

affliction of his life. A little over two years ago Captain Jack and other prominent and friendly Ute Indians told Brother Wilson to be on his guard against a band of renegade Indians led by old Nira Gulni, who were continually committing depredations. These warnings were well grounded, as the sequel will show.

Two years ago on the 6th of last August, two of Brother Wilson's sons, aged respectively sixteen and eighteen years, were herding stock in the mountains eighteen miles from Moab. The boys were unarmed. They were attacked by a number of the renegades. At the first fire one of the boys was shot across the upper part of the face; the bullet destroying one eye and cutting away the bridge of the nose. He still lives, carrying with him these terrible evidences of a narrow escape from death.

The other boy ran, and instead of being satisfied with the mischief already done and running off Brother Wilson's stock, four of the blood-thirsty marauders pursued him. Then followed a race for life or death. The boy ran a distance of fifteen miles and reached Coyote ranch, hotly and closely followed by the Indians. At the ranch he found refuge and defence, as the inmates opened fire on his pursuers, who then retreated.

But the most fearful experience of Brother Wilson and family occurred a year ago last June. A long distance east from the scene we have described, the same band of Indians had committed depredations upon the stock of the white settlers. The white men organized, started after the hostiles, whose trail they struck at the big bend of the Dolores. The pursuit was kept up 140 miles, the white men catching up with the Indians three miles from Brother Wilson's ranch. Then commenced a fierce and bloody struggle, the Indians backing toward the ranch and fighting desperately all the time. The distance traversed by the combatants during the fight was 7 miles, and the battle ground included the Wilson stock ranch. Two of Brother Wilson's sons, aged twenty-one and twenty-six years, were at the cabin, and must have joined with the whites in the fight with the Indians, and both were killed. In Little Castle Valley, four miles beyond the stock cabin, their bodies were found in a pile with those of six other white men, who had evidently fallen while struggling shoulder to shoulder.

About a hundred and fifty yards from the eight dead bodies was that of a man named Willis, who had been following the Indians because they had stolen his horses. The bodies had lain on the ground four days when they were found, and had consequently begun to decay, and were buried on the spot, being placed in a deep gulch.

As the old gentleman narrated the incident of the thrilling event and the memory of the killing of his two boys came fresh to his mind, his eyes filled with tears and his utterance was choked. "I could stand it myself," said he, with deep emotion, "but when I saw how it hurt their mother, it was almost more than I could bear."

Some time afterwards Mrs. Willis, wife of the man by that name who was killed in the fight, called at the Wilson Stock ranch on horseback accompanied by two men. She carried a Henry rifle and had two Colts revolvers hanging from her saddle. She had traveled a hundred and forty miles to take up the bones of her husband and carry them back to her home for burial. She called on Brother Wilson for assistance, so he procured seven men besides himself and the party accompanied her. The bones were taken up and she took them back with her to Animas for interment.

Mrs. Willis was twenty-six years old and the mother of three children.

The circumstances occurred a little over a year ago, but since then the settlers have had no trouble with the Indians, all of whom in that part of the Territory are peacefully disposed and desirous that our people should settle and build up the country.

MORGAN STAKE CONFERENCE

The Morgan Stake Conference was held Saturday and Sunday, August 19th and 20th, 1882.

Present on the stand: Presidency of the Stake, High Council, Bishops, Presidency of Quorums, etc.

Saturday, 10.30 a.m.

Opening exercises.

The time was occupied by High Councilors Richard Rawle and Frederick Kingston, Elder Henry Florence and President W. G. Smith. Subjects of discourse: The significance of dedicating ourselves and all we have to the service of God; the folly of envying higher positions, or greater wealth than our own when faithfulness will be the eventual test; ultimate security being reached only through humility and nearness to the path of duty; the imperfectness of our knowledge without a knowledge of God and His work, and the necessity of using our means for noble and necessary purposes.

2 p.m.

High Councilor Thos. Rich addressed the Saints on the subjects of our blessings depending on ourselves, the properly appreciating the evidences of God's favor; the best reason for performing any labor being that God had commanded it, and remembering what is due to each other.

A portion of the Wards were reported.

Elder George W. Crocheron, of Salt Lake Stake, related many interesting incidents of prophecy and vision, foreshadowing the glorious future of this people. Exhorted those of our young people who had not a positive knowledge of the truth of this work to obtain it without delay. God's kingdom will triumph, let us triumph with it.

