

# THE TRUE LATTER DAY SAINTS' HERALD.

"HEarken TO THE WORD OF THE LORD, FOR THERE SHALL NOT ANY MAN AMONG YOU HAVE SAve IT BE ONE WIFE; AND CONCUBINES HE SHALL HAVE NONE."—*Book of Mormon*.

"WHEN THE RIGHTEOUS ARE IN AUTHORITY, THE PEOPLE REJOICE; BUT WHEN THE WICKED BEARETH RULE, THE PEOPLE MOURN."—*Prov. 29:2*.

Vol. 21.

PLANO, ILL., OCTOBER 15, 1874.

No. 20.

## MINUTES OF THE General Semi-Annual Conference.

Minutes of the General Semi-Annual Conference of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints held at Parks' Grove, Pottawattamie County, Iowa, commencing Saturday, September 19th, 1874.

Meeting was called to order by Br. Joseph Smith at 10:40 A.M. Hymn 615 was sung, and prayer was offered by Br. Charles Derry. Hymn 667 was then sung.

Br. Joseph Smith stated that they could so far organize as to elect a president and clerk, and complete the organization in the afternoon, by the selection of a secretary and another clerk, if needed.

Br. D. F. Lambert was chosen to act as a clerk.

Br. Joseph Smith remarked that it was not probable that as much business would be transacted this Conference as there was at the last, neither was as complete a representation expected; but quite as much enjoyment would be anticipated. The business before the Conference would be transacted as rapidly as possible, and the spare time devoted to preaching. He also cautioned the brethren against the use of personalities, in debating upon topics that should be brought up for consideration before the Conference.

On motion, adjourned until 2 P.M.

Benediction by President J. Smith.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 P.M. Conference resumed business. *Vol. No. 308.*

ness by singing hymn 933; prayer by the President; hymn 718 was then sung.

Moved by J. H. Lake, seconded by C. Downs, that Br. Joseph Smith be sustained as President of the Conference. Carried.

Moved by Br. J. H. Lake and seconded by C. Downs, that Br. W. W. Blair be sustained as his assistant in presiding over the Conference. Carried.

The President announced that the reports of Districts would be taken up first, and that those against which valid objections were not raised, would be understood as received.

Moved by Charles Derry and seconded by John McKnight, that Br. H. C. Bronson be chosen Secretary of Conference. Carried.

The minutes of the Australasian Mission were read, as follows:

A Conference of this Mission was held at Sydney, July 26th and 27th, 1874. C. W. Wandell, president; Glauud Rodger, vice president, and A. W. Aspinwall, secretary.

Conference met in United Temperance Hall at 1 P.M., and was opened in the usual form.

The President congratulated the Saints that the Mission was prospering, and that we were now met together under such favorable circumstances; most of the Saints had been members of the Brighamite Church; they had received their first impressions of the Latter Day Work in that organization, and had received its heresies as the truths of heaven; but their presence here showed that they had discovered those heresies and removed them. This renunciation must be thorough—absolute. There must be no lingering sympathies for the siren that sought to lure them to their ruin. We are seeking to build up a church upon the new and everlasting covenant. The Book of Mormon and Book of Commandments are

that covenant. When the Salt Lake people adopted a "system" of religion expressly forbidden by those books, this covenant, to them, became broken. This "system" is found and was first publicly promulgated in a pseudo revelation commanding the practice of polygamy as a "principle" of the gospel of salvation, and a "doctrine" of Christ; and was first publicly announced at Salt Lake City, August 29th, 1852. This "system" cannot save; it is but the evidence of the broken covenant under which the Salt Lake Church is living. They must renounce that so-called revelation and return to the Book of Commandments and Book of Mormon, or they can form no part of the true Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Acting Teacher, H. Darke, represented the Sydney Branch as containing 31 members, including 3 Elders, all in good standing. His labors had been confined to the city; had preached nearly every other Sunday since the organization of the Australasian Mission; felt well in the work.

Acting Priest, A. W. Aspinwall, who is also Clerk of the Mission, represented the Australasian Mission as prospering. In the Sydney Branch 10 had been added by baptism since its organization, and 3 children blest; and 7 had been baptized by Elder Rodger in the Hunter River District. The Church in Australia now numbers 40 members, including 2 Seventies, 3 Elders and 35 members.

Elder Rodger reported his labors for the last three months; had labored in the neighborhood of New Castle; had been well received; had not lacked for means; and had baptized 7; (5 men and 2 women); the prospect ahead is encouraging.

Upon motion, the authorities of the Church, including Joseph Smith as a prophet, seer, and revelator, and President of the Church in all the world, were unanimously sustained.

Moved by Brn. Rodger and Aspinwall, that we sustain by our confidence, our faith and our prayers, Elder C. W. Wandell as the President of the Australasian Mission of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Carried unanimously.

Brn. Wandell and D. Marriott then moved that we, in like manner, sustain Elder Glauud Rodger as Counsellor to the President of the Australasian Mission. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Brn. Darke and Aspinwall, that Br. Emanuel Roderick be ordained to the office of Deacon of the Sydney Branch. Carried unanimously.

The sacrament was then administered, and a brief time given for testimony, when the Conference adjourned until 7 o'clock.

At 7 p.m. the Conference reassembled, when Br. Rodger preached to a select and attentive audience a discourse on the Kingdom of God. He was followed by President

Wandell on the same subject, when the Conference adjourned to meet at Br. Darke's on to-morrow, (Monday), evening, at 7:30 p.m. One child was blest.

July 27th, 7:30 p.m.—The Conference reassembled and was opened by singing and prayer. The evening was spent in testimony; we had a time of great edification and rejoicing. During the Conference much valuable instruction was given by Presidents Wandell and Rodger, and all seemed refreshed and invigorated in their faith, and fully determined to go ahead in the good cause.

On motion, adjourned *sine die*.

C. W. WANDELL, *President*,  
A. W. ASPINWALL, *Secretary*.

There was a record of names accompanying the report, for Church Recorder:

Br. John L. Bear, Missionary to Switzerland, and John Avondet, to Italy, reported by letter:

AFFOLTERN, a | A. Ct.,  
Zurich, Switzerland,  
August 18th, 1874.

*Dear Brother Joseph:*—As the Semi-Annual Conference is drawing nigh, I write that Br. Avondet and myself wishes to be released from our missions, and ask therefore the Conference assembled to release and call us home. We would like, if possible, to get home in October, before winter sets in. We feel that we have done the best we could to spread the seed of the gospel under the circumstances we have been placed in, and the great difficulties with which we met, and leave the residue to God, praying that the honest in heart may be gathered to the fold; hoping also that Conference may accept our labors.

There is an error in the minutes of the European Mission as stated in the *Herald* of August 1st, that there is in Italy six members, and in Switzerland three. It ought to read thus. There are in Italy two members, and in Switzerland six, considering ourselves and Br. Ursenbach.

I have nothing left me but to say, by the whisperings of the Spirit and the testimony thereof, that if this Mission had been properly sustained from the beginning, that the Church of Christ would have been established here by this time; but to plow up new ground full of roots and stumps and trees of every sort, without some helping tools, (the printed word), in a land so far away from the established Church of Christ, was, and is, a hard task; on the other hand, there might have been more furrows made, and consequently more wheat sown, more ground prepared to receive the seed also, and, no doubt, not all would have fallen into unfruitful places, but in the good ground also which would have brought forth fruit.

Switzerland and Wirtemberg would not be the last places for the spread of the gospel. Many are seeking for something better, but to start the work, it needs not only the men of war, but the necessary ammunition also, and there will yet be a great ingathering from these countries. I had to spend considerable time this summer in manual labor for my support.

I was lately, in Kappel, introduced through a sister from Hedingen to her relatives, where I preached the word to several persons, and explained unto them the Holy Scripture, which points out the road to life eternal; gave unto them the Voice of Warning and the translated tracts, and the one I wrote myself, to read; they invited me to come again; time will tell if the seed took root in their hearts; hope it will, all is in the hand of God.

The Methodists are running over the whole country, and the people who are dissatisfied with the state religion and seeking for something better, ran after them, and I can see no other way but to tell the people that they only run from one sect to another, and that they cannot find the way which leads to life in them; but to obey the simple gospel of Christ and follow his example in being baptized for the remission of their sins.

Kappel is the place where the first battle was fought between the Swiss Reformers and the Catholics, in which battle Ulrich Zruoingli, the first Swiss Reformer, lost his life.

Those German tracts, "Who Then Can be Saved," and the "Epitome of the Faith and Doctrine of the Church," and the "Revelation on the Rebellion," are not altogether correctly translated. There are several mistakes either in the translation or in the print, and they are not fit to go to the public. The one page tract, "The Gospel," is correct and will do very well; but in the one, "Who Then Can be Saved," there is a great mistake; and upon the whole, it is not according to the German Grammar; and in the other one are many words not correctly written or printed, so that they appear to the public rather laughable; they ought to be corrected before any more are given out.

