

Mutual Improvement Association, and David Hammer of the presidency of the St. George Stake, started to Pine Valley where they held a meeting on the 15th at 10 a. m. The ward authorities were presented and sustained by the Saints after which practical advice was given to the people by the visiting brethren in relation to their duties and the interests of Mutual Improvement were dwelt upon.

After meeting we drove to Pinto where there was an appointment for a Priesthood meeting at 3 p. m. and with the Saints at 4 p. m. At the former the explanation was made to the brethren that Bishop Robert Knell had been honorably released from the Bishopric on account of his age and increasing infirmities and that he been ordained a Patriarch, and that we had come to reorganize the ward by giving them a new Bishopric. Elder Lyman asked them if they had their minds made up as to whom they wanted to occupy the position. He handed each of the brethren a piece of paper with the request that they write the names of three persons that they thought would make good Bishop and that he would select the man to be their Bishop from among the persons thus named. The result was that Robert C. Knell was made Bishop of the Pinto ward with John H. Harrison as his first and Niel D. Forsyth as his second counselors. The people of the ward upon aserabling gave the brethren thus selected their unanimous support, after which Elder Lyman and the other brethren gave the people much valuable instruction.

On the 16th at 2 p. m. a meeting was held at Hebron at which Thomas S. Terry Jr. was chosen as second counselor to Bishop George A. Holt of the Hebron ward and was set apart to this office by Brother Lyman. An excellent time was enjoyed and instruction imparted that will be of lasting benefit to the people if they will carry the same out in their lives.

On the 17th we drove to Clover valley, a distance of twenty-five miles, where a branch of the Hebron ward is presided over by Elder Lyman L. Woods. This beautiful valley is located in Lincoln county, Nevada, just west of the Utah line, and notwithstanding the fact that few families of the Saints reside there, we had a good meeting, commencing at 4 p. m., at which all the people who were home in the valley were in attendance. The spirit of the Lord was manifest and the people fed with the bread of life.

On Saturday the 18th we drove twenty-five miles to Panacca, where we had an opportunity for a meeting at 2 p. m. The meeting was well attended, and on Sunday morning at 9 a. m. we met with the Sunday school, on which occasion Brother Lyman gave good advice to the children and teachers. At 10:30 a. m. the people assembled and were addressed on the duties of the Saints and Mutual Improvement matters. At the close of the forenoon meeting a Priesthood meeting was held, at which the duties of the Priesthood were clearly set forth by Brother Lyman, and the importance of the men who are on the lead of the people observing the Word of Wisdom and performing their whole duty as Saints, that those over whom they preside may have in the Priesthood an example of righteousness. Those who had not been keeping the Word of Wisdom said they would do so in the future. At 2 p. m. we had another meeting, at which the Sacrament of the Lord's supper was administered and the ward authorities were presented and sustained by the people; after which Elder Lyman delivered an earnest doctrinal discourse, to which the Saints and strangers who were present listened with marked attention. At 7:30 another meeting was held, at

which the theme dwelt upon was Mutual Improvement.

On Monday morning the brethren commenced their return trip by way of Terry's ranch and Pinto. At the latter place Elder Lyman released the writer to return home, while the other brethren continued their travels and labors, holding a meeting at Harmony at 4 p. m. of the 21st, after which they would commence their labors in the Parowan Stake.

It has been twenty years since the Saints in the northwestern settlements of this stake have been visited by an Apostle, hence the great interest that was manifest in this visit and in the earnest labors of Elder Lyman in the meetings above referred to, as also the meetings held in the eastern part of this Stake, where the brethren instructed the people in each ward from Rockville to St. George previous to our Stake conference. In Elder Lyman making a detailed tour of the wards and settlements of this Stake and laboring with the people at their homes and in meetings, we are forcibly reminded of the labors of the beloved Apostle Erastus Snow, who used to travel from settlement to settlement and advise and counsel the people, sympathizing with them in their vicissitudes and rejoicing with them in their bright hopes. Another thing that pleased me much was to see the earnest manner in which Brother Lyman was seconded in his labors by the two young men who accompanied him—J. G. Kimball, being the son of the late President Heber C. Kimball, and E. H. Snow, the son of Apostle Erastus Snow. On this trip it is fair to say that these brethren did credit to their noble sires. We feel that the visit of the brethren as above referred to will be of great benefit to the people as well as of assistance to the presidency of the Stake, and we fully appreciate it.