Prest. Rich. Fry said each quarter should show an increased preparation for the introduction of God's purposes. It is much easier to retain our integrity and each others confidence than to restore them when lost. No one else can do our work, and we receive the pay. May our faith grow and our works correspond with it.

Sunday 10.30 a.m.

Reading of Stake report. Apostle F. D. Richards having arrived spoke on the duties of the Saints. It should be our study how to weaken the power of the adversary, to conquer instead of being conquered. We should cleanse and sanctify these tabernacles, and preserve the purity of our covenants, by so doing the Holy Ghost will renew our vitality. Should keep up the holy ambition of subduing, one after another, our evil propensities. Every victory over evil is so much of the wealth of heaven acquired. Spoke of the introduction and order of the baptism for the dead, the resurrection, translation, etc. The first great work—to conquer ourselves, the last—to conquer death.

Sunday 2 p.m.

Administration of the Sacrament. Prest S. Francis gave some general instructions in regard to Stake house, naturalization, missionary fund, etc.

Remaining Wards reported.

Apostle F. D. Richards said, "Those that persecute you by the law, shall perish by the law." Gave instructions in regard to pending possibilities and the state of preparation necessary. Should know what our liberties are worth, and how to maintain them, and be conscious of the efficacy of the truths of the gospel, and then adhere to them, and defend them. If our enemies gain possession of our rights, it should be in that unhallowed manner that will incur the displeasure of God.

President Richard Fry thanked the out-going Stake missionaries, presented others for the acceptance of the people, for the next six months. Gave out notices, etc.

President Smith congratulated the Saints on the time of enjoyment experienced in the inspired teachings and exhortations of Apostle Richards and others, and gave wholesome counsel to the Saints.

Benediction by Patriarch Alma Porter.

JAMES H. MASON, Clerk.

LITTLE COLORADO STAKE CONFERENCE

The 18th quarterly conference of the Little Colorado Stake of Zion was held at Sunset, Saturday and Sunday, August 26th and 27th, 1882.

There were present: President Lot Smith and Counselor Wm. C. Allen of the Stake presidency, members of the High Council, bishops and other prominent members of the several wards in the Stake.

Saturday morning the speakers were President Lot Smith and Elder S. G. Ladd. In the afternoon reports of wards were given by Bishop L. M. Savage, of Sunset, Counselor C. L. Christensen, of Moanecopy, Counselor F. M. Allen, of Tonto Basin,

Elder A. L. Rogers, of the dairy, tannery and sheepherd, Elder J. J. Adams, of Brigham City, and Counselor J. C. Hansen, of Saint Joseph. The reports given showed a fair condition among the Saints, meetings generally well attended, fair health and average crops. At St. Joseph the crops were late, in consequence of the great amount of labor put on their dam and ditch in the spring, they having had a hard struggle to get the water out upon their land, but the little crops they have had time to put in were looking well. The relations between the Saints and Indians remain of a friendly nature. During the late Apache war some excitement occurred among the Saints of Tonto Basin, causing them to live together about three weeks in their fort, built last year, but they were not molested; as far as they knew, none were nearer than 12 miles.

Elder Llewellyn Harris gave an account of his travels and labors among the Indian tribes; had been absent from his family some two and a half years, and during that period had travelled some 11,000 miles.

Sunday morning, the authorities of the Stake, the home and Lamanite missionaries were presented and sustained, and the speakers were Counselor W. C. Allen, Elders John McLaws, A. L. Rogers, J. H. James, H. M. Tanner, C. Whiting, and J. N. Walker. The usual statistical reports of Stake and Sunday Schools were read by the clerk.

Sunday afternoon, after the administration of the sacrament, there being a number of Lamanites in the congregation, Bishop L. M. Savage, by request, spoke to them, exhorting them to live at peace with all men, which was interpreted into the Navajo tongue by counselor C. L. Christensen. One of the Navajos then, by request, spoke, expressing satisfaction at what had been said, which was interpreted into English by Brother Christensen. President Lot Smith spoke upon the destiny of the Lamanites and upon the duties of the Saints exhorting all to be watchful and not slumber. Elder John A. Bigler made a few remarks. Conference was adjourned until the 25th of November, 1882. Benediction by Elder S. G. Ladd.