Is it not necessary to have the names of the members of the Church here recorded in the *General Church Record*?

J. L. BEAR.

[Yes, Br. Bear, it is.]—Ed.

Br. Thomas Taylor reported from Birmingham, as follows:

No. 10, Haden Street, Balsall Heath,  
BIRMINGHAM, England,

August 26th, 1874.

To the brethren in Conference assembled,  
greeting:—Beloved President and brethren,

since my appointment by your honorable body to the charge of this Mission, I have tried to do all my humble abilities would admit of; and although I have no great progress to report, I thank God that the Mission is neither dead nor unfruitful.

There has been a few added to the Church since last report, and the prospects in most parts of the Mission look encouraging.

Brigham Young's emissaries are very busy here, trying to deceive the people by their pernicious craft; and we are busy also trying to undeceive the people, by following these men up, through the press; and while God lends us his aid, we will continue to do so. We are highly privileged here now to what we were some years ago. I can well remember the time when we could not get an advertisement into the public press by paying for it, because we were Latter Day Saints, so great was the prejudice; but now we can get these lengthy letters into the leading papers free of charge. I thank my God for this privilege, and although the people are slow to take hold of the work, I hope that the day will come when the Lord will make to himself a great name in this nation. The churches of men are already tottering. The only body that is gaining ground is the Spiritualists.

I received a letter a few days ago from Br. Avondet, at Geneva; he has lately baptized two, and says that some more are believing; but are fearful to take hold, lest he should not remain with them and they thus be left alone. I fear his Mission is a hard one, and I wish that we could help him with means; but at present we cannot, as our means for Mission purposes are much less now than they formerly were. I am trying my best to get sufficient to print tracts for England, which we hope to be able to do in a few weeks. We have received some copies from the office lately, and have selected the most suitable out of them for reprinting. We can get them printed much cheaper here than in America, and the greater the quantity the cheaper they come.

Late letters from Wales show that Br. J. T. Davies is faithfully and energetically laboring for the cause in that part of the Lord's vineyard, and his labors are well appreciated; as I have no doubt you are aware.

I am also happy to say that Br. J. S. Patterson, late President of this Mission, has left a good report. His labors were appreciated and he is much respected.

Br. Seville, at Stafford, is still laboring in that locality and is blessed with a good little flock; he is now reaping the benefit of his long and patient labors, and my prayer is that Br. J. W. Coward, of Liverpool, may soon be blessed in like manner.

We ask for your prayers that our labors may be successful. Yours for the cause,

T. TAYLOR.

A letter from Br. Zenas H. Gurley, at Salt Lake City, to President Smith, was read; but a subsequent report having been received during the session, the letter is omitted in the minutes.

The following letter from Elder John H. Hanson, was read:

SHADY GROVE, Tennessee,  
Sept. 10th, 1874.

*To the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Conference assembled:*—Dear brethren—Since my last report I have been constantly engaged in the ministry. In Kentucky I have preached in Graves and Calloway Counties, in connection with Br. J. C. Clapp; I suppose that he will report the condition of the Mission, so I will not give you any details, but simply say that I regard the Mission as being in a very good condition. There have been twelve baptized this summer, and there are some others who will be as soon as I return.

On the 14th of August I left Kentucky for Tennessee; since then I have preached fifteen times in Henry County, with unusual effect, and six times in this city with only moderate results. I will commence speaking at this place soon, and from here I will return to Kentucky, by way of Johnsonville, where I will call on Br. R. Capps. Since my last report I have preached sixty-six discourses, blessed three children, and baptized eleven persons.

It will be proper here to say, that those baptized were principally persuaded of the truth by Br. Clapp's labors.

I remain at the disposal of the Conference, and wherever I am sent I will try and be useful. May the Lord bless and guide you in your deliberations for the redemption of Zion, is the prayer of your brother in Christ.

If you see fit to continue me here I would urge the necessity of sending another Elder here, so that one can spend the most of his time in opening new places. Alabama and Florida will need to be visited, so there will be abundant labor for two at least. If I am released send two others; do not let the good beginning that has been made here be lost. Again let me urge you to provide for this Mission the best you possibly can.

Yours,  
J. H. HANSON.

The Southern Indiana District reported:

*To the Saints in Conference assembled:*—The Southern Indiana District was organized August 31st, 1872, under the direction of W. W. Blair; Herbert Scott was chosen president; J. S. Constance, secretary.

The District at that time was composed of 2 Branches, viz: Eden and Low Gap, with a total membership of 52, including 4 Elders, 2 Priests, 1 Teacher, and 1 Deacon.

The District now contains 5 Branches, viz: Eden, Low Gap, Union, Pleasant Ridge and New Trenton, with a total membership of 118, including 1 Seventy, 9 Elders, 6 Priests, 3 Teachers and 2 Deacons.

Br. W. W. Blair, having just traveled through the District, is requested, and is hereby authorized, to report its condition.

HARBERT SCOTT, *President*,  
J. S. CONSTANCE, *Sec'y*.

A report of the South Eastern Illinois District, by Br. G. H. Hilliard, was read:

August 6th, 1874.

The South Eastern Illinois District of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints consists of about 150, including 1 High Priest, 12 Elders, 4 Priests, 5 Teachers and 4 Deacons.

G. H. HILLIARD,  
*President*.

St. Louis District reported as follows:

The St. Louis District has 8 Branches, with a total membership of 496; 85 officers, namely, 4 High Priests, 1 Seventy, 41 Elders, 16 Priests, 15 Teachers and 8 Deacons. Some of these officers have missions appointed them to preach the word in various parts of the District each and every Quarterly Conference. They report a good feeling at the places where they preach, and the prospect steadily improving. Nine have been added by baptism during the last six months, and 17 children blessed. Two deaths have occurred in our District. There are four Sunday Schools in the District in good working order. Zion's Hope Sunday School at St. Louis, reporting 68 scholars, 7 Teachers, in which the young are instructed; also one at Belleville, one at Gravois and one at Alma.

WM. H. HAZZLEBINE,  
*President of District*.

The Northern Illinois District presented the following:

The condition of this District is about the same as at last report. Duties in special portions of the District and a six-weeks' absence to Iowa, Missouri and Kansas have kept me from an active supervision of the Branches during the summer. In the parts where I have labored good has resulted and more is in prospect. I have baptized nine since April Conference. Twenty-one have been baptized in all. Notwithstanding some difficulties and the terrible evil influence of the times, yet I believe there is an increasing effort by many to live nearer to God. Branch Presidents are, most of them, doing their duty to a greater or less degree. Very little outside labor, however, has been done by them or by Branch Elders. We have one Elder in the Australian Mission, one in the Utah Mission, another laboring

in Michigan, and a Priest laboring in other parts of the country. I trust that the Lord, by the Holy Spirit will enable us to overcome all evil, and to prosecute the work as he would have it to be done. Praying that peace and the grace of God will be with you. I remain yours in the gospel,

HENRY A. STEBBINS,  
*President of District.*

Little Sioux District (Iowa) sent in the following:

This District consists of six Branches, comprising a membership of 328, including 63 officials, and 50 of which members are not numbered in any Branch.

The report is a statistical one, and shows the status of the District well, so far as its numbers are concerned; nothing is said of its condition.

The following reports were successfully presented and read:

B. V. Springer:

WIRT, Ind., Sept. 9th, 1874.

*To the Saints in Conference assembled:—* Dear Brethren, as it is impracticable for me to report in person, I take this method of informing you of my labors in the Southern Indiana and Northern Kentucky Mission. I arrived at my field of labor on June 25, 1873, and immediately commenced operations, and have labored to the extent of my ability since. I find, by consulting my journal, that I have travelled 3020 miles, preached 178 times, baptized 16 persons, ordained 3 Elders, 2 Priests, 1 Deacon, blessed 11 children and organized one Branch; having preached in nine counties in Indiana and two in Kentucky. Thus far I have had to contest every inch of ground gained; but I think now that the field is fairly opened for successful labor, and I confidently expect that the next six months will be a harvest of souls in this Mission. To this end do I pray, and, with the blessing of God, will labor. That the blessings of our beneficent Father may be abundantly dispensed to you and all his Saints, is the earnest prayer of your brother in the one faith,  
B. V. SPRINGER.

Wm. Anderson, of Montrose, Iowa:

*To the President and Council convened in Conference at Council Bluffs:—*At the September Conference of 1873 I was appointed a mission to California, which I accepted, and arrived in my field of labor Nov. 1st, 1873. I immediately commenced operation in different places; but principally in San Bernardino and Santa Rosa; I labored incessantly for five months, and left no stone unturned that I could reach. Circumstances that surrounded me called me home, at which place I arrived after an absence of six months.

If I am fortunate, I expect to return to California this fall. Should your judgment consider it for the best to continue me in that mission, do so, and I will do the best I can for the cause of Christ.

My heart is in the work, and I desire to see it roll on in power; therefore, I pray God that his Spirit may be given you, while sitting in council, and the power of your calling rest upon you, that your legislation may be approved by Him that doeth all things well. Your brother in Christ.

