

Meeting was opened by singing, "Come we that love the Lord." Prayer was offered by Patriarch Wm. J. Smith.

Singing: "Jesus, from whom all blessings flow." The roll was called. All of the wards were represented by some of the presiding authorities, except the 10th and 13th Wards, Salt Lake City, and Mountain Dell and Pleasant Green Wards.

The statistical report of the Stake for the quarter ending March 31st, was read.

Apostle George Teasdale said, we were taught to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, to walk in the straight and narrow way, to be perfect as God is perfect. These principles were given for the perfection of the Saints, but it would seem from the indifference manifested to this meeting that all did not realize the importance of their acts in this life, and that the acts we perform would form our characters and prepare us for the positions we would occupy in the future. Circumstances were such at present that many excuses might be offered for those who did not attend meetings, but he expected to see the time that these conferences would be of such importance that all other business would be suspended during its sessions, and in the meantime all who could attend and failed were culpable and would come short in the day of reckoning. There were persons who had been in the Church for a great number of years, all yet he was satisfied they had never been converted to many of the fundamental principles of the Gospel. The principle of baptism was the beginning of our works in the Gospel, but that alone did not prepare a man for a fulness of glory; there were other principles which it was necessary to obey in order to receive certain blessings. Persons could be found in all parts of the world who had been baptized, and had gone no further, but dwindled away in unbelief. There were other principles which we were expected to obey, and if we did not be converted to them it would be unreasonable to expect a degree of glory which we did not live for. What claim had a man upon the Almighty who did not pay his tithing, who did not pay his debts? Persons who attained to exaltation were men of sterling integrity. We should be frugal in our habits, avoiding debt. Even where we had a surplus of means it were better for us to rear our families in simplicity than to fill their hearts with pride through our foolish extravagance. Wealth or education should lift us up in the pride of hearts. Things of this life must perish and the man who had no other hope was indeed poor, while the man who feared God and kept His commandments had all that was necessary to sustain him in this life and the assurance of eternal riches hereafter. Theories would not avail us only as we carried them out. Riches were a blessing if we could acknowledge the hand of God in them, and use them as God should direct. We were dependent upon our Heavenly Father for strength to attain the destiny that had been promised in our first estate. He was anxious to do his part to bring this to pass. And we should be anxious to make a success of our probation here, for our own sakes and also to please our Heavenly Father, whose love for us was greater than any human beings could possibly have one for the other.

President Joseph E. Taylor, in answer to a question read from the Doctrine and Covenants and Book of Mormon, the words used in conferring the Aaronic Priesthood. Some of the brethren were very technical. If the Priesthood and the keys and powers thereof were conferred it was sufficient, and any further words did not add to the validity of the ordination. Adjourned until 2 p. m. Singing "Come ye Children of the Lord." Benediction by Bishop Hyrum B. Clawson.

2 p. m., Friday, May 2, 1884. Singing, "Arise, O glorious Zion." Prayer was offered by Elder William W. Taylor. Singing, "O God we raise to thee." Reports were read from the 3d and 9th quorums of Elders, and Stake reports of Relief Societies and Primary Associations. The Twelfth Quorum of Elders was represented by President John A. Egbert; the Thirteenth, by President Asahel L. Fuller and the Seventeenth by President Horace Eldredge. The majority of the members of these quorums were represented as striving to live their religion. There were some who were indifferent, but the brethren were laboring with them with a view to arousing them to greater diligence. Apostle Brigham Young, said that he expected to start for Arizona on the morrow. The settlers in various parts of that Territory were exposed more or less to the attacks of renegade Indians, and in some instance through the exertions of designing and wicked men, an influence was used to arouse the feelings of the Indians and half breeds against our people in some parts. The Saints in that land should be remembered by the Saints in their prayers. We as a people had no aid nor encouragement from any source excepting from God, and the only reason we were so subject to the powers of evil was that we were not as faithful in observing the commandments of God, but we were improving and gaining in strength and Satan was also using greater and greater exertions. He testified that this people were growing in favor with God, and the servants of

God were endowed with His Spirit. And the efforts of the wicked would not retard the progress of this work, and this people would never go into bondage if they gave heed to the counsels and dictates of the Spirit of God.