F. G. NIELSON, Clerk of Conference.

SANPETE STAKE CONFERENCE

The Quarterly Conference of the Sanpete Stake of Zion was held in Ephraim on the 19th of August, 1882.

There were present of the General Authorities of the Church, John Taylor and George Q. Cannon of the First Presidency; President Woodruff, Erastus Snow, Brigham Young, John H. Smith of the Twelve Apostles; Elders L. J. Nuttall, G. F. Gibbs and A. K. Thurber; President Peterson and councilors, also the local acting priesthood were well represented.

Conference convened as per appointment at 10 a.m. on the 19th inst. Opened by singing and prayer.

Prest. Woodruff was the first speaker; he addressed the Saints upon the creation of man upon the earth, that it is God's right to govern that there had been a continual warfare from the earliest times. Also, upon the nature of the labors required of the Latter-day Saints; exhorted the Saints to faithfulness, and that God would overrule all things for the accomplishment of his own purposes.

Apostle B. Young was the next speaker; he reviewed the travels of the Church until the present time, the prejudice that has existed and does exist against the Saints, dwelt upon the necessity of securing to our children the facilities of education in both Sabbath and day schools; also the obligations we are under to promote union by seeking to bring about an amicable settlement of any difficulty or misunderstanding that may arise.

Elder W. H. Folsom reviewed the labors of the Saints in building the Temple. Adjourned.

2 p.m.

After singing and prayer, Elder L. J. Nuttall spoke upon the duties of the Saints; exhorted to faithfulness therein.

Elder A. H. Lund read statistical report of Stake. Adjourned.

Sunday, 10 a.m.

After the usual opening exercises, President John Taylor addressed the Saints upon their duties and privileges, rights and obligations as citizens of the United States, also the necessity of maintaining them to the utmost by every constitution-

al means. The entire discourse was replete with the most valuable instructions to the Latter-day Saints, and was listened to by the large congregation with rapt attention.

Apostle John H. Smith occupied the remainder of the forenoon session in directing the attention of parents to the necessity of spending some of their time, at least, in seeking to engage the attention of their children and directing it, towards acquiring an education that will qualify them for usefulness in the Kingdom of God. Adjourned.

2 p.m.

After singing and prayer and administering of the sacrament Councilor Maiben Presented the general and stake authorities of the Church all of whom were unanimously sustained, Bishop F. Olson having been called to labor in Emery Stake was released from the Bishopric of Spring City ward, Elder James A. Alired was appointed to take charge of that ward for the present.

President George Q. Cannon testified to his knowledge of the power of God obtained through the faith of the saints, and of the peaceful influence and spirit enjoyed by the saints in their homes. Drew a vivid contrast between the saints and their enemies as having been witnessed by himself, related his own way of cultivating the confidence of his children, advised parents to pursue a similar course that they may help to check the tendency to vice that exists; related many interesting experiences in connection with his labors; testified to the fulfillment of the promise that the Lord had made to this Church, that every tongue that rises up in judgment against it shall be silenced.

Apostle E. Snow spoke very encouragingly to the local Priesthood to be diligent and faithful in the performance of their duties, and of the blessings to be obtained through faithfulness; reviewed some of the doings of our enemies, and of the support given them by the Saints. Contrasted the teachings and doings of the servants of God with that of their enemies, showing clearly that they have accused our leaders of what they themselves are guilty, counseled the Saints to imitate the bees, to swarm and form new hives, take up the land and make themselves homes and thus fulfil the law of their being.

President Peterson said Conference would adjourn to meet at Mantl on the 18th and 19th of November, 1882. Singing and benediction. GEORGE TAYLOR, Clerk.

CASTLE VALLEY.

PRICE RIVER, Castle Valley, August 11, 1882.

Editor Deseret News:

So this is the much talked of Castle Valley. We came in at the southern extremity and have traveled on up to this river which is at the northern end of the valley. How the idea one forms as to the appearance of any place or thing is the opposite of the reality. I supposed the valley to be a long plain encircled by blue rolling mountains, instead of which it is a rough broken country, with many hills and precipitous tabled mountains. The south end presents much the same appearance as does our own Dixie, minus the volcanic rock. The ground looks rich however and has been a splendid range for cattle. But now from one end to the other of the valley all that is left of the grass is in the memory of the oldest inhabitant and innumerable dried up parched looking stubs. Ranchers have used up this country, in a grazing point of view, so say the settlers, thousands of stock having been kept there before it began to be settled up. Coming to the Muddy, the first settlement, verily we found a muddy stream.