WM. ANDERSON.

John Landers, one of the old time Saints, now almost eighty years old, reported from the field in Kansas:

WATERVILLE, Marshall Co., Kansas,  
August 26th, 1874.

*Beloved Brother Joseph:—*Through the mercy of God I am yet alive, and doing the best I can to advance the Master's cause. I sold my home in Iowa last spring, and commenced to travel as directed by the Spirit of the Lord. I have labored in Washington, Clay and Dickinson counties, Kansas. In the last named county, on the second day of August, with the assistance of Br. Van Fleet, I organized a Branch of the Church, consisting of eight members, to be known by the name of the Noble Town Branch, of which Br. Nelson Van Fleet is President. It is situated seven miles north of Detroit, a station on the Kansas and Pacific Railroad, Twelve have been baptized since, and the Branch now numbers twenty, and more are waiting for an opportunity to be baptized. We left them rejoicing in the truth, to fill appointments previously made. In all places where I have labored, there has been a full attendance and more calls for preaching than I could fill. I would like well to meet the Saints in the next General Conference, but the time is short till the cold weather will curtail my labors; and, as the saying is, I must "make hay while the sun shines."

Accept of this as my report, and may the great Head of the Church preside over you in all your deliberations, is the prayer of your brother in Christ, JOHN LANDERS.

James McKiernan:

VINCENNES, Lee Co., Iowa,  
Sept. 9th, 1874.

*To the President and Brethren in Conference assembled:—*Whereas I was appointed by your honorable body to labor in Northern Missouri and Southern Iowa, I take this method of reporting that my labors have been but meagre, (comparatively speaking), and confined exclusively to Southern Iowa, (Lee and Van Buren counties), but believe I have done what I could under the circumstances, having to labor under many disadvantages not best to mention in this report. I should like to spend all my time in the field,

if my companion could be cared for; but that I could not ask nor expect of the Church when brethren in foreign lands are in such urgent need of assistance, and they more worthy to receive support, and better qualified to promulgate the gospel than myself. If you think proper to continue me in the same field of labor, I am willing to devote as much of my time to it as I can spare from my other employment. Yours for the truth,  
 JAMES MCKIERNAN.

Br. McKiernan also presented a request to be released from Committee on Music.

P. Cadwell reparted, as follows:

MAGNOLIA, Iowa, Sept. 15th, 1874.

*To the Brethren in Conference assembled:—*As it is impossible for me to be with you and participate in the deliberations of the Conference, I take this means of expressing my deep regret; for, be assured, it is a source of regret that such is the case. I had fondly anticipated the pleasure of spending a few days with brethren in consulting upon the best means to be adopted to further on the great and good cause we are engaged in; but I am disappointed.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, I have to be absent in attendance at the Iowa State Fair, as one of its officers, of which I have been an official member for more than thirteen years, and my colleagues will not consent for me to be absent. Be assured I desire to be numbered with you in the great work of the redemption of Zion, and shall endeavor to do all in my power to assist my brethren in furthering on the great and good cause we have espoused. Hoping that the good Lord may direct your deliberations, and that peace and harmony may attend you, I remain your brother in Christ,

PHINEAS CADWELL.

A. M. Wilsey, formerly President of the Seventy, reports:

MILLBROOK, Ill., Sept, 7th, 1874.

*Beloved Brethren, in Conference assembled:—*I thought that I would write a few lines, to let you know that I am still alive and in the faith of the Latter Day Work. I intended to come to Conference, but, upon mature reflection, considering my chronic diseases and infirmities of age, I decided that I had better not take the trip, as it might be attended with some toil and exposure to my health.

We have good meetings in our own Branch. I preach more or less every Sabbath in the same. When I hear of the many places where they want preaching, in a moment I want to be there; but, alas! it cannot be. I am now almost seventy-five years of age, and the younger men must take the field. Nevertheless I intend to do all I can with

my voice and means to help roll on the work. I have no confidence in anything else, therefore I am determined to stand by the ship, and be on the sure side. I trust that we shall not forget to pray for each other, and for all men, that we may live a peaceful and quiet life in all godliness and honesty.

May the Lord of glory bless you, my brethren, in your deliberations in Conference; may you have much of his Spirit, in my prayer. As ever, your brother in Christ,  
 A. M. WILSEY.

J. S. Weeks reported in the accompanying letter:

ARGYLE, Sumner Co., Kansas,  
 August 27th, 1874.

*To the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Conference assembled:—*As it is impossible for me to meet you this fall, as I wished to do, I most respectfully submit the following report of my labors since the Conference of 1871.

At that Conference, I was appointed to work under the direction of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve. Br. Joseph took my address, and said that when he found a good place for me to go, he would write to me. I waited a long time, but received no word from Br. Joseph; so I concluded to work as guided by the Spirit, which is as follows:

During the same fall, I preached twice at Wheeler's Grove, twice at Farm Creek, once at the Evans School House. In the following March, I came to Sumner Co., Kansas. During the remainder of this year, I preached as follows: In Sumner county once; Pottawattamie six times, and six times in Shawnee county. In 1873, I preached once in Shawnee county, and six times in Sumner county, and held one discussion in Sumner county. Up to the present time I have preached seven times since Jan. 1st. 1874. Therefore I have preached twenty-eight times in the past three years. The only excuse that I have to offer for having done so little preaching, is that I am living in a newly settled country, which is almost unknown, and I have been unable to clothe myself so as to be presentable much of the time.

In the year 1872 I baptized one person in Pottawattamie county, this state, and on the 23d of this month I baptized one here.

In the spring of 1872 I sent for some of the Book of Mormon and tracts. Br. Joseph was kind enough to send them to me on credit, and I have not been able to pay for them. I gave away one Book of Mormon and a few tracts.

I have destroyed much of the prejudice which existed in this country, and have many warm friends in this country and a few bitter enemies. I am not able to take the *Herald* all the time. I expect to labor in the

cause of Christ as much as my circumstances will permit. I would like to be upheld by the Church, and wish that you would send an Elder who has been tried and found faithful to assist me, if only for two or three months. Please send me the address of the President of the District that I am in.

Praying for the welfare of all God's people, I am as ever a laborer in the vineyard.

J. S. WEEKS.

A. J. Cato :

TINNEY'S GROVE, Ray Co., Mo.,  
Sept. 12th, 1874.

*Br. Joseph and Conference assembled:*— Since I have received permission of the President of the Church, I have labored nearly all the time, in Livingston, Carroll and Pettis counties; but, because of the exceeding hot weather, I have not as yet started on the anticipated trip south.

I now submit myself to the Conference, to act under the permit of Br. Joseph, or to go wherever the Conference may send me for the coming six months. Praying for the unity of the Spirit during Conference, and a speedy redemption of Zion, I am as ever your brother in gospel bonds,

A. J. CATO.

The North-West Missouri District reported as follows :

CAMERON, Clinton Co., Mo.,  
Sept. 12, 1874.

*Report of the North-West Missouri District since its last Quarterly Conference and Sub-Division:*—Six Branches in North-West Missouri District. Two Branches in Eastern Division. One High Priest, twenty-four Elders, eight Priests, seven Teachers, six Deacons, one hundred and thirty-six members. Total membership of District 182.

Far West, DeKalb and Turney Branches not in a good condition.

The Eastern Missouri District is to be under the supervision of the North-West Missouri District until organized.

A resolution passed the last Conference authorizing Elder James Caffall to report this District to the Semi-Annual Conference, to be held at Council Bluffs, 19th Sep., 1874, and to endorse the action of our last Conference in sub-dividing the District.

“THE REPORT of the Committee to sub-divide the North-West Missouri District, as appointed by Conference held on the 15th and 16th of August, 1874 :

“The east division line to commence at the Iowa line, thence south down the western Macon county line, on county lines until it intersects the Missouri River—that portion lying east of this line to be called the Eastern Missouri District.

“The line dividing the other divisions commencing on the east by the north-east corner of Randolph county, thence running

west until it reaches the south-west corner of Caldwell county, thence west on said line and other county lines until it reaches the south-east corner of Clinton county, thence west on said line until it reaches the eastern county line of Buchanan county. That portion of territory and Branches lying south of this line is to be known as the Central Missouri District. That on the north as the Northwest Missouri District.”

The above report was received by the Conference, by a unanimous vote.

A. J. BLODGETT, SEN.

Sec. N. W. Mo. Dist.

The Central Missouri District is as follows :

*Report of the Central Missouri District of the Church of Jesus Christ to the Semi-Annual Conference to be held at Council Bluffs, Iowa, commencing Sept. 19th, 1874.*—This District was organized August 16th, 1874, by Br. James Caffall, and embraces Platte, Clay, Ray, Carroll, Chariton and Livingston counties, formerly belonging to North-West Missouri District. There are four organized Branches, namely: Knoxville, Waconda, Hazle Deil and Turkey Creek; thirteen Elders, four Priests, three Teachers, fifty-three members; about ten scattered in the District.