Respectfully, etc.,
DAVID H. CANNON.

BOX ELDER Y. M. M. I. A. CONFERENCE

The conference was held in the Brigham City tabernacle, Sept. 19 and 20, 1879. Stake Superintendent Chas. Kelly presiding.

After the opening exercises at 2 p. m. on Sunday and Sacrament administered by the Priesthood of the Third ward, Superintendent Kelly made opening remarks, stating that this conference had been called by the general superintendency of the Mutual Improvement for the purpose of awakening if possible a more active interest in Mutual Improvement work; he had been presiding over the M. I. work in this Stake for about seventeen years, and as his time was very much occupied as a member of the Stake presidency and other labors, he was in favor of a change.

Elder B. H. Roberts spoke of the labors of Elder Kelly, who can look back with pleasure upon his labors amongst the young men of this Stake for these seventeen years; he said the general superintendency had thought it advisable to call a young man to take his place in the M. I. A. work as Brother Kelly's position in the Stake presidency requires his time elsewhere. The speaker read letters written by President Brigham Young in November, 1875, regarding M. I. work, and the object of organizing these associations; exhorted the parents to add their support in accomplishing this great work as outlined by the Prophet; the primary object of these associations is to establish faith in God in the hearts of our young men; referred to the importance of tradition regarding the existence of a God; the importance of a mediator between the children of men and God

which was given to us in the person of His Son Jesus Christ, and how necessary it is for us to know something about the attributes of God.

On Monday at 10 a. m. was held an officers' meeting. The time was occupied by Elder B. H. Roberts who spoke of the necessity of Mutual Improvement work; urged the taking up of that course of study outlined by the general board; explained the manual for 1897-8—the main line of study this season will be the life and doctrine of Jesus. He said we have now about 1,700 members enrolled in the M. I. associations, but there are nearly 10,000 young men who should be members who are not; so it has been proposed to call a number of missionaries to visit them and take up a labor with them, under the auspices of the general superintendency, to reason and argue with these young men, and try to get them to see the necessity of their associating themselves with the great work of Mutual Improvement. It is proposed to preach the Gospel to all the young men of Zion, that they may be left without an excuse. He suggested that local lecture bureaus be established by the Stake officers, and competent men sent to the various associations to lecture and speak on the principles of the Gospel. He urged the inauguration of a warfare against immorality and kindred evils, and union with the young ladies in the warfare.

2 p. m.—After the opening exercises Elder Roberts presented the general officers of the Y. M. M. I. A., and they were sustained by unanimous vote. Charles Kelly was honorably released from being superintendent of the Y. M. M. I. A. of the Stake, and a vote of thanks was tendered him for his past services. The following were sustained as Stake officers of the Y. M. M. I. A. by unanimous vote: Olen N. Stohl, Stake superintendent; Brigham Wright, first counselor; Fred J. Holton, second counselor; O. Peterson, secretary; Nephi Anderson, corresponding secretary; John H. Horsley, treasurer.

Elder Ruder Clawson, president of the Stake, spoke of the apparent awakening of mutual improvement work, beginning with the general board, who are visiting the various Stake conferences of the young men, enthused with the importance of the great work before them. Elder Chas. Kelly returned sincere thanks for the appreciation of his labors in the cause of mutual improvement. Elder Olen N. Stohl made brief remarks. Elder Roberts expressed satisfaction with his visit to the Stake, and delivered an interesting discourse on the divine authenticity of the work and responsibility that rests upon the Latter-day Saints in preaching the Gospel to all the world.

O. PETERSEN, Secretary.

IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Carbondale, Pa., Sept. 21, 1897.

Since my last writing, which was from Scranton, I have changed my headquarters to the above address, which is 18 miles north in the same valley. There have also been quite a number of other changes in the conference since that time.

We were favored with a visit from our former president, Elder S. W. Richards, who, in connection with Elder D. J. Watts, attended our conference held at Peckville, Pa., Dec. 7, 1896, and we received from him many valuable instructions and much encouraging advice. This was his last visit to our district previous to his departure for home, which took place March 19, 1897. Through his diligent efforts in advocating the principles of truth through the columns of the newspapers so far as they were open to him