

beyond all reasonable doubt. We can afford all the trouble necessary in eliminating error from our ideas of the Bible, and in getting clearer and truer ones; we can take all the inconveniences of the discussion of long cherished beliefs; we can allow our ignorantly formed impressions to be shaken up; we can suspend our judgment on important questions as may be necessary; we are prepared to receive any truth that Biblical scholars may discover; but what they offer as truth we must require them to verify. Toward all scientific study of the Bible we should be very generous; toward all new conceptions of it proposed by the higher criticism we ought to be very critical. If the result of critical study requires some amendments in the common conception of the Bible they will be accepted, of course, as others have been. If it necessitates some change of base in the common use of the Bible, such change will be made cautiously, of course, but in full faith that any change required by truth is always profitable. But such changes can be conceded only for evident and sufficient reasons, and only so far as such reasons require. So the critical study of the Bible must be critically estimated. Those students who are most scientific will readily acknowledge, what we insist on, that the counter-criticism of their work, while fair, should also be very exacting. We should say this of critical research into any valuable literature or important history. But in writings containing divine revelation their inestimable value makes it all the more imperative that, while critical research is carried as far as possible, its results should be accepted only as they bear rigidly critical review.—*The Congregationalist*.

### IOWA CONFERENCE.

This conference was held at the Court House, St. John, Kansas, on Saturday April 10th, at 10 a. m. President J. E. Moulton presiding. There were present of the traveling Elders, H. Tuttle, Joseph Banks, Andrew Johnson, W. C. Mann, W. R. Johnson, John G. Giles and O. M. Porter.

President Moulton, in his opening address, said that the Saints had met together to be instructed in the principles pertaining to their most holy faith, and to enjoy the Spirit of God.

Elder W. R. Johnson reported on his labors and spoke of the indifference of the people among whom he had been working as a missionary. He bore testimony to the truth of the everlasting Gospel.

Elder Andrew Johnson spoke of the importance of obedience to the Gospel.

Elder Hubbard Tuttle spoke at some length upon the Godhead; and Elder W. S. Mann followed.

At the afternoon session Elders J. G. Giles, O. M. Porter and Jos. Banks, were among the speakers, George Baker, H. Baker and Wm. Brandon, of the local Priesthood, also bearing testimony of the truth of the Gospel.

Sunday morning Elder O. M. Porter spoke on faith and repentance, showing that these were very essential principles unto salvation.

Elder W. R. Johnson followed upon the object and mode of baptism.

C. W. Stayner, President of the Northern States mission, (who had arrived the previous evening) also addressed the congregation. He spoke of the way the Elders were called to fill missions and how Christ chose His Apostles. All were not collegians, but some were poor fishermen. Christ predicted that those who followed Him would suffer persecution, and the Latter-day Saints had a heritage such as no other people had received.

At the afternoon session the sacrament was administered.

Elder Andrew Johnson touched upon the apostasy of the primitive Church, and was followed by President C. W. Stayner, who spoke upon the principle of salvation for the dead.

Elder Tuttle touched on the restoration of the Gospel.

The general authorities of the Church and mission were presented by President Moulton, and unanimously sustained.

Conference then adjourned until 7:30. During the interval a Priesthood meeting was held. The time was occupied by hearing reports from the Elders and their appointment to their various fields of labor.

Elder Tuttle was appointed to labor with President Moulton at the headquarters of the conference in Wisconsin.

Elders Andrew Johnson and O. M. Porter were appointed to labor in Nebraska. Elders W. R. Johnson and Wm. C. Mann in Barton and adjoining counties in Kansas. Elders Jos. Banks and J. G. Giles in Lyons and adjoining counties in Kansas. Elder Geo. Baker, of the local Priesthood, was appointed to preside over the St. Johns Branch, Kansas.

At Sunday evening's meeting Elder Jos. Banks spoke upon the first principles of the Gospel, and was followed by President Stayner, who dwelt on the gifts that were in the Church formerly; apostasy and restoration of the Gospel.

Conference then adjourned for six months.

The attendance was not large, but a good spirit prevailed.

J. E. MOULTON, Clerk.

### JUAB STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Juab Stake of Zion was held at Nephi, April 18th and 19th. Present on the stand, of the quorum of the Apostles Moses Thatcher and F. M. Lyman, George Reynolds of the Presidency of Seventies, the Presidency of the Stake and Bishops.

At 10 a.m. President Paxman called the conference to order. After singing and prayer, President Charles Sperry reported the condition of the Stake. The different quorums and organizations are in good working order, and especially is this the case with the Relief Societies.

Elder David Cazier reported as to the High Priests' quorum.

Apostle F. M. Lyman said that Elder Cazier, in speaking of the High Priests, dropped some very valuable remarks which ought to be remembered. He who would save himself should deny himself, take up his cross and follow Jesus. There was no redemption with-

out this important principle. The speaker dwelt upon the subject of fasting. Out of all the funds received for the support of the poor, the Relief Societies did more in this regard than any other. If every family in the Church would pay their fast offerings, allowing 50 cents to a family of six, there would be a yearly revenue of \$175,000 for the relief of the poor. He recommended that this be a labor for the Relief Society to see that the Saints pay their fast offerings.

At the afternoon meeting President Paxman addressed the conference, and in the course of his remarks said the stake academy had done a good work and been well sustained by the Saints.

Apostle Moses Thatcher was the next speaker. In the hearts of many of the Latter-day Saints there was a feeling of despondency in regard to the future. A spirit of speculation exists among many of them. They desire to boom the little places where they reside. He presumed that they had had experience of a similar character in Juab. The farmer said there is no money in raising wheat—that the fruit is not worth gathering. We should remember that the source of wealth in this country is in the soil, and if we did not raise the products of the soil we would perish. According to reports the products of the barnyards of this country were more than the silver dug from the bowels of the earth. The speaker compared the condition of this people today with that which surrounded them when they first came here, and related some of his early experiences in the history of Utah. He referred to the sugar factory being established at Lehi, and could see no reason why we could not produce the beets required.

Sunday morning was devoted to the Sabbath school. An interesting programme was rendered by the Nephi Sabbath school, and short and appropriate speeches were made by Elder George Reynolds and Apostles Lyman and Thatcher.

At 2 p. m. Counselor Jas. W. Paxman presented the general authorities of the Church and stake. They were unanimously sustained, after which Elder George Reynolds delivered a forcible address.

Apostle Moses Thatcher followed. The Christians, he said, believed in God and glorified His name, while the infidel and atheist believed in praising the works of man. They look at such men as Edison, marvelled at his wisdom and the greatness of his inventions; and yet the inventions of men were but idle whims compared with the magnificent works of God. The great achievements of man were but the work of thought of which God was the Originator. The speaker, addressing the young, warned them against falling into sin.

In the evening President George Reynolds and Apostle F. M. Lyman met with the 49th and 71st quorums of Seventies, and Brother Charles Grace was set apart as one of the Presidents of the 71st quorum.

DANIEL K. BROWN,  
Stake Clerk.

The grip has broken out in Sheffield, England, and physicians report that the disease is rapidly spreading.