

world or in the spirit world, will be done by virtue of the sacred and holy authority, in the name of Jesus Christ. However imperfect they may be, men have been clothed with this authority, by which they can speak and act in the name of the Father and the Son, and God is bound, if they speak by His spirit in the discharge of their duties as His servants, to respect and fulfill that which they say, because they speak by the authority that He has given. We are in this position, and when we bless, the blessing will follow. Of course, all things must be done in righteousness. No man can do anything in unrighteousness that God is bound to respect. But when a man who holds the Priesthood does that which is righteous, God is bound to acknowledge it as though He had done it Himself. Therefore it is wrong for a Bishop to get the idea that the President of the Stake has no authority to counsel him or to keep a supervision over him. The moment he gets that idea he begins to disregard the authority of the Priesthood which is set to preside over him, and to interrupt and interfere with the progress of the cause and the rights of the Priesthood of the Son of God. The same may be said of every individual who in any manner disrespects or dishonors those who preside over him. Let us suppose a case. Here is a brother who has fallen into the habit of getting drunk, and by that course is debasing himself. The Bishop, or some other officer of the Church goes to that man and says: "Here, we cannot put up with your drinking, or your carousing, or your setting an evil example before the Church, and we call you to an account before the Lord for your conduct; we say to you that you must reform in these particulars or we will be under the necessity of withdrawing from you the hand of fellowship." "Why," says the man, "you are interfering with my agency. Am I not a free man? Cannot I do as I please with myself?" Oh, yes, you can, perhaps, under other circumstances, but not as a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. When a member of this Church thinks or feels that his free agency will give him the license to lie, to steal, to curse and swear, to get drunk and to blaspheme the name of God, he is mistaken. He has no such privilege as a member of this Church; and it is the right of the presiding authorities to see to it that he shall be dealt with for his fellowship, and if he does not repent, that he be excommunicated from the Church and cast out to the buffetings of Satan, that he may go his own road and have the freedom of that agency which he claims. When you embrace this Gospel you enter into a covenant before God that you will cease from wickedness, from lying, stealing, swearing and blaspheming the name of Deity; you make a covenant that you will not commit adultery, nor any other crime; that you will have faith in the Father and the Son, that you will love your neighbor, be honorable, virtuous and honest in the midst of the children of men; and while you are under that covenant and maintain a membership in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

Saints, your presiding officer has a right to look after you, to counsel you, and to admonish you when you do that which is contrary to your profession. It is his duty to do this, and he neglects his duty when he does not do it, and will be held responsible by the Lord for that neglect.

Now, there is a way to reach every wrong. If the President of a Stake does wrong, or the President of the Church does wrong, the right way to rectify it is not to go about among the people, who are, perhaps, not capable of judging, not knowing all the circumstances, and try to embitter their minds against him. That is wrong, that is rebellion, and will lead to confusion and to the rejection of the truth by those who do this. If a presiding officer does wrong let a complaint be laid, if this be necessary, before his superior officers in the Church, and let the complainant state his case, bring forth his proofs, and show that his presiding officer is doing that which is not becoming to him, in the position in which he is sustained, and his presiding officers will see to it that he either reforms or is removed. It is not proper, but entirely wrong, for a member of the Church to undertake to supervise the presiding authorities of the Church and to set them right upon his own volition. He cannot do it, and it will lead to apostasy in any man who takes that course, if he follows it up long enough.

God bless you, my brethren and sisters, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

STAKE CONFERENCES.

SANPETE.

The regular quarterly Conference of the Sanpete Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was held in Mount Pleasant on the 13th and 14th of August, 1892, according to previous appointment, Counselor Henry Beal presiding. Owing to his ill health and death in his family, President Peterson was unable to attend. At the opening of conference there were present, President Fjeldsted, of the Presidency of the Seventies; Counselors Henry and John B. Maiben of the Stake Presidency and several members of the High Council. The Bishops of the several wards were mostly represented. There was a large attendance of Saints, especially on Sunday, when the spacious bowery was filled to overflowing. On Sunday, Apostle Lund was in attendance. The usual conference business was attended to—bishops reports of wards, statistical and Sunday school reports, presentation of General and Stake authorities, who were all sustained by unanimous vote. The names of two brethren were presented and sustained to be ordained High Priests. The organizations of the several quorums were considered complete and satisfactory and in working order.

The speakers during conference were Counselors Beal and Maiben, President Fjeldsted, Elder C. H. Wheelock and Apostle A. H. Lund. The general duties of the Saints were the subjects treated, together with such themes as education, and gratitude to God for the many blessings we enjoy.

Four regular meetings were held

and on Thursday evening there was a Priesthood meeting. Conference adjourned for three months, to meet at Moroni.

GEORGE TAYLOR,
Clerk of Conference.

MORGAN.

The quarterly conference of Morgan Stake convened Sunday and Monday, the 14th and 15th insts. The proceedings opened Sunday morning at 10:30, President Smith presiding.

Elder John H. Gibby, who had lately returned from a foreign mission, was the first speaker. He spoke of the temporal and spiritual conditions of mankind, and compared those of the Latter-day Saints with those of the world.

He was followed by Elder Mark Lindsay, of Weber. The speakers in the afternoon were Elders Orson Porter and B. H. Roberts.

Elder Porter who had just returned from a mission to the Northern States, was the first speaker. He gave an interesting account of his labors and experiences while in the ministry and advised the young men to educate themselves in the principles of the Gospel, so that they might present them properly before the world. He was followed by Elder Roberts, who delivered an interesting discourse on the history of the people of God, both ancient and modern, showing that whenever this class of people had planted colonies the earth had been made to yield in abundance the necessities of life and the land had been turned from a barren desert into beautiful cities, farms, orchards and gardens. The speaker showed very plainly that righteousness is very material to our temporal prosperity.

The time on Monday was occupied by discourses from the Stake Presidency and High Council, the reading of the Stake statistical report and the report of the superintendent of Sabbath schools. Many important subjects were treated upon by the brethren and much valuable counsel given during the conference.

On Sunday evening Elder Roberts delivered a lecture under the auspices of the Seventies' quorum. The subject was, The Duties, Labors and Experiences of the Elders while in the Ministry. The lecture was well attended and highly appreciated.

ALONZO FRANCIS,
Stake Clerk.

MORGAN, Aug. 16, 1892.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

Elder George Reynold's has kindly presented the Sunday Schools of this Stake of Zion with a copy each of the "Dictionary of the Book of Mormon." Sunday School superintendents can obtain them by sending, or calling, at the Fifteenth Ward store, 340 W. First South street, Salt Lake City.

HENRY BURNHAM, who calls himself Henry Barry, a one-armed temperance lecturer, was to have lectured on temperance at Fair Haven, Conn., the other evening. But at the time he was to have spoken he was "arrested in an intoxicated condition and sentenced to thirty days." He comprised in his own proper person both the lecturer and the awful example.