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faithful people, and our organizations are all complete. Although it is a rainful people, and our organizations are all complete. Although it is a new stake, we have the organizations, all complete, both in the wards and in the stake. There is a meeting of the Priesthood every month, and all stake officers have their regular monthly meetings, at which they devise means and plans for the best interest and welfare of the various organizations. While we are located in one of the most fertile and prosperous valleys in the Rocky Mountains, still we always have Rocky Mountains, still we always neve-the poor with us. We have plenty to consume the fast offerings and the funds placed at the disposal of the Bishops, though the people are increas-ing in the payment of their fast offer-ings, and we hope some time in the near future that we will be able to take read are of all the poor in our part good care of all the poor in our part of the Lord's vineyard without calling

hood meetings are very well attended. We have ten very good, active Bishops. I can say for all our Bishops that they are good, intelligent men, who ther-

oughly understand the Gospel and the duties of their calling. They are quali-

fied and able to look after their wards, and I believe they are giving the people

good attention. Our stake officers, as far as I have learned, are all good,

of the Lord's vineyard without calling upon the Church for assistance. We are working to that end. I do not know that I have anything further to say, more than that I rejoice in the principles of the Gospel. I have a testimony of the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the great work of the latter days. I have had work of the latter days. I have had this testimony for many years. I can hardly remember the time when I did not look upon the Apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ and the men who stood in prominent positions in this Church with the greatest degree of reverence. I have looked upon those who have pre-sided over me all the days of my life with verbans as much consideration sided over me all the days of my life with perhaps as much consideration almost as I have my own parents. I have learned to love the servants of God, and I am glad to be associated with them. I am glad to attend these conferences, and I always reloice in listening to the instructions that are imparted. The last conference that we held in the Hyrum Stake of Zion I instanting to the instructions that are imparted. The last conference that we held in the Hyrum Stake of Zion. I believe, was the best we have had. It was more liberally attended than any previous conference. Our house was so full that we had to have an overflow full that we had to have an overflow meeting, and the Spirit of the Lord was poured out upon us in abundance. We feit that the Lord had kindly recog-nized our efforts, and made us to re-joice. Although the roads were ex-ceedingly bad, the people turned out in great numbers, and we had a spir-itual feast.

May the Lord bless us, brethren and sisters, and preserve us in the truth. I ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## ELDER THOMAS E. BASSETT.

(President of Fremont Stake of Zion.) I am very gratified, my beloved brethren and sisters, for the position that I now occupy in standing before you as a representative of the Fremont Stake of Zion. Our Stake is located located Stake of Zion. Our Stake is located about two hundred miles north of this city. It is in the extreme northeast corner of what is usually termedSouth-eastern Idaho. It also extends across the continental divide into the south-ern borders of Montana, the branch of Lima in that State of the Union being a part of the Fremont stake. In the state of Idaho there are eighteen wards state of Idaho there are eighteen wards located in the Fremont stake. The area of our stake is approximately 70 miles of our state is approximately a square, embracing in the neighborhood of 5,000 square miles. We have a population of about 6,000 Latter-day Saints. lation of about 6,000 Latter-day Saints. All of the organizations of our stake are complete. Like the rest of my breth-ren who have reported, I feel proud to be associated with those who have charge of the various organizations in our stake. I am especially pleased to be associated with my two counselors, whom I have learned to love as men of God, and who are heart and hand with me in every enterprise that we esteem for the good and welfare of our people. I de not think that there is a better for the good and werare of our people. I do not think that there is a better High Council throughout the length and breadth of the Church than we have in the Fremont stake of Zion. We hold meetings regularly once a month, and have a splendid attendance. There is no proposition ever brought before our people until the entire High Council are people until the entire High Council are apprised of it and are unanimous in fa-vor of it. We have two councils of Sev. enty, whose jurisdiction extends Christ, Amen.

parts of the earth. These young men are scattered abroad today, others are going, and the benefits of this institugoing, and the benefits of this institu-tion are so widespread that we cannot estimate the length and breadth there-of. On the 15th of November next—the fifteenth birthday of this institution we expect to have completed a \$50,000 structure as a home for it. This year Fremont stake has contributed upwards of \$12,000 for the erection of this build-ing, and by doing a similar work during the coming season we hope to have it ready for occupancy on the 12th of November

40 young men, called from these differ-ent stakes, to take the missionary course, and this spring nearly all of them have been called to take missions to various

As far as the tithes of our people are concerned, we feel that we have no complaints whatever to offer. In connection with what we have done to-wards the erection of the academy, our tithes have increased nearly \$4,000 dur-ing the year 1902. I bear my testimony to you, as I have borne it time and time again, that this is the Church and kingdom of God in which the area to be and the state of t

