

scores of mounds scattered in the great plains of the Gila and Salt rivers, in the interest of some eastern scientific association—I think the Smithsonian Institution—and sent back several carloads of curiosities he thus discovered. He declared that every house had been burned; that often he found skeletons lying at the doorways as if men had died fighting there for their homes, while often in the interiors were the bones of others—probably women and children who had vainly sought safety within; and that a nation had been destroyed—not by gradual decline, but suddenly—by fire and sword. The tradition of the Pimas, so carefully and sacredly preserved by them, proves the conclusions of Mr. Cushing to have been remarkably correct; and I have thought it worth while to write the story—a sketch, at least—that the pathetic tale may not be lost when the few to whom it is known shall pass away.

JAMES H. MARTINEAU.

Written for this Paper.

## SOUTH CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

LOS ANGELES, Cal.,

April 11, 1896.

I take pleasure in submitting a brief report of the Southern California conference held in Los Angeles, California, March 29th, 1896. Elder Henry S. Tanner, president of the California mission, in company with his father, Bishop Joseph S. Tanner, and wife, of Payson, Utah, arrived here Monday, March 23rd, and later Elders W. N. Woodland and N. A. Tanner, of San Bernardino, and P. T. Wright and Clementus Horsley came from San Diego. All received a welcome reception by local Elders J. D. Irvine, E. M. Whitesides and M. H. Thomas. Preparations were made for our meetings and 5,000 handbills were circulated, which proved a good means of advertising.

Our services were well attended, particularly the evening meeting. Parley T. Wright, president of the Southern conference, called the meeting to order at 10 a. m. Prayer by Elder E. M. Whitesides.

Elder Wright, in a few well chosen words, expressed his gratitude at meeting with the Saints under such favorable circumstances.

Elder H. S. Tanner presented the officers' names, and all were unanimously sustained.

Elders Clementus Horsley, W. N. Woodland, M. H. Thomas and J. D. Irvine occupied the morning session in giving brief accounts of their labors in their respective fields; also several subjects were touched showing the Gospel taught by the Latter-day Saints to be the same as was enjoyed by the former day Saints.

After singing a hymn Elder P. T. Wright offered benediction.

Afternoon service was called at 2 o'clock. Prayer was offered by Elder Henry S. Tanner. Bishop Joseph S. Tanner then spoke briefly, giving his testimony of the Gospel as revealed in these days through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Elders E. M. Whitesides, P. T. Wright and Brother Hugh Cannon followed, dwelling upon the necessity of obedience to the Gospel. Elder M. H. Thomas dismissed by prayer.

The evening meeting was called at

7:30, with a good attendance. Prayer by Elder J. D. Irvine.

President Henry S. Tanner, of the California mission, delivered a discourse upon Daniel's vision of the four beasts. Bishop Joseph S. Tanner offered prayer, and conference was brought to a close.

The Saints of Los Angeles made arrangements to entertain the people in a social gathering, and for this reason Sister Langford's spacious parlors were thrown open. An excellent program had been arranged which consisted of recitations, games, vocal and instrumental music, and that which serves as a capstone in gatherings of this kind was not forgotten, for all present fared sumptuously of the delicacies for the inner man.

The following day brought the parting, and the Elders returned to labor as follows: E. M. Whitesides and N. A. Tanner in San Bernardino; P. T. Wright in San Diego; W. N. Woodland in Sacramento; J. D. Irvine, Clementus Horsley and M. H. Thomas in Los Angeles.

M. H. THOMAS,  
Clerk Southern California Conference.

## IOWA CONFERENCE.

KANSAS CITY, April 2, 1896.

The Iowa conference of the Northern States Mission convened in the Music hall, Independence, March 13. This was the first assemblage of the kind on this historical spot since the year 1833, when between twelve and fifteen hundred of the Saints were compelled by mobs to flee from their homes.