President Joseph E. Taylor, in answer to questions that had been asked him said he would not consider that persons who were going out to strengthen new colonies would be justified in selling their inheritances so as to weaken this Stake of Zion, and where the houses of the brethren were in jeopardy through mortgaging them, it would be well for the Bishops to do what they could to aid them in extricating themselves.

President Joseph F. Smith. It was generally the case of late throughout the Stakes that Stake Conferences were well attended during the whole Conference, and he hoped that the Saints of this Stake would also improve in their attendance during the first meetings of the Conference. The Saints came here to build up Zion, and we should maintain our inheritances, and where there were persons who were compelled to sell, it would be well for brethren who had means to purchase from them. And when individuals would not or could not do this, it would be well perhaps for societies to be organized for the purpose of preserving our inheritances. As it was, unless the present tendency to sell out to our enemies was not checked it would not be long before they would control the country. It was a mistaken idea that Gentiles who owned property in this city would use an influence to prevent legislation adverse to this people. They would almost always be found on the other side, and those who depended on them would find them broken reeds. This was the land of Zion, dedicated for the gathering of the Saints and for the service of God, and we had no right to dispose of our inheritances, except as approved by the Almighty. Otherwise we would be liable to be flooded by the evil and corrupt. If the property was owned by the Saints they could control it. When Zion was established it would belong to God, and while we would be allowed the greatest liberty, we would not be permitted to pollute our inheritances. He would advise a man who was going to colonize a new place to begin anew without purse or scrip rather than sell his inheritance to those who would oppose the work of God. It was better for young persons to start in this way than to expect an expensive outfit. The sentiments he had expressed were his own views and he did not speak for anyone but himself.

President Wilford Woodruff said, that when the Saints came here they had their inheritances divided to them, and he did not feel that he had a right to sell to any one, and he would not lease land for a saloon or any immoral purpose. We should maintain our inheritances, for those who are not Saints did not come here to build up Zion. The Conference was adjourned until 7.30 p. m. Singing: "Come, come ye Saints." Benediction by Elder Milando Pratt.

7.30 p. m. The services of this session of the Conference being in the interest of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations of the Stake, were conducted by Elder Joseph H. Felt, Stake President of these Associations. Singing: "Stars of morning, shout for joy." Prayer was offered by Elder Heber S. Romney. Singing: "Give us room that we may dwell." The following brethren reported their visits to the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations in the several districts in which they had been appointed to labor: Martin Garn, Jas. C. Peterson, James Eardley, Joseph S. Tingey and Charles B. Felt. The districts represented by these brethren covered nearly all of the Associations of the Stake. They reported that these organizations were generally in a flourishing condition, the interest was increasing each season, and their sphere of usefulness seemed constantly enlarging. Elder Royal B. Young, assistant to the Stake president of these associations, corroborated the reports that had been made with reference to the favorable condition of the associations which he had visited. He urged the necessity of members of these associations being exemplary in their course, and he was full of faith that the number who would love and serve the Lord would constantly increase. Sister Mary A. Freeze, Stake President of Young Ladies Mutual Improvement Associations, gave a very encouraging report of those associations, the interest and efficiency of these organizations, and the members thereof were constantly increasing. Sister Louie Felt reported that the Primary Associations of the Stake were promoting the faith of the gospel in the hearts of the young. Bro. Gordon S. Bills gave a very favorable report of the South Jordan Ward Association. Prest. Jos. H. Felt, was thankful for the opportunities that were afforded for the instruction of the young of the Church. He was gratified to learn that the condition of these associations was improving both in interest and character. He especially urged the necessity of parents and older persons joining in a continuing as members of these associations. It was important that a record of the chapters read at home or in private should be kept so that reading of good works might be encouraged.