which we are engaged. Notwithstand-ing all of the opposition that has been ing all of the opposition that has been brought to bear against it during the 73 years of its existence, look at it to-day, scattered throughout the length and breadth of these mountain valleys, our young men in almost every nation under heaven promulgating the truths of the Gospel, and who is there that cannot say with me this morning that were it not for the overruling power of Omnipotence this work would have gone down; but today we find it is the more of Cad and the neonle are grow gone down; but today we find it is the work of Ged, and the people are grow. ing and increasing upon the right hand and upon the left. We have in our stake, as some of the other brethren have said, all of the modern improve-ments (7). Twenty years ago it was a sagebrush plain; today we have up-wards of 50 wards in that part of the country we have a branch railroad, we wards of 50 wards in that part of the country, we have a branch railroad, we have the electric lines, we have tele-phone communication, and everything is prosperous with us, financially and temporally. I feel to thank God for it; but above all things I thank Him for a standing in the Church of God. I bear my testimony to you of its truthfulness. Above all things, let us be true to the covenants that we have made, and not one of us be a traitor. I am extremely thankful for the very timely sugges-tions that have been offered by our Presidency during this conference with Presidency during this conference with regard to the importance of teaching our young people the necessity of man-ual work. I omitted to state that in our ual work. I omitted to state that in our institution of learning which T have been speaking of we have made prepar-ations already to have a class in man-ual training the coming winter, as also a class in domestic science. We are scattered over a very large tract of country, and I only regret that there are not more of our young people who are looking for homes, that they may come and help us carry our burdens. come and help us carry our burdens. We have had bridges to build, school-houses to build, churches to build, roads to maintain, and everything that is nec-

to maintain, and everything that is nec-essary in the development of a new country. Our people have taken up large farms; they are too large, and in too many cases they have been under the necessity of mortgaging them, and. I am sorry to sky that more than 50 per cent of the farms in our stake today are mortgaged. Our people are carrying too heavy a load, and we would very dearly like to see a host of our young people come into that country and buy out one-half or two-thirds of the farms we own, and help us to lift our mort-gages and maintain those things that are necessary in the colonization of a country. We invite you there: but we do not want to go contrary to the counsel of the First Presidency in ask-ing our young people to scatter out too ing our young people to scatter out too far. However, we will always welcome far. However, we will always welcome you to come and share our burdens, be-cause we want to observe the counsel of the First Presidency and get out of debt as soon as we can. We do not want, though, to sell our farms to strangers, but we would like to gell to

our own people. God bless you, brethren and sisters.

to as the Jonannesburg of America), according to a suggestion of Brother George Reynolds, of the general super-intendency of the Sunday schools of the Church. We have a nice ward there, but it is composed mostly of transients. We are kept busy re-or-ganizing the various organizations of the ward, on account of the transient nature of the people. At one time this ward numbered 500 persons. We have been able to establish successfully rebeen able to establish successfully re-ligion classes in all the wards of the stake but three, one of these being's Mercur. Our people are so engaged, there that it has not been possible to get anybody to take hold of the matter, and the teachers of the district schools are not of our faith. The people of, the Vernon ward, in the extreme south of the stake, are so scattered that, dur-ing the winter months, it has been iming the winter months, it has been im possible to retain the children afte school hours to attend the religion

I feel pleased to report that we have established a Sunday school at the Mer-

cur mining camp (sometimes referred to as the Johannesburg of America),

class. All the organizations and institution All the organizations and instations of our stake are in a good and healthy condition, I believe. I feel to rejoice in this, and in the amount of faith exer-cised by the people. The subject of tithing has been referred to by some of our brethren who have represented their stakes, and they have reported a wonderful increase, amounting to thou sands of dollars. In the year 1882 th sands of dollars. In the year 1882 the tithing of the Tooele stake was about \$9,000. Since that time it has doubled itself, though our population is about the same. I take that as an indication of an increase of faith on the part of the people. The tithing paid last year amounted nearly to \$19,000, and the pop-ulation is but 8,000. As I remarked, I take this as an indication of an increase of faith on the part of the people. of faith on the part of the people, be-cause it is the oldest members of the stake who pay this tithing, the young people having moved to Canada and

other places to find homes. I feel to rejoice in making this report, though it is probably not as complete as I would like to make it, as we have not time to go into details this after-

I hope that we will be able to remain faithful and to appreciate the blessings and privileges that we enjoy, associat-ed, as we are, with the living pracles of ed, as we are, with the living oracles of God, who have been placed in the midst of the people to guide and direct them. I hope that we will be able to enjoy the same feeling expressed by Abraham Lincoln during the time of the civil war. A friend was talking with him regarding the condition of the country, and so on, and made the remark, "I hope that the Lord is on our side." "Well," said President Lincoln, "I do not worry about that at all, I know that the Lord is always on the side of right. What worries me most is to know if we are on the Lord's side." I hope, my brethren and sisters that we will worry over this until we have a testimony of the truth, and an assur-ance that we are on the Lord's side. Amen.

## L. W. SHURTLIFF,

(President of the Weber Stake of Zion.) My brethren and sisters, it is a pleas-ure to have this privilege of standing before you here today to make such re-port as I may be led by the Spirit to rive, concerning the Weber Stake of Zion, over which I have the honor to preside. It is one of the oldest stakes in Zion. Although the area of our stake is small, the population is large, num-bering over 13,000 souls. I believe we are all laboring in harmony. So far as the dithing is concerned, we have made a large increase during the past year: in fact, the tithing has been in-creasing for several years. I rejoice to say that the people of the Weber Stake of President Smith at this Conference, ad. vising the Latter-day Saints not to neg-lect the useful profeasions, I will say, (President of the Weber Stake of Zion.)

lect the useful professions, I will say that although we are located in the cen that although we are located in the cen-tral part of the state and have quite a large city, yet hearly all our people are farmers and fruitgrowers, and a great many of them are employed in sugar and canning factories, which have been erected by the Latter-day Saints. I believe there is none in the Weber Stake of Zion who cannot obtain Durative, employment along the lines





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