Besides all the Elders of the conference there were present some from the state of Wisconsin, also Elder Dahle and wife of Chicago and Elder S. G. Spencer of Marion, Ill., president of the Indiana conference.

Elder Joshua R. Clark, president of the mission, called the assemblage to order, and after singing Elder Otto Johnson, president of the Iowa conference, opened by prayer, after which Elders Oriddle and Bodile occupied the morning meeting discoursing upon the subject of faith. Benediction was pronounced by Elder Hart.

At 2 o'clock p. m. Elder Colvin offered the opening prayer and Elders George A. Whitlock, Myron Holgate and Samuel G. Spencer spoke on Gospel principles. Benediction was pronounced by Elder A. G. Young.

At 7 p. m. meeting convened again and was opened by singing. Prayer was offered by Elder Walker. Elders Badger, McMullen and Calvin occupied the time in a most interesting discussion of the subject of baptism. Elder Colvin had just returned from Utah, where he had been called by the sickness of his mother.

Saturday, the 14th instant, we had to withdraw from the large music hall, to the smaller but no less comfortable room of the court house. The morning services were opened with prayer by Elder A. A. Dahle of Chicago. The subject of the Holy Ghost was taken up in this meeting, Elders Evans and Otto Johnson being the speakers. The services were closed by a benediction by Elder Joshua R. Clark.

In the afternoon meeting Elders Dayton and Robinson spoke upon the subject of Church organization and were followed by Elder A. G. Young, who

treated on authority. After singing the congregation was dismissed by prayer by Elder S. G. Spencer. The night meeting was spent in showing that there had been an apostasy from the primitive Church organized by Christ and His Apostles, Elders Diron and Hart being the speakers.

Sunday morning at 10 o'clock we met again in the Music Hall and listened to Elders Burton and Walker discourse on the restoration of the Gospel. Elder F. J. Christensen offered the closing prayer.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the largest audience during our conference congregated. Baptism for the dead and the use of temples was the subject and was spoken on by Elder Spencer. Benediction was pronounced by Elder Laird.

The last public meeting of the conference was devoted to a thorough review of the much-agitated Temple lot suit. This was made by Elder C. A. Hall of Kansas City, who is familiar with the details from beginning to end. At the time the suit was planted Elder Hall was the leader of the Hedrickite branch. He has since united with the Latter-day Saints.

President Clark followed Elder Hall in a few remarks, assuring the people that our mission here is one of good will and peace.

Brother Hall and family rendered in a very touching way the song, Never Say Good-bye, and the conference was dismissed by Elder Clark.

Monday and Tuesday mornings were spent in Priesthood meetings at the home of Brother Preator and family, who are late converts. After partaking of the Sacrament the time was occupied in listening to reports from the Elders in the various fields, which showed the work to be in a flourishing condition, also hearing from the Elders who had lately arrived in the field, viz., Joshua Fawson and Wm. Hudson of Grantsville, Tooele county, J. J. Simmons, Morgan City, Utah, L. S. Robinson Idaho Falls, Idaho; C. W. Miller, Murray; Hyrum Christensen, Mayfield, and A. Watson, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Elders were in good spirits and received much timely advice from Bros. Johnson and Spencer in the missionary field, and from Elder J. R. Clark, president of the mission.

In the afternoon of the 17th, a party of about thirty-five Elders and Saints had their photographs taken in a group on the highest point of the Temple lot, after which several hymns were sung.

E. S. HART, Clerk.

## GOVERNMENT AND FINANCE.

Having about thirty minutes of time at my disposal I'm inclined to take a gun and go shooting, and sir, whether I get peppered, or you or other big game, it is trusted that my sport will be taken in dead earnest.

Gratitude, however, must first be discharged, that Uncle Sam has been so totally stripped of prejudice against the early settlers of this region, that we are entirely divested of bogus-governing power—"the Utah Commission" and other appointees and we now hear the full-fledged eagle scream, his wings flapping through all these mountain valleys in happy recognition of the eventful period. In a moment,