The report of these associations for the year ending March 31st, 1884, was read.

The general and local officers of associations were then presented and unanimously sustained.

President Wilford Woodruff was pleased with the interest that was being manifested in these associations. The time in which we were living required that we should prepare and qualify ourselves for the promotion of the cause of Zion and all such organizations would have this tendency, having been organized under the inspiration of God. He was thankful that he lived in a time and with a people who believed in and sought for and enjoyed the faith that was once delivered to the Saints. Zion was growing and the glory of God would soon begin to rest upon her, and it was important that we laid aside all that stood between us and the Almighty. He urged the importance of making full and prompt reports, and testified that the interest in these organizations would increase. He also urged the necessity of the young storing their minds with the contents of sacred books and particularly the Doctrine and Covenants. The Conference adjourned till 10 a. m. Tomorrow. The choir sang an anthem. Benediction by President Joseph E. Taylor.

Saturday, May 3rd, 1884, 10 a. m.

The choir sang the hymn commencing—"O thou at whose supreme command." Prayer was offered by Bishop Wm. L. N. Allen. Singing: "O'er the gloomy hills of darkness." The 21st Ward was represented by Bishop Wm. L. N. Allen. President Joseph E. Taylor said, in answer to a question (which he had submitted to President Woodruff), that where persons who held the Priesthood were cut off from the Church they must be ordained again in order to regain their former Priesthood. The 14th Quorum of Elders was represented by President Charles Harper. The Herriman was reported by Bishop James Crane; the South Jordan Ward by Bishop Wm. A. Bills; the Sandy Ward by Bishop Ezekiel Holman, and the 19th Ward by Bishop Jas. Watson.

The Bishops who reported stated that there was a good spirit existing among the Saints, and they were constantly improving. The Teachers were generally faithful in their duties, striving to encourage the faithful and to reclaim the erring. They had one or more Deacons' quorums in each of the wards, and they were filling up the quorums of Teachers and Priests. The various organizations started for relief of the poor and for the improvement of the young were in a flourishing condition. The reports of the brethren were also interspersed with many items of rich instructions, testifying to the truth of the Gospel and showing the importance of fearing God and keeping His commandments and trusting in Him for deliverance from all the efforts of the wicked.

President Angus M. Cannon said he had just returned from a tour, with President John Taylor, through the southern settlements, only having returned that morning. They had experienced a season of rejoicing to them. While visiting among the Saints the Spirit of God was enjoyed to a great degree by the people, and their hearts were turning unto God and His ways. The copious storms with which the earth had been visited gave promise of abundant harvests. As had been stated by the brethren who had reported their several wards, he had never seen as great a determination among the Saints he had visited to observe the laws of God. When this country was ceded by Mexico to the United States, the principle of celestial marriage was practiced by this people. The United States had guaranteed not to interfere with our rights, President Young, the Prophet of God, had been appointed and acted as Governor of the Territory. After this principle had been practiced in all good faith for years, a law was passed forbidding it, and afterwards a law was passed through which persons who had obeyed the laws of God were excluded from the polls, while the most vile and corrupt were permitted to enjoy their political rights. The course that was being taken by this government was similar to that taken by Nebuchadnezzar in the case of Daniel. He would say if we keep the commandments of God His power will deliver us from our enemies, and those who would not serve God would find no place in the land. We loved the principles of the Constitution of the United States and would maintain them as God would give us strength, though men who in taking their oath of office swore by the Bible to sustain the Constitution of the United States, accused us of disloyalty. Adjourned until 2 p. m. Singing, "How firm a foundation" Benediction by Bishop Joseph S. Rawlins.

