and Samuel J. Parrish were set apart under the hands of President Joseph F. Smith and President Lorenzo Snow as alternate High Councilors.

On Sunday Elder Jos. S. Clark, second counselor in the Stake presidency, Elders Thos. F. Roueche and John W. Hess addressed the Saints, speaking on the various duties of a Latter-day Saint, and exhorting all to live lives of righteousness. Elder Wm. O. Lee reported the condition of the Y. M. M. I. A. in the Stake; he said the Stake superintendency were visiting the different wards in the Stake and they were trying to get the young men to take a greater interest in the associations. Sister Elizabeth Smith, Stake superintendent of the Y. L. M. I. A., reported the associations in good condition and the young ladies taking more interest in the same. Elder Joel Parrish, president of the High Priests' quorum, reported that a majority of the members were alive to their duties. Elder Nathan Porter, Stake superin-