

chanan believe Brigham in rebellion. The latter kept the army out until the former sent men to see what the real status was, and as soon as they came the whole affair was done for.

"There never has been a more loyal people in the United States than the Mormons. In fact they believe that the Lord instituted the United States government by inspired men as a preparation for His own government.

"What, now, was the secret of the opposition to the Mormons? The fact that they taught a more attractive gospel than the other sects and drew their converts wholly from the Evangelical churches, add to this the fact that when they were mobbed out of Missouri, the South not offering money for the heads of Garrison and Phillips, and the Missourians—a State-holding people—called the Mormons, most of whom at that time were New Englanders, 'd—d Yankee abolitionists,' and you have the whole thing before you.

"When the Mormons came here it was thought they would soon die out. When it was learned that they were stronger than ever the old hatred against them arose, and then 'polygamy' was used as the club to kill them, although that has never been looked upon as a crime by any save an occasional person in Utah. The Gentile men of Utah were much incensed against the Mormons because the women were virtuous. But they soon brought in merchantable creatures of their own. The Gentile women who have had most to say against polygamy have not been fine grained. The Mormons have never furnished the brothels of Salt Lake. For years polygamy has been dead in Utah.

"If Utah were made a State, in three years the population would be doubled and the Mormon vote would be overcome. But the people will not come while it is a territory. It is not pleasant to live in a country that is favored in a social broil. Do not come to Utah until its fight is over."

"What keeps Utah a Territory? I will tell you. Government sends her \$175,000 annually. That money will not come when Utah ceases to be a Territory. That money goes into the hands of Mormon-haters who will never get office in Utah as a State, who in fact should not hold office anywhere. In addition the East sends \$150,000, yes, nearer \$200,000 annually here for "missionary" work. That goes into the hands of Mormon-haters, who would lose their income if the people east knew that no Mormon has ever been converted by them in 25 years and if Utah were a State. These two parties hold the control of the anti-Mormon political party of Utah, and there you see why Utah is kept out.

"In education, industry, sobriety, and even in virtue the Mormons are far ahead of their opponents. There is no more danger of polygamy or hierarchy in Utah than there is in Montreal, and indeed far less danger of the latter than there is in your Catholic Church. Let me urge you not to allow yourself to be blinded by the *Chicago Tribune*, or any other paper as to the Mormons. I know them well and send you herewith a publication of my own that will show you the other side. CHARLES ELLIS.

The remarkable vigor of Oliver Wendell Holmes' mind is due to the strict care he has taken of himself since he became an octogenarian. His life is now one of great abstemiousness.

Emperor William's beard is now the subject of cable dispatches. It is of a chestnut color, and already he has given sittings for a new bearded photograph in eleven different costumes.

## SALT LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual Conference of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion convened in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Saturday, Sept. 5, 1891, at 10 o'clock a. m.

Apostle Abraham H. Cannon, the Stake Presidency, a number of Bishops and representative men from the different wards in the Stake were in attendance.

President Angus M. Cannon presided.

The choir and congregation sang:

Now let us rejoice in the day of salvation, etc.

Prayer by Elder John T. Caine.

The choir sang:

Lord, Thou wilt hear me when I pray? etc.

On the recommendation of their respective Bishops, sixteen young men received certificates authorizing their ordination to the office of Elders, after promising to honor and magnify said office and calling if ordained.

APOSTLE ABRAHAM H. CANNON regretted to notice the small attendance at the opening meeting of this conference. Notwithstanding the busy season, the Saints would profit and not lose anything by laying their work aside and attending meetings. While we are commanded of the Lord not to steal, lie, commit adultery, etc., the sin of omission or neglect of duty is also a grievous sin in the sight of the Almighty. The carelessness and sleepiness exhibited by the Latter-day Saints at the present time seem to testify to the near approach of the coming of the Savior, according to the parable of the ten virgins, which indicates that at the time all would slumber and sleep. But the Saints should take heed to keep oil in their lamps, even if they may to some extent be overcome by that general drowsiness which seems to prevail. The Saints should be more diligent in attending their meetings, and by their exemplary lives prove to the world that they are sincere in espousing what is commonly called "Mormonism." The fact that this Stake of Zion contains over thirty thousand Saints, and scarcely two thousand of them being present at this meeting, is a very unsatisfactory showing.

There are some, however, who are always at their posts, and found wherever duty calls them, and they are the ones whom the Lord delights in, and whom He desires to bless. The speaker testified that President Wilford Woodruff was an inspired man of God; and those who were continually finding fault with the doings of the First Presidency and the leaders of the people were doing so without just cause, and were standing on dangerous ground, as these men were laboring continually in the interest of Zion. The speaker predicted the final triumph of the cause of God, and that the time would come when Zion should become the glory of the whole earth.

The roll of the Stake was then called and responded to by all the members of the presidency of the High Priests, Quorum, twelve presidents of Seventies and fourteen home missionaries. All

the wards in the Stake were properly represented, excepting the Tenth and Twenty-second city wards and Farmers, South Cottonwood, Sandy and Pleasant Green of the country wards.

The Relief Societies, Sabbath Schools, Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations and the Primary organizations were represented by their respective presiding officers.

The minutes of the last Priesthood meeting were read by Counselor C. W. Penrose and were approved by unanimous vote.

BISHOP ELIJAH F. SHEETS,

being called upon, addressed the conference and alluded to the introduction of worldly habits among the Saints, and how some of those who had formerly been zealous and active in the service of God were now partaking of the general spirit of carelessness. But notwithstanding this, the cause of God will prevail upon the earth, a great reform will take place among the Saints, and the final victory be on the side of righteousness and truth.

BISHOP GEORGE ROMNEY

referred to the introduction of the Gospel to Great Britain in 1837, his parents being among those who first embraced the fulness of the Gospel near Preston, England, where he also was baptized as an eight year old boy. He still remembered the diligence and zeal exhibited in these early days by the converts in that land, and also remembered how punctual the Saints in Nauvoo were in congregating together to listen to words of inspiration from the lips of the Prophet Joseph and other men of God. The speaker bore testimony to the truth of the Gospel, and that the blessings and gifts of the same were still within the reach of those who would magnify their callings and live up to their privileges as Latter-day Saints, and there are many such in the Church today.

ELDER JOSEPH H. FELT

reminded the young brethren who had been called to the Melchisedek Priesthood today of the duties that would devolve upon them after being ordained Elders in the Church. He exhorted the Saints to awaken to a better realization of their duties. The Y. M. M. I. Associations of this Stake (over which the speaker presides) were in good working order. Although no meetings had been held during the summer months, they would be resumed again during the present month. A number of young men had been called to labor as missionaries among the Associations during the coming winter. They were to devote all their time in this direction the same as missionaries going abroad.

PRESIDENT ANGUS M. CANNON,

after giving the young men who were to be ordained Elders some timely instructions, then announced that the conference would be adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

The choir sang:

Lo! the mighty God appearing.

An announcement was made that a special meeting of Scandinavians would be held in the Social Hall tomorrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

Benediction by Counselor Joseph E. Taylor.