2 p. m., Saturday, May 3rd, 1884, The choir sang the hymn commencing: "Guide us O thou Great Jehovah." Prayer was offered by Patriarch Lorenzo D. Young. Singing: "When God's own people stand in need." Counselor Elias Morris reported that there was an increasing interest manifested in the meetings of the High Priests' Quorum. The attendance was much larger than it ever had been and

an excellent spirit was enjoyed. The leading and active authorities of the Stake and many of the veterans in the cause met with this quorum and the meetings were interesting and instructive. They had brethren appointed to visit those who were not able to attend meetings. He had very much enjoyed the trip to the Southern settlements with President Taylor and party. The Saints residing in that part of the Territory had gone there because they were called and in remaining had to combat with many natural disadvantages in order to settle it at all, and those who remained did so because of their determination to follow the counsel of God's servants. The reason for building a temple in that far-off locality was being manifested in the spirit that was working among the Lamanites, giving promise ere long of their conversion to the truth. This work was making rapid strides and the efforts that were made to retard it would only hasten its progress.

The North Jordan Ward was reported by Bishop Samuel Bennion; the South Cottonwood Ward, by Bishop Joseph S. Rawlins; the Granite Ward, by Bishop Solomon J. Despain and the West Jordan Ward, by Bishop Archibald Gardner.

Counselor Daniel H. Wells had been gratified with the reports that had been given that the Saints were striving to live their religion and were improving in works of righteousness. It was a difficult thing for a people who would serve God to maintain a foothold upon the earth. The people of God had been exterminated or dwindled away in unbelief in the past, but this work had a different destiny. We as a people had passed through many vicissitudes, but the work had constantly grown. The most trying times to us were in the day of peace. When our trials come in a way that they did not tend to make us realize the necessity of living near unto God, at such times it was important that the servants of God should be awake to the necessity of strengthening the Saints against the wiles of the adversary. If the Saints would observe the commandments of God they would prove a benefit to them in every way. The Word of Wisdom, if observed in the spirit and meaning thereof, would prove a great blessing to us and also save a needless expense. The Celestial law of marriage was a trial to many, but would prove a blessing to those who embraced it, and to their posterity after them, and if observed in a proper spirit, would preserve the social purity of the people. One reason for the many failures of the efforts against this people, was that all their operations were based upon falsehood. God had permitted the wicked to drive the Saints from time to time, but all of their trials had been overruled for their good, and we have every reason to have confidence that He would continue to preserve us. Elder William W. Taylor spoke of the great perfection in organization to which the Church was attaining, and the importance of training the young early in the duties of the Priesthood. President George Q. Cannon said that it had come to his attention that there were feelings of excitement with reference to the delays of law in the Hopt case. Any outbreak of popular indignation was greatly to be deplored, as this people of all others had the greatest occasion to deprecate lynch law, it were better that the guilty should escape than that the laws of the land should be overridden, as when this course was once adopted no one who had incurred the popular indignation would be safe. It was desired that all would use their influence to allay any such feelings that might exist with reference to the case in question. Adjourned until 7.30 p. m. The choir sang an anthem. Benediction by Elder Seymour B. Young.

7.30 p. m. The choir sang the hymn commencing: "All praise to our redeeming Lord." Prayer was offered by Patriarch George W. Neill. Singing: "O, Jesus the giver of all we enjoy." President Joseph E. Taylor said, that though the Priesthood and authority of God had been conferred upon men in our day, it was also necessary that they should be endowed with the spirit of God. It was important that each of the Wards of the Stake should have all of the quorums of the Lesser Priesthood fully organized and in good working order. There was great necessity for the labor of teachers among the people, and it was proper that those who held the Melchisedec Priesthood should aid in this labor. There was a desire in the world to defile the children of Zion, and while there were many things to encourage us, there was no denying the fact that there were many dangers that it behooved the people to look to and avoid. It was a gratification to parents in going to their rest to know that their children would bear off the work to which they had devoted their lives. We expected great things of the rising generation, and no doubt these hopes would be realized to a great extent, but it would be because they preserved themselves from the allurements of the evil one. If presiding officers expected the members of the quorums to attend to their duties they themselves should be exemplary in their own course. Where the Priesthood were alive to their callings there was no power that could withstand their power and no blessing could be withheld. Supt. John C. Cutler reported the Sunday Schools of the Stake. There

was an increase of over twelve per cent, in the attendance, there was a great deal of interest manifested in these schools and they were accomplishing much towards the education of the children in principles of righteousness. Elder George Goddard, said he expected shortly to go forth on a mission to Europe. The Sunday School was one in which he was greatly interested and to which he had devoted much time and thought. The practical nature of the Gospel was what most commended its principles to him. He was rejoiced to know that God was working among the people as manifested by their good works, for that faith that did not promote good works was dead.