JOS. D. CRAVIN, *President.*

JOHN L. TRAUGHBER, *Sec'y.*

The Kewanee District presented the following report :

The Kewanee District is composed of 13 Branches, comprising a total membership of 433, of whom there are 1 Apostle, 2 High Priests, 3 Seventies, 50 Elders, 17 Priests, 10 Teachers, 7 Deacons, and 344 members.

H. C. BRONSON, *President,*  
E. STAFFORD, *Secretary.*

The Eastern Nebraska District shows :

There are in the Eastern Nebraska District 3 Branches, with a membership of 107, including 1 Seventy, 16 Elders, 2 Priests, 3 Teachers and 4 deacons. One Branch is said to be organized in the outskirts of the District, but such organization has not been reported to a Quarterly Conference. Since last reported 16 have been added by baptism and 2 by letter; 2 have been removed by letter, 4 died and 15 dropped from the Record.

H. NIELSEN,  
*Secretary.*

The North Kansas District reported as follows :

This District is composed of 11 Branches, comprising a total membership of 263, including 1 High Priest, 2 Seventies, 38 Elders, 8 Priests, 7 Teachers, and 5 Deacons. Since last report 43 have been baptized.

H. LITTLE, *President of District.*

The Church Recorder, Elder Henry

A. Stebbins, presented the following report:

SANDWICH, Ill., Sept. 15th, 1874.

*To the brethren in Conference assembled:—*

As Recorder of the Church, chosen by your honorable body last April, I hereby report that I have done no work upon the Church Record, having been busy in the ministry ever since my appointment, and also having been unable to obtain the Record and Index books from the family of the former Recorder until the seventh day of July last; and I have now to report my inability to proceed properly in my duties even now in consequence of the forcible retention of valuable papers, such as Branch and District reports, by the widow of said former Recorder.

Therefore, I request that in case you, at this session of Conference, do fix upon or otherwise provide for the payment of a sum of money to said person for the late Recorder's services, that a stipulation be made by you, that before or at the time said payment shall be made, all valuable reports or papers in said person's possession, shall be turned over to the Church.

Br. Joseph Smith has offered me desk room in the editorial office of the *Herald*, and I presume that the Church will supply me a convenient desk.

I would also say that in order to do this work well, and in as good and as nearly perfect a manner as possible, (all of which I greatly desire should be done, if I do it at all), it will be for the interests of the Church to authorize certain facilities for the use of the Church Recorder, to the desired and necessary end, that of gaining a unanimity of method in keeping Branch and District records and in making reports. This can best be done, (I feel assured), by printing (on cheap paper) an exact copy of the rulings and headings of the General Church Record and sending a copy to each Branch Clerk, by means of which, and only by which means, (as I am satisfied after a six years' acquaintance with the subject), will we be able to get the best and fullest record of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Correspondence is also necessary from time to time on these matters, and to be able to do the work with satisfaction to myself and to the Church, I believe that it would be well for the Church to provide for these things, and I pledge myself to use economy and care.

It may be remarked that the Recorder need only to record what comes to him, but if such could only know by experience the unsatisfactory results and continual errors arising from such a course, they would soon be in favor of every means by which a presentable record could be had.

Praying that the Spirit of wisdom and

understanding may be with you, I remain respectfully yours,

HENRY A. STEBBINS,  
*Church Recorder.*

The Librarian, Elder John Scott, reports as follows:

PLANO, Illinois,  
Sept. 17th, 1874.

*To the brethren in Conference assembled:—*

Having been appointed to the office of Church Librarian, by the General Conference of April last, I hereby submit to you my report.

During the past six months there has been added to the Library by donation 39 volumes, and by purchase 7 volumes, making a total of 168 volumes now on the shelves of the Library, together with a number of pamphlets and miscellaneous printed matter. Respectfully, your brother,

JOHN SCOTT.

The *Herald* Office presented accounts as follows:

PLANO, Ill., Sept. 10th, 1874.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in account with *Herald* Office.

Dr. to balance—English Mission	\$80 11
Dr. to <i>Heralds</i> and Postage to England and Wales for the last six months,	95 66
Dr. to cash paid for Church Seal and Press,	12 10
Dr. to Church Library—balance,	35 68
Dr. to Books bought within the last six months,	26 30
Dr. to Tract Fund per R. Warnock,	29 52
Tract Fund per J. C. Clapp,	5 70
“ “ “ J. S. Patterson,	3 20
“ “ “ T. Taylor,	1 30
“ “ “ Balance,	8 74

Total, \$298 31

Cr. by Sundries, 21 92

Sum total, \$276 39

I. N. W. COOPER, *Sec'y.*

Bishop I. L. Rogers reported the following:

*To the brethren in Conference assembled:—*

I hereby make the following report or general statement of monies received and expended in the interests of the Church since your committee audited my books in April, 1874.

Balance of Tithing and Mission Funds, audited to Ap. 1, 1874,	\$70 11
Total receipts from April 1st to September 10th, 1874.	2,199 75

Total, \$2,269 86

Paid out to the ministry, \$959 90

Paid <i>Herald Office</i> bills as ordered by General Conference,	} 300 00
To the poor and for Church purposes,	
	} 158 80
	<hr/>
Total,	1,418 70
Balance on hand,	851 16
Utah Chapel Fund on hand	77 45
	<hr/>
Total of Church funds on hand,	\$928 61

The above shows a better financial exhibit than usual, and it is to be hoped that this improved state of affairs will continue; therefore I feel to urge the Saints to give substantial aid to the work, and if possible to keep an encouraging surplus in the Church treasury continually.

The reports of the Bishop's Agents, also, show an increasing effort in the Districts to aid the work financially, and considerable amounts in the aggregate have been received and paid out by some of the Agents. Of the eleven Agents appointed seven have made their half-yearly reports as directed, and six of these report an aggregate balance on hand of \$292 93.

Considerable amounts have been also received at the *Herald Office*. Of this money \$625.57 has been used by the office as payment for *Herald Office* bills allowed and ordered to be paid by the last three General Conferences of the Church. Whether I shall still continue to pay these bills out of Church funds remains with you to decide. There is still a balance owing to the *Herald Office* over and above their receipts of tithing and mission money of \$22 90.

The inconvenience of bringing the books will prevent their examination by a committee, but an annual examination will probably be satisfactory. I remain fraternally yours,

ISRAEL L. ROGERS,  
*Bishop.*

Attest: H. A. STEBBINS, *Sec'y.*

Elder A. J. Field reported by letter:

*To the Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints assembled near Council Bluffs, Iowa, greeting:—*By resolution of this Conference, one year ago, the undersigned was appointed a mission to Ohio and Indiana, and now begs to report that in accordance therewith, he first went to Columbus, Ohio, visited in the vicinity several, and then opened the work by preaching in five different places, continuing to preach until February. Then went to Alma County, labored there for two weeks, and then visited Meigs County, found a Branch of the Church in this County, and preached four times; after which returned to Franklin County, and did some little missionary work, and then went to Steuben County, Indiana; found the place pre-occupied by Elder E. C. Briggs and oth-

ers; preached but once. Returned to Franklin County, and preached a few times previous to returning home.

The disposition manifested by the people was favorable to hearing the gospel; had several invitations to preach where circumstances prevented. My mission extended from November 1st, 1873, to May 12th, 1874; and am confident good resulted in sowing the seed, which in the good pleasure of God may bear fruit to his own honor. Much prejudice was allayed, and opportunities for preaching occurred in places where previously a hearing could not be obtained.

A. J. FIELD.

Upon motion, it was resolved to hold a prayer and testimony meeting upon the ground in the evening; upon which action Conference adjourned until evening.

Benediction was pronounced by Br. W. W. Blair.

Conference met in the evening, Elders J. M. Harvey and Hugh Lytle in the stand; the meeting was excellent, a good season of peace was enjoyed, and the Spirit was present to the blessing of the Saints.

## SUNDAY, SEPT. 20TH.

### MORNING SESSION.

Brn. J. M. Harvey and H. Lytle called the Saints together, when a good time was enjoyed in prayer and refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

Conference convened at 10:30. Sung Hymn 729. Prayer by I. L. Rogers. Sung Hymn 967. Br. Joseph Smith arose and addressed the Saints from the words: "In time ye shall have no king." Quite a large congregation having gathered together, the words of the brother were listened to with great interest; being principally to the Saints, wherein they seemed to rejoice in receiving the instructions given by the brother. Some timely remarks were made by Br. W. W. Blair. Closed the forenoon session by singing Hymn 720. Benediction by Br. Joseph Smith.

Brethren Mark H. Forscutt and A. H. Smith were requested to address the Conference in the afternoon.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Upon assembling at 2 P.M., prayer was

offered by Br. J. H. Lake. Elder Forscutt addressed the assembly, which was very large, in a very pleasant and instructive discourse. A fine rain was sifting down through the leaves, with now and then a spattering gust; but not until Br. A. H. Smith had been speaking some ten or fifteen minutes after Br. Forscutt had concluded, did there sufficient rain fall to disturb the congregation. Br. Smith cut his remarks short. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," was sung, and the people dismissed.