Some few families have made a very good start here, and grain looks well. Twenty-five miles further on we reach Castle Dale, which is to be, I have been told, the county seat. The place is more built up than the others, but the natural facilities are no better than some other places. Still traveling north, twelve miles on, Huntington is reached. Did I say that all the settlements here are built down along the banks of the streams thus making long, narrow towns? Huntington is also a stunning little place, and here as everywhere grain looks beautiful. About twenty miles north you strike the Price River. Ten miles from the crossing is the mouth of the canyon, through which the Denver & Rio Grande R. R. is fast pushing its way eastward.

The valley around Price River is much larger; in fact there are ample facilities for a good sized settlement here. The land also looks richer, the river is larger, and there is a mountain of coal near by. In my humble opinion Price River is the place in this valley. Game abounds all through the country, but here it seems more plentiful if anything. Stories are told by such men as Rhodes and Gremes that distance the tales in novels, of hunts for grizzlies, fights and narrow escapes from a hugging death. One man has been killed in this valley by a bear.

Deer and antelope are very frequently seen and killed, and of course many of the smaller kinds of game. Wood is plentiful around this place, and a saw mill is in operation 15 miles up the canyon. I am told a town is soon to be laid out on this (Price) River. And I would cordially advise any who are in search of good comfortable farms and homes, to come here, as there is no better land in Utah, plenty of wood, a very good supply of water, many fortunes in the coal abounding here, and it is on the line of the railroad. I mentioned the poor grazing facilities, but reliable men assert that there are excellent ranges up in the mountains.

Before closing I want to speak of the warm welcome we received from a young couple living here. Do you know what a long, lonesome, hot days' travel is in a wagon, reaching your destination after dark, strangers in a strange land? If you do, you will know how pleasant it was to be asked by the lady of the house to come right in, and have supper. Smoking venison, light dumplings and good soup, made a feast for a king. This oddly contrasted with the over thriftiness of a good man who charged us thirty cents for a small armful of wood in a place where wood was \$2.00 a cord. Blessed are the hospitable for they shall be welcomed in heaven.

HOMESPUN.

Correspondence.

NEPHI, August 22, 1882.

Editor Deseret News:

Pending the war in Egypt and the labors of the Utah Commission, an item from the interior may not be uninteresting. We are going to have a signal station established on Mount Nebo, Wm. Eimbeck of the Coast and Geodetic Survey started yesterday to locate. It is said that a man and some kind of a machine will be placed there to regulate the weather, and that the simple turning of a crank will do it in a way that will put an end to its erratic course, something after the manner of the equator regulating the sun. I don't exactly understand it, but this is what I hear. We expect to be able to furnish weather to the whole United States when we get the thing started, which combined with the Utah muddle will enable us to sing, "Blow, breezes, blow!"

To-day, Prest. Taylor and party passed here on their way home from the Sanpete Conference, and I was forcibly impressed with the march of events when I considered that they could leave Fort Ephraim after breakfast and get home in Salt Lake City for supper, besides three hours for dinner. Whilst the party were here, Sister Pitchforth, on behalf of the Nephi Relief Society presented a handsome quilt to Brother Geo. Q. Cannon as a token of their love and friendship and their appreciation of his labors and fidelity to the cause of truth while representing the people of the Territory of Utah in Washington. It is a crocheted bed-spread containing forty blocks about fifteen inches square wrought with beautiful designs of flowers and animals. The letters R. S. and Nephi, Juab Co., June 20, 1882, were artistically worked upon it, and altogether it is a magnificent piece of work of which the sisters ought to feel proud.

Our Relief Society is an organization which unostentatiously does a great deal of good. Sister Pitchforth, the president, is a woman in whom the milk of human kindness flows abundantly, and well suited to such a mission of love. The sisters vie with each other in comforting and blessing the needy and it is with considerable pride and satisfaction that we view their labors. God bless them!

The NEWS is always a welcome visitor and largely read by the people of Nephi, hoping for its prosperity and widespread dissemination, I remain, ENDYMION.