President George Q. Cannon said that it was necessary that the servants of God should be inspired at all times when called upon to minister to people that they might be prepared with instructions suited to the condition of the people. It was also necessary that the Saints should come with prayerful hearts that they might also enjoy the inspiration of the Almighty, and know the voice of the true shepherd when they heard it. The Latter-day Saints did not have to pine for evidences of the presence of the Spirit of God, its power was continually being manifested in the events of their lives. There was no monotony in this work but it was continually developing new phases and the willingness of the people to observe the counsels of God's Servants made it a delightful time to dwell in. There was a spirit which was growing in the world to band together for the purpose of executing judgment upon persons obnoxious to them. This people had been driven from their homes many times in consequence of this spirit, until they were finally driven from the confines of civilization. The Prophet Joseph Smith prophesied that the spirit of mobocracy would increase in the land until the laws thereof would be trampled under foot. This was verified almost every day by the telegrams that were received here detailing the execution by mobs, regardless of law, of persons obnoxious to them. It was true that there might be cases that were very aggravating to us as a people, but we had borne a great deal as a people and of all others we could least afford to resort to lawlessness. Adjourned until 10 a. m. to-morrow, in the Large Tabernacle. Singing, "O Say What is Truth." Benediction by Patriarch John Smith.

Sunday, May 4th, 1884. Conference convened at 10 a. m., in the Large Tabernacle. The choir sang the hymn commencing: "Come thou glorious day of promise." Prayer by Elder C. W. Penrose. Singing: "Jesus Mighty King in Zion." Elder William W. Taylor said that a communication had been received by the Presidency of the Stake in December, 1883, from the Logan Temple committee inviting the Saints of this Stake to join in paying off a debt which had been incurred in the construction of that building and which it was desired should be liquidated before its dedication. Circulars were immediately forwarded to the different Wards and the Saints responded liberally, and up to February, 1884, nearly five thousand dollars had been contributed. Contributions had continued to come in up to a few weeks since. He then read a report of the amount contributed to this date on that account, amounting to \$6,866.05.

President Wilford Woodruff said that the God of Israel had called this people out of the world and we need not be surprised if they were opposed to us, for the world had always persecuted the Saints of God, and the only hope for the deliverance of this people was in the God of Israel. He would sustain and deliver us if we trusted in Him. This Gospel had been rejected by the Jews and was then preached to and received by the Gentiles. They in turn fell into apostasy. When the Gospel was restored again it was preached first to the Gentile nations and as a result of the proclamation of the Gospel this people had been gathered from the four quarters of the earth. In other ages men had made laws to entrap the people of God, and in all cases where men had proven faithful, God had been the friend of His people. This nation was in the hands of God, and he would sustain his people if they would do what was right and trust in God. This work was set up never more to be thrown down and no power could stay its progress. The blindness and hypocrisy of the world which was wallowing in corruption, in railing against the Latter-day Saints was to be lamented, and must call forth the indignation of a righteous God. It was for us to look to ourselves and set our own houses in order, and trust in God and all would be well with us, and the nearer we drew to God the more we would increase in light and intelligence. The spirits of this people had been reserved to come forth in this day and some of the greatest and best of the children of God that had ever been upon the earth had come and were coming forth in our day.

Elder Henry Day said he had lately returned from a mission to his native place (State of Maine) where he had visited his friends and sought to promulgate the principles of the Gospel. He had enjoyed his visit and thought he had been instrumental in doing good. Elder William Eddington said the High Council had been reorganized twenty-five years ago when the speak-