Meeting was held upon the ground in the evening, and the Saints were much refreshed, by the manifestation of the Lord's goodness.

### MONDAY, SEPT. 21ST.

#### MORNING SESSION.

Sung hymn 31. Prayer by Br. Chas. Derry. Sung hymn 168.

A bill for the services of Elder Isaac Sheen, as Church Recorder, lately deceased, presented by Sr. Drucilla Sheen, his widow; the President presenting said bill, suggested its payment. Bill is as follows:

PLANO, Ill., Sept. 17th, 1874.

I do hereby beg leave to present a claim to the Conference for settlement at as early a date as convenient and consistent with the best interests of the Church, to wit:

Services of Isaac Sheen from the tenth day of September, 1873, until the twenty-sixth day of March, 1874, at one dollar and seventy-five cents per day,

	\$301 00
1 Book for Indexing	5 00
Total	<u>306 00</u>

DRUCILLA A. SHEEN.

Moved by Br. E. Banta:

*Resolved*, That the amount of \$200 of the bill be allowed and paid, less the cost incurred by suit held to obtain possession of the Church Recorder's books, with the proviso, that she deliver up valuable papers belonging to the Recorder, that she has said she has in her possession.

After some discussion, the following was offered by W. W. Blair, as a substitute:

*Resolved*, That Bishop I. L. Rogers, J. Smith and Henry A. Stebbins be and are hereby appointed a committee to audit and settle the claims of Sister Drucilla Sheen for services of the late Isaac Sheen, for duties

as Church Recorder, on the condition that the said Drucilla Sheen deliver up to the said committee all papers and records that are in her hands, that of right belong to the Church.

Amendment offered by E. Banta:

That the committee be not allowed to pay the said Drucilla Sheen over two hundred dollars, less the cost of the suit held to obtain possession of the Church Record.

This amendment having prevailed, the resolution, as so amended, was put to vote and passed.

*Herald* Office bill was then taken up; whereupon it was

Moved that the account be allowed, and ordered paid. Carried.

The Bishop's report was then presented; and, upon motion it was ordered that it be received and spread upon the minutes.

The request of Br. James McKiernan to be released from committee on music, was presented:

VINCENNES, Iowa, Sept. 9th, 1874.

*President and brethren in Conference*:— Considering myself incompetent to fill a position as member of Committee on Music for the Church, I hereby tender my resignation as such, and respectfully ask to be released, as I know there are those in the Church qualified to fill this position with honor to themselves and greater satisfaction to the body.

I am willing to serve you in any way that I can advantageously, but am not qualified to do so in this case. Yours respectfully,

JAMES MCKIERNAN.

Upon such request being considered, it was moved, seconded and voted that the request be granted, and Br. James V. Roberts was appointed to succeed Br. McKiernan upon said committee.

It was then deemed proper to consider the request made by Brn. Bear and Avondet, to be released from their mission.

It was moved that they be released according to their request; provided that they could not be sustained by the Church financially.

It was urged by several brethren that they would stay if sustained temporarily; but it was finally decided by a motion that brethren Bear and Avondet be released from their mission unconditionaly; and the Bishop be instructed to send

them the means for their return to America. This motion prevailed, and it was so ordered.

Moved that a vote of thanks be extended to Brn. Bear and Avondet for their labors.

It was then moved that the Bishop's Agent residing in the vicinity of the families of Brn. Bear and Avondet be instructed to enquire into their temporal condition, and supply their wants if they be found needy. Carried.

It was then

*Resolved*, That Brn. Charles W. Wandell and Glaud Rodger be sustained in their mission to Australia.

This resolution was sustained by several, and was, upon vote, adopted. It was

*Resolved*, That Br. Jason W. Briggs be requested to proceed to Utah at his earliest convenience, to assist Brn. Gurley and Warnock.

This resolution was adopted.

The statistical report of the Pottawattamie District was presented and received:

Nine Branches; with three hundred and thirty members. One Apostle, one High Priest, five of the Seventy, forty-six Elders, ten Priests, eight Teachers and seven Deacons.

C. G. McINTOSH, *President*.  
FREDERICK HANSEN, *Sec'y*.

Report of the Nauvoo and String Prairie District was read and received:

Number of Branches in the District 11, Apostles 2, High Priests 3, Seventies 2, Elders 27, Priests 12, Teachers 11, Deacons 5, members 211. Total Numerical strength 284. The condition of the District is very good, and the calls for preaching are numerous.

J. H. LAKE, *President*,  
SAMUEL FERRIS, *Sec'y*.

Report of the Spring River District, Kansas, by D. H. Bays, was read and received:

JACKSONVILLE, Neosho Co., Kan.,  
Sept. 17th, 1874.

*Dear Brethren in General Semi-Annual Conference assembled*:—Not being able to attend your Conference, I take this method of reporting my labors.

Pursuant to appointment, or rather re-appointment, of the First Presidency of the Church, in November last, I went to my field of labor in Texas. I started with my family on Jan. 1st., 1874, and arrived at Denton, Denton county, Texas, about the close of the same month. Our means being

exhausted, I was placed under the necessity of devoting a good share of my time to the care of my family. This, owing to the extreme hardness of times, I found very difficult to do. Here I delivered a series of discourses, the result of which was to secure the favor of the public, and elicit the comment of the press favorable to the Church.

Leaving my family at Denton, I went to Rockwall, in Rockwall county, where I found Br. B. F. Boydston, an old time Saint, and his excellent lady, both continuing firm in the faith of the Latter Day Work from the death of the Martyrs till the present. Br. and Sr. B. have never formally united with the Reorganized Church, and by their request, I present their names for reception into the Church. I think them in every respect worthy of the confidence and esteem of the Saints.

At Rockwall I delivered a series of discourses, during which I was attacked by a Christian preacher, the result of which you have learned in part through the *Herald*. Suffice it to say several might have been baptized, could I have continued my labors there; but it seemed out of the question for me to do this, as my family was actually suffering for the necessaries of life, with my health very poor and gradually failing. I presented the case before the Master, and the Spirit seemed to counsel me to return with my family, which I made up my mind to do. I took my family to Van Alstyne, Grayson county, where we remained about two weeks, preaching and trying to raise the necessary means for our return. Here I was again attacked by a Christian preacher, and, as in former cases, good resulted to the cause of the truth. I started from this point on the 3rd of June, and arrived at the Pleasant View Branch, Kansas, on the 19th.

At a Special Conference of the Spring River District, (my health having considerably improved), I was called to the Presidency of the District; the duties of which office I have been striving to discharge to the best of my ability. In view of the foregoing facts, I respectfully ask your honorable body to release me from the missionary field in Texas and New Mexico.

I very much regret that I could not remain longer in Texas, for I am quite satisfied that a good work can be done there: and if the Conference could send some man there who can devote his time to the work, and not be burdened with the care of a family, I am confident great good would result.

As to the work in this District, upon the whole, I think its tendency is somewhat upward, though it is by no means what it should be; but we earnestly hope for better days to come.

Praying for your peace, and the prosperity of the cause in which you labor, I have

the great pleasure to be, yours fraternally,  
D. H. BAYS.

Resolved that Br. D. H. Bays be released from his mission to Texas and New Mexico; which prevailed, Br. Bays now being in the field in Kansas.

The request of Br. and Sr. B. F. Boyd-stun, presented by Br. Bays, was then presented and upon motion it was voted to receive them. The vote was called by the uplifted hand, and was unanimous.

The name of Sr. Mary Page, widow of Elder John E. Page, one of the Twelve in the martyr's day, was then presented by President Smith, she having requested him so to do. It was moved that she be received; which motion was carried by the uplifted hand.

Br. Israel L. Rogers presented the names of Sr. Roxana Wells and Mary Lowe, residents of New York. The vote was taken by the uplifted hand, each being presented separately, and they were received.

Br. S. S. Wilcox then presented the name of Sr. Charlotte Bond, of Kirtland, Ohio, where she had continued since the Saints left there. Sr. Bond was, upon motion, received by the uplifted hand.

These were all received upon their original baptism; being vouched for by persons present, they all having been members of the church in the lifetime of Joseph and Hyrum. There was much feeling manifested when these names of old time Saints were presented, and many an eye moistened with tears, as the Spirit bore witness of their standing before God.

Conference here adjourned till 2 P.M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convened at two o'clock, and sung hymn 1019. Br. R. C. Elvin, of Nebraska City, led in prayer. Hymn 903 was then sung.

The report of the Fremont District was read and received.

There are eleven Branches in this District, viz.: Plum Creek, Fremont, Glenwood, Farm Creek, Elm Creek, Nephi, Mill Creek, Nebraska City, Palmyra, Liberty, and Union, containing a total of four hundred members, including seventy officials. Since last report fourteen have been added by baptism, nine have died, two have been cut off, leav-

ing a net gain of five according to the reports of the various branches.

