

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-sixth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, April 4th, 1896.

The officers and members of the Church generally are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the Conference.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH.

CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

Relief Society, Assembly Hall, Friday, April 3, 10 a. m., 2 p. m. and 7 p. m.

Maori meeting, Fourteenth Ward assembly hall, Friday, April 3, 7:30 p. m.

Sunday School Union, Tabernacle, Saturday, April 4, 8 p. m.

German meeting, Assembly Hall, Sunday, April 5, 5 p. m.

Priesthood meeting, Tabernacle, Sunday, April 5, 7 p. m.

Grand concert, Tabernacle, Monday, April 6, 8 p. m.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

The discipline of the Church of Christ is given in the revelations of the Lord through the channels of communication which He has established; and in carrying out that discipline the Latter-day Saints frequently have elicited admiration because of the perfectness of their Church organization. Such perfection is, of course, manifest only through the life and spirit which actuate the working body; and where these are inactive the most perfect plan of organization must be ineffectual for good, since its value lies in the manner of its practical application.

In a notable way the Latter-day Saints give evidence of the vigor they possess by their attendance at Sacrament and other meetings, both for the Church generally and for the various quorums and divisions. Where the members attend their meetings they are strengthened and built up in their faith; they are placed in possession of a greater power of self-control in respect to divine law and are able to live holier and better lives than would be possible otherwise. The meetings of the Saints are the channels for many and valuable blessings which are needful for the welfare of the people; and where there are members who disregard their meetings there may be found members whose influence is adverse to

the interests of true religion rather than friendly. They may possess many commendable qualities, but their failure to draw from the fountain of inspiration in appointed ways dries them up as to the higher and better influences, and makes them susceptible to bad mediums for the communication of that spirit which exhibits no reverence for things divine.

Members of the Church are commanded to attend their meetings in order to worship the Lord acceptably; and those who disregard this command subject themselves to being disciplined for violating an obligation resting upon them under a sacred covenant. In order that members may have no excuse for failure in this regard, and may not be left to fall into neglect of this duty because of their attention being engrossed in other directions, the Lord has charged a constantly working force in the Church—the teachers—with the duty of seeing that the Saints meet together at the appointed times. This is a grave responsibility upon that branch of the Priesthood, and should be borne with diligence and fidelity. Yet the truly faithful Saints are so mindful of their own position as to require little reminder from this quarter. They are at their post of duty in meetings as elsewhere, and are the people who are carrying on the work of the Lord, which the stay-at-homes, by their conduct, would impede or back altogether, if possible. The fact that the Latter-day Saints, as a whole, are “great meeting goers” is evidence that they are also earnest workers in the divine cause they have espoused.

WILL GO TO ST. GEORGE.

It might as well be understood first as last that the Salt Lake and Pacific and Utah and California railways are to be the work of Utah people, for the benefit of Utah people. While there will be nothing altogether exclusive in their construction or management, there will also be no slighting of important points or neglect of growing interests near their proposed routes in this State. These remarks are called forth by the conclusion of an article in this morning's Herald, in which the statement is made with as much gravity as though it were true that the proposed road to California will not strike St. George “according to the route decided upon.” We are further informed that this “fact” has been overlooked in the descriptions published, and are assured that it is an important one. If the premises were correct the conclusion would undoubtedly be; but the former being the result of a reporter's imagination, the latter falls into insignificance so far as itself is concerned. The Salt Lake and Pacific goes westward from this city to Deep Creek, and the Utah and California goes southward to the last named state, via St. George, Utah.

St. George may or may not be penetrated by the iron highway at any

point within its corporate limits; a great many towns which appear on the railway maps to be so situated are not. It will, however, be one of the stations of the Utah and California and one of the most important ones at that. For all practical purposes the town will be “directly on the line,” our contemporary to the contrary notwithstanding. Such statements are not only misleading but mischievous, and deserve to be drowned down wherever or by whomsoever made.

THE VETO.

It has been observed because quite observable that Governor Wells is tolerably handy with the veto. He has swung this prerogative of the executive power often within the same length of time than many other chief magistrates have had occasion to do. The greater portion of his work in this line has been directed to imperfect measures, the faults in which have been recognized when pointed out by the Governor; but some of the vetoes have gone to the vital parts of the proposed legislation. The thing most to be thought of in this connection, perhaps, is the unusual circumstance that all of the Governor's vetoes yet acted upon have been sustained not only by the Legislature, but by public opinion as well, and this is doubtless a source of great satisfaction to him.

In the earlier days of the Republic the veto was not often brought into requisition. Having but recently severed our relations with Great Britain and set up in business for ourselves, the desire and design was to dispense not only with royalty but with everything partaking or savoring thereof. For a single individual to oppose his will to that of a large number duly constituted to represent the sovereign people was probably looked upon as leaning somewhat in the direction of the forms of royalty from which we had taken a fond and final adieu; still, the power to do so was left in the Constitution, and the wisdom of the framers of that sacred instrument in no place appears wiser than in this. Large bodies of men are oftener astray than small ones, and small ones oftener than a capable, honest individual; the united wisdom no less than the representative capacity of law-makers is necessary, of course, but that their work when completed is faulty, is amply evidenced by the growing frequency with which the executive interposition has been exercised in the later years.

The first great “vetoer” was Andrew Jackson, and the language of some of his messages breaking through the work of Congress would seem to show that he was dealing with a pretty hard lot. The same he acquired by his veto of the banking bill was almost equal to that which surrounded him by reason of the victory at New Orleans. He was a very combative man, disposed to be rash at times; and if we conclude that Congress was wayward and stubborn, we might as well take into consideration that it had a President to deal with who was fully equal to it in those and some other respects,