WM. REDFIELD, *Pres.*  
WM. LEEKA, *Clerk.*

Report of the Des Moines District was read and received.

There are four organized Branches in this District,—Newton, Independence, Pleasant Grove, and South River,—containing a membership of 123, including officials; there are also fifteen unenrolled members. Six have been baptized and one cut off.

A. WHITE, *Pres.*,  
JOHN SAYER, *Clerk.*

Br. John S. Patterson reported that he had been appointed two years ago to go to Scotland, and had left Plano, Ill., on the 26th of June of that year. He sailed from New York on or about the 12th of July, 1872. He landed at Glasgow safely, and Br. Forscutt, whose mission was to England, parted from him, while he remained in Scotland. Obstacles over which he had no control prevented his gaining a very strong foothold in Scotland. Does not think any one could have done more than he did for the purpose of establishing the work in that country, yet he did not win one soul to Christ. Had allayed much prejudice. Found it necessary at the end of a few months to report to the brethren that he could not remain in Scotland. Had gotten the few Saints who were there to organize themselves into a Branch, numbering nine. So far as Scotland is concerned, nothing can be done permanently, unless a man can be sent there prepared to bear his own expenses. Went to England in the fall, and spent the winter in London, and while there baptized two. Did all that he could by way of preaching both indoors and out. Had found that outdoor preaching did no good. Assisted to make the effort which had been made in the direction of organizing a publishing society. After this had been done and the effort discounted by the Conference in America, and the duty of presiding over the English Mission was put upon him, had taken steps to bring the matter to a close. No dissatisfaction exists in the minds of the British Saints with regard to the action of the American Conference in respect to the printing society in Eng-

land. Printed matter is needed very much in England. Twelve months before leaving England had taken charge of the English Mission. Had travelled as much as possible, and encouraged the Saints to the best of his ability. Had in connection with others, raised some means to send to brethren Bear and Avondet, who had stood in very great need in that direction. Had settled the affairs of the proposed publishing society in England, and had reported to the Bishop. When he had been released from the presidency of the mission, it had been entrusted to Br. Thos. Taylor. Would recommend that not more than one Elder should be sent to England.

*Alex. H. Smith* reported that he had been appointed to labor in the Pacific Slope Mission. The first labor performed was starting Brn. Rodger and Wandell on their mission to Australia; after which, went to San Bernardino Branch to settle difficulties. Br. Anderson arrived to help him at this place. Went to work in connection with him, and they were successful in what they undertook, and the difficulties were adjusted. Calls are coming from Oregon which he had not filled. Had preached in California and Nevada. It had been out of his power to send any one to Oregon. There never has been a time when the people of California were as anxious to hear the word of God as they are now. The want of a permanent presidency is a drawback to the work in California. Would urge that steps be taken to make the mission more permanent. The prospect of the work in California is brighter now than ever. One hundred and fifty have been baptized into the Church in California since he entered upon the mission. The demands of the mission are greater.

The following report of the High Priests' Quorum, including resolutions, was received and read:

*Mr. President and Brethren in Conference:*—We respectfully submit for your consideration the following resolutions adopted unanimously by the High Priests' Quorum:

WHEREAS, It has pleased God to call from our midst and from a life of usefulness and earnestness our worthy brother, Isaac Sheen, President of the High Priests' Quo-

rum of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; it is hereby

*Resolved,* That we in quorum assembled do hereby tender to his family our sympathies, and while we feel that we and the Church in general have sustained a loss in his demise, we yet bow in humility to the decrees of the Almighty, and hereby to our esteem for our deceased brother, whose virtues we would commend and emulate.

*Resolved,* That the above resolution of the High Priest's Quorum be read before the General Conference now in session, and that the General Conference be requested to have it spread upon the minutes for publication.

WHEREAS, Br. Thomas Carrico was ordained into the High Priests' Quorum in 1843, and has been received into the same Quorum of the Reorganized Church,

*Resolved,* That we sustain him as a High Priest of this Church.

*Resolved,* That the General Conference now in session be requested to take under advisement the propriety of appointing and ordaining a successor to Br. Isaac Sheen as President of the High Priests' Quorum, Br. C. Derry being our choice for that office.

*Resolved,* That this Quorum recommend that Br. Hervey Green, of California, and Br. Curtis F. Stiles be ordained High Priests.

MARK H. FORSCUTT, *Sec'y.*

The resolutions referring to the late President of the High Priests' Quorum, were read before the Conference, and upon motion, were adopted and ordered spread upon the minutes.

The other resolutions were deferred subject to call and presentation for action.

The following letter from Hutchinson, Jefferson County, Colorado, was read:

HUTCHINSON, Jefferson County, Colo.,  
September 13th, 1874.

*To the Reverend Joseph Smith:*—I send you these few lines by the request of Mr. John Ellis and family, (of which my wife is one), asking that a Mormon preacher may be sent out here; as we see by letters in the *Herald*, that there are Mormon preachers all over the United States, as well as foreign countries, and see no good reason why Colorado should not be represented by Mormons as well as other denominations.

This community is fast settling up, and is a prosperous and healthy country; schools are being started, and school-houses used as places of meetings on the Sabbath.

I believe Mr. Ellis and family are as good Mormons as will be found elsewhere. They have quite a large family, especially of grand children, growing up that they are desirous of seeing them brought up under

the influence of religious meetings on the Sabbath.

As for myself, I never belonged to any church, and am more of a Mormon than anything else; am willing to help all I can in the cause.

Hoping to hear something favorable soon, I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. O. KENNEDY.

Report of Br. C. G. Lanphear was read:

GREENWOOD, Steuben Co., N. Y.,  
Sept. 8th, 1874.

*Dear brethren and Saints assembled at the Semi-Annual Conference, Council Bluffs, Iowa, September 19th, 1874:*—I hereby report my progress in this mission assigned me at the April Conference of 1873, and continued at the last April Conference. I left Illinois on this mission May 13th, and got into this part August 8th. I visited some of the Saints in Indiana and preached two or three times while there. I attended a Conference the fore part of June at Church Hill, Ohio, and assisted some in the labor during the session. I preached a few times at New Springfield, about twenty miles from Church Hill. I stopped a couple of weeks at Church Hill, and attended the Saints' meetings on Sabbaths; also preached a funeral sermon while with them. I also stopped over Sabbath at Brookfield and attended a meeting of the few Saints that meet there. I preached twice near Conneautville, Pennsylvania, in the neighborhood where I labored a while last summer.

I am preaching here on the Sabbaths. I have appointments for the two coming Sundays, and have had meeting on three Sabbaths before. I have had letters from Br. Seelye, desiring more preaching in his neighborhood, and expressing a desire to assist in the building up the cause and forwarding the work of the gospel. It is apparent that quite a number of places could be opened up in this state for the preaching of the word with good results following for the cause. Where I now am, and in this vicinity, a couple of Elders could find gospel labor for some little time to come, with a prospect of several being added to the Church. It wants more force and strength to do battle properly for the cause in this mission. The people, as a general thing, are strongly traditionated in the systems of the prevailing religions of the day, and one Elder alone makes rather slow progress. By the help of the Lord I endeavor to do what I can, though it may be but little. I hold myself at the disposal of the Conference to still continue in this appointment for a time to come, or be released as they may see best to do.

May the choicest of heaven's blessings and the good Spirit abound with you in all

your assemblings during Conference. Pray for me. Yours in the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

C. G. LANPHEAR.

Report from Br. N. Stamm was also read:

DES MOINES, Iowa, Sept. 17, 1874.

*Br. Joseph:*—As I cannot come to the Conference, I write something about our trials in this city. The evil power is a great hindrance to us. We here as God's people are earnestly requesting the prayers of God's people in our behalf, that the Church and kingdom of God may be built up here. There are many honest souls in this place. That you all may be blessed at the Conference with the outpouring of God's Spirit, is the prayer of your brother in the bond of peace,

N. STAMM.

Adjourned till half-past seven in the evening for preaching by Br. Charles Derry, he being requested to take the stand; Br. D. Lambert in the city. Sang hymn 938; benediction by Br. W. W. Blair.

## TUESDAY, SEPT. 22d.

### MORNING SESSION.

Conference called to order by Br. W. W. Blair at 10: A.M.; sung hymn 30; prayer by Br. J. Caffall; sung hymn 1.

### CONTINUATION OF REPORTS.

Br. *H. C. Bronson* reported that the Kewanee District, over which he presides, is in a better condition than formerly. It has fourteen Branches.

Br. *Joseph C. Clapp* reported that he was appointed a mission to the south a year and a half ago. He took charge of the mission, and entered immediately upon his labors; met much opposition; went from Kentucky to Florida and Alabama. He found the enemy had been at work among the brethren. Believed his labors resulted in good; had not with his own hands baptized many; but forty or fifty had united with the Church since his work there began. There are ten Branches in the mission, with about four hundred members. Had some public investigations which resulted, without exception, in favor of the truth. Feels as earnestly engaged now as ever in the latter day work. The mission is in a good condition at present. Asked to be liberated from his mission.

Br. *Mark H. Forscutt* said he had not met with the Church in General Conference for over two years, since then he had traveled about 25,000 miles in the advocacy of the truth. Had not spent much of his time since the last General Conference, excepting during the last month, which he had spent in preaching and traveling through portions of Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. Had found a growing disposition among the Saints for union. So far as his desires are concerned, they have never changed. Would rather spend his whole life in the interest of God's work than in any other way. Had baptized a few.

Br. *Jas. Cuffall* said he did not know that it was necessary to make a very full report; but since last Conference his time had been devoted to traveling in various Branches in Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri. Had endeavored to do his duty, in laboring and counseling with the brethren. Had found that the officers and districts were rather derelict in the discharge of their duties. Had endeavored to show the brethren that it was more necessary to concern ourselves about our present duties than anything else. Had found also a lack in temporal things. Feels a desire to remain firm in the cause of Christ to the end.

Br. *Daniel F. Lambert* reported his labors in the work. He had done what he could; his desires are still the same, to go on in the work.

Br. *Joseph R. Lambert* reported his labors in the work; had baptized eight. His labors have been generally in the Branches; he had found some trouble, which was unpleasant to him; his desires are still the same, to work for the Lord.

Br. *John H. Lake* said that he was appointed to labor in Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. He resides in the Nauvoo and String Prairie District, over which he has been called to preside. Had labored principally with the Branches of that District. Had baptized twenty-two; organized one Branch; ordained one priest. Many calls for preaching.

Br. *E. L. Kelley* reported that he had no mission assigned to him last fall. He was appointed to labor under the direction of brethren E. C. Briggs and Wm.

H. Kelley at the Conference last spring. Had labored as far as he had been directed by them.

Br. *E. C. Brand* said it had been six months since he had reported to the General Conference. Had been unfortunately detained longer than he expected in England. Had preached somewhere every Sunday since the last Conference of the District in which he lives. A great many influential persons had given in their names for baptism. Prospects were bright where he had been laboring. Desires to do all that he can in laboring in the work of the Lord.

Br. *Charles Derry* said he had done but little. Had been trying to do the best he could. In his neighborhood is laboring every Sabbath, trying to live consistently with the principles which he teaches. Prospects are not very flattering; is President of the Central Nebraska District, the numbers of which are few and scattered. Three Branches constitute the District; majority of the Saints of these Branches are trying to do their duty; is willing to do the will of God, whether it is in preaching, plowing the soil, or in anything else.

Br. *F. C. Warnky* said his mission had been assigned to him about two years ago; came to Southern Kansas; since that time he had preached about three hundred times, and baptized thirty-five persons. The District consists of eight Branches, with a total membership of two hundred and ninety. There is a desire to hear the word outside of the Church; is desirous to assist in the building up of the Kingdom of God.

A letter from Br. *Glaud Rodger* was read:

WARATAH, near New Castle,  
New South Wales, Australia,  
July 30th, 1874.

*Beloved Brother Alexander*:—As the time draws near for the assembling of the Conference at Washington Corners, over which you may preside; and as a member of that Conference represented in your number, I wish you peace and much of the good Spirit in all your deliberations. One year ago I was one in your midst; but now the rolling waves of the great Pacific separate us thousands of miles, and while you meet with many in the ministry, and your feet tread the old stamping ground, I am alone, and

my pathway in a land of strangers. Three months ago I left Br. Wandell in Sydney, and bent my way to this part, trusting to the hand that has ever been my friend in an hour of need, and here I have met with success, though much prejudice hedged up the way for a time. The sheep heard again the shepherd's voice, and rallied to the fold; seven have been baptized, and several more are near the door. I have now many friends, and prospects are bright. I have just returned from our little Conference held in Sydney, on the 26th; peace, union and the good spirit prevailed; thirty-one baptized in all, one received by letter.

Br. Wandell remains in Sydney, but the field there is a hard one, (another San Francisco); still his hopes are bright; he is gradually gaining ground, and some more are about coming into the Church. We have but little help yet; but hope the good Lord will in time raise up laborers to assist us. We often feel lonely, and reflect on the happy days spent with the Saints in California, whom we love in the Lord. We wish to be remembered in the prayers of the Church with you. Our desire is to magnify our holy calling with honor to the Church and ourselves, and hope to see much good fruit for the Master's use before we return. You have seen, my dear brother, by the report in the *Herald* how greatly we have been blessed thus far; which calls from our hearts the utmost gratitude to our heavenly Father. We know in whom we trust, and whose hand guides the frail bark of mortal life when trouble and danger are apparent. While cheered with the good Comforter, the Spirit of life and hope, we also are made happy by letters bearing us in mind, that we have the confidence of many who know us only by reputation—Saints of God. The *Herald* also to us never was so sweet; every line a volume of itself, while our hungry souls thirst for truth, and eager to find the whereabouts of old and respected brethren in the ministry, we hail with gladness its sacred pages, and weep for joy at the success of the great work; and in California not the least.

May your Conference be one long to be remembered, and may the rich folds of that mantle that encircled your respected father surround you in the humble discharge of your duty as an Apostle of Christ and of the cross; for you have also been called to make a sacrifice of all that is dear on earth, for the gospel's sake; but greater the reward. "If absent in body I shall be with you in spirit, in faith, and in prayer, for the redemption of Zion and the glory of Israel." Remember me kindly to my brethren in the ministry and all the Saints, and through you let me return thanks to all those who so kindly remembered us in the fitting up

of our mission. Our wants have been few, our blessings many; and though poor, we hope to make many rich; and with them and you join in the Conference of the good and great when the Redeemer comes to save his own, is the prayer of your brother in the gospel,  
G. RODGER.

Br. H. Lytle said he had been presiding in the North Kansas District two years and a quarter. The District numbers two hundred and four. A goodly amount of local labor has been performed, and, as a result, forty have been baptized during the last year, eleven of whom he baptized. District is in a tolerably good condition. Desired the labors of Br. Brand in the District.

Report of Northern Nebraska District was read and received.

*To the Brethren in Conference assembled:—*The District has two Branches, in good standing. One numbers twenty-two members, and the other fifteen. There are twenty-four scattered members—in all sixty-one. Elders seven, Priests two. The members are in a somewhat scattered condition; but, from the present prospects, there will be a fair addition soon. Signed.

Z. S. MARTIN, *President.*

Br. E. Banta presented a request to be released from the position of Counsellor to the Bishop of the Church; also from serving as a member of the Board of Publication.

*To the President and Conference assembled:—*Having the business of the First United Order of Enoch and Presidency of the First Quorum of Elders to perform; the responsibilities thereof I feel to be as much as I am capable of attending to, in connection with my own business affairs:

Therefore, I ask your honorable body to release me from the position you have conferred upon me as Counsellor to the Presiding Bishop of the Church, and as member of the Board of Publication. I make this request, because I feel I have more than my share of responsibility placed upon me. With respect for your honorable body, I subscribe myself, your brother,

E. BANTA.

Moved that Br. Banta be requested to withdraw his request. Motion lost.

Moved that his request be granted. Motion prevailed.

Resolutions which are laid over from yesterday, coming from the High Priests' Quorum, were taken up and presented with the following result:

*Resolved*, That Br. Charles Derry be appointed and ordained as the President of the High Priests' Quorum, in accordance with the request of that Quorum. Carried.

*Resolved*, That Br. Harvey Green be appointed and ordained a High Priest. Carried.

*Resolved*, That the request of the High Priests' Quorum to have Br. Curtis F. Styles ordained to the office of a High Priest be not granted. Carried.

Sung "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," and adjourned till two P.M. Benediction by Br. Jas. Caffall.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference was called to order at two o'clock by Pres. J. Smith; hymn 182 was sung; prayer by H. C. Bronson; hymn 1078 was sung.

The subject of missions was taken up.

Moved that Br. Jos. C. Clapp be released from the presidency of the Kentucky Mission, and that Br. John H. Hanson be appointed in his stead. Carried.

Moved that Br. James Caffall be continued in his former mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. J. H. Lambert be requested to labor in Western and Northern Iowa. Carried.

Moved that Br. Chas. Derry be continued in his former field of labor. Carried.

Moved that Br. J. C. Clapp be appointed to labor in the Pacific Slope Mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. J. H. Lake be continued in his former mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. E. L. Kelley be sustained in his former mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. E. C. Brand be continued in his former mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. Hugh Lytle be sustained in his former mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. M. H. Forscutt be assigned to the State of Illinois, as minister at large; to labor under the direction of the First Presidency.

Moved that Br. F. C. Warnky be continued in his former field of labor. Carried.

Moved that Br. Caleb E. Blodgett be appointed to labor with Br. J. H. Hanson in his mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. R. W. Briggs be appointed to labor in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, in connection with Br. E. C. Briggs. Lost.

Moved that Br. R. W. Briggs be instructed by this Conference to attach himself to the Branch and District in which he resides.

A motion to lay on the table was, after some discussion, carried.

*Resolved*, That Br. R. W. Briggs be sent to Washington Territory, to labor under the Presidency of the Pacific Slope Mission.

Amendment was made that the words "If his circumstances will permit him to go," be added. On being put to vote the amendment was lost, and the original motion prevailed.

Moved that Br. Wm. Anderson, of Montrose, Iowa, be continued in the Pacific Slope Mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. A. H. Smith be continued in the Pacific Slope Mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. George Hatt be appointed to labor in Eastern Nebraska, his former field of labor. Carried.

Moved that Br. Rowland Cobb be requested to preach during his visit east, as opportunity may offer. Carried.

Br. W. W. Blair was nominated by Bishop Rogers to fill the vacancy in the Board of Publication, caused by the release of Br. E. Banta. The nomination was ratified by the Conference, and Br. Blair so appointed.

Moved that Br. Jas. V. Roberts be appointed to labor in Southwestern Iowa and Southern Nebraska as his circumstances may permit. Carried.

*Resolved*, That Bishop I. L. Rogers be requested to present to the April Conference of 1875, a nomination of an individual to fill the vacancy made by the release of Br. Banta, as Counselor to him. Carried.

A report from Brn. Zenas H. Gurley and Robert Warnock received since Conference assembled, was read:

*To the President, officers and members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in General Conference assembled, greeting:—* Since our arrival in Utah, which occurred some four weeks since, we have preached eighty times, attended several prayer-meetings, and visited a goodly number of Saints both of our faith and other factions. Have baptized three and another has given her name for baptism, all of whom are of mature years. Our reception has been all that we could ask, both at Ogden and here; the Saints have done, and are doing, all that is necessary for our comfort; although the majority are poor in this world's goods, they are rich in the love of Christ, and it has never been our lot to meet Saints who were more willing to make self-sacrifice for the good of others than here.

The Salt Lake Branch has passed through some entanglements and trials; but, with the help of the Master, we trust that all difficulties will be amicably adjusted in a few days. In our administrations to the sick of this Branch, we have been greatly blessed, and the assurance that, "My peace I give," has been forcibly felt and enjoyed by us. We have been, and still are, en-

deavoring to make permanent arrangements for the use of a public hall for the winter, in order to establish, more perfectly, if possible, the *interests of the Church*; in this we anticipate success ere long.

As regards the condition of the mission, we can only speak from *partial* views, as we have but partial knowledge. So far as the facts and reports have reached us, it may be said that the spirit of lethargy and doubt have covered many, and the spirit of contention others. The causes which have led to such results are perhaps numerous, but one thing is very obvious, *spasmodic* efforts will never prove a success in this mission; but a *continued* effort only can reach and secure the glorious results so much desired. To assist in bringing to pass this end, we respectfully request your honored body to send at least *one Elder* to our assistance, and for these plain reasons. The cries are coming to us from various parts of the mission, "Come and preach to us;" "Come and help us reorganize our Branch," &c., &c. These Saints, from Logan to Beaver, and in the eastern portion must be visited; and yet one must stay in this city. With the assistance of another Elder we can answer the demands for the present; without *that* assistance, our exertions *here* in Salt Lake must be spasmodical, (which we shall oppose), or else many parts of the territory be neglected. To these abbreviated reasons, add the truth, that the "government is in earnest as touching the Utah questions," and is now taking effective measures to bring to judgment all criminals, and the prediction that the "bubble" will soon burst, is both easy and safe.

In the coming crisis the interests and duties of the Church should not be underestimated. We believe, that as a people we owe it to God, to our brethren, and to the world at large, that we continue to hold up before this benighted people the truth upon which the Church was organized and established, that it may prove to the sickened heart and wearied soul, as a "beacon-light" to the tempest-tossed mariner, and guide them into the haven of rest.

Our congregations steadily increase, as also invitations to visit. We feel strengthened and comforted in the work, and shall continue our labors as we shall be directed by the Spirit—EVER subject to the voice of the Church.

Praying God to bless you in your deliberations with wisdom, and all Saints with his peace, we subscribe ourselves, your fellow laborers for Christ,

Z. H. GURLEY,  
ROBERT WARNOCK.

Salt Lake City, Sep. 15, 1874.

Moved that brethren Zenas H. Gurley and Robert Warnock be sustained in the Utah Mission. Carried.

Moved that Br. C. G. Lanphear be sus-

tained in his former field of labor. Carried.

Moved that brethren E. C. Briggs and W. H. Kelley be sustained in their former mission. Carried.

Moved that the mission given to Robert Davis and Duncan Campbell be continued. Carried.

Moved that Samuel H. Gurley be requested to labor in the Nodaway District, Missouri, and Decatur District, Iowa.

This mission was objected to on the ground that such appointments were inconsistent, Br. Gurley being President of the Decatur District. Tabled.

Moved that Br. James Kemp be appointed to labor in the Nodaway District.

Referred by motion to the Nodaway District.

Moved that the mission heretofore assigned to Br. Thos. W. Smith be continued, with the privilege to extend his labors as he can. Carried.

Moved that C. W. Wandell and Gland Rodger be sustained in the Australasian Mission. Carried.

Moved that Thomas Taylor, now of Birmingham, England, be sustained as President of the European Mission. Carried.

Moved that John T. Davies and Robert Evans be sustained in their former appointments to the Welsh Mission. Carried.

Joseph Smith then said: We should be more earnest in regard to missions. A preacher is wanted at Siota, on the island of Tahati, one of the Society Islands of Australia. Fifty-one converts have been baptized there. Who can we send to these Islands? The town has four thousand inhabitants. Thousands of miles of ocean roll between the islands and the rest of the world. Six of the brethren there perished some years ago, at the point of French bayonets, rather than yield and go into another church. It is a paradise in climate and fruits. No young or light minded man should be sent there.

The father of J. H. Hanson spoke briefly in Danish, concerning the importance of sending a missionary to Denmark.

Joseph Smith continued: The missionary in distant foreign lands often sits down completely depressed; an unseen agent tells him something is wrong with his family at home. He knows this as well as though he had received a letter or a telegraphic dispatch conveying the

tidings. We are told that there are physiological agencies at work in the world. We are not as zealous as the Church was at Kirtland and Nauvoo. We lack the will power—we must get out of this—we must cultivate this will power. I look back on the track of my life and see no resting place—no halfway point. A man is wanted to go to these Society Islands. Let us determine by to-morrow what we will do. If we cannot send a perfectly reliable man to these islands of the sea, let us send no one—and so of the entire field yet remaining. Are we having a holiday pleasantry over this matter? Heresy is rife in all religious societies in the United States. And the spirit of Anti-Christ will soon make such a scene of dismay and consternation among them as has never been known since christianity was first preached. The Latter Day Saints are called especially to resist these incoming influences of the last days, and we should be firm and full of the Spirit of the Master.

Frederick Hansen spoke in reference to the mission to Scandinavia. He earnestly hoped the mission would be attended to. The speaker sat down overcome with emotion.

A prayer and testimony meeting was announced to be held on the grounds, at half-past seven in the evening, to be conducted by Silas Condit—and also a meeting was announced for the chapel in the city, with preaching by Mark H. Forscutt.

Hymn 651, "Watchmen, what are these," etc., was sung, and the benediction was pronounced.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 23RD.

#### MORNING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 8 A.M., by Pres. Joseph Smith. The Saints held a prayer and testimony meeting, at the close of which the Saints repaired to the water, where nine souls were introduced into the kingdom of God by baptism, Br. Henry Halliday officiating.

Conference called to order at 10 A.M. by the President. Sang hymn 191, after which prayer by Br. M. H. Forscutt.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE.—Sang hymn 584. Prayer by Pres. J. Smith.

The following officers administered in the ordinance of confirmation and laying on of hands of those baptized: John S. Patterson, John H. Lake, Joseph R. Lambert and Joseph C. Clapp.

The following are the names of those received into the Church by baptism at the Conference: Lucinda Bennett, Mary H. Thomas, Harrison Brown, Arnold Kester, Sarah Ann Clark, Mary Chase, Eliza Houghton, Keziah Lane and Melissa Walter.

Subject of missions was taken up.

Moved that the Society Islands be provided with missionary labor by the Australian Mission, if practicable. Carried.

Moved that Br. F. C. Warny be released from his mission to Spring River District, and that he be appointed to go to Colorado. Carried.

Moved that the further consideration of the English Mission be deferred until the April Conference. Carried.

Moved that the appointment of R. W. Briggs to go to Washington Territory be reconsidered. Carried.

The resolution that he be sent to Washington Territory, was then taken up, voted upon, and lost. It was then

Moved that Br. R. W. Briggs be requested to labor in Indiana, Michigan and Ohio, in connection with Br. E. C. Briggs.

It was moved to amend to read, "that he be requested to labor also in his own vicinity." On vote being taken, amendment was lost.

The original motion was then voted upon and prevailed, and Br. Briggs was requested to labor with his brother, E. C. Briggs.

Moved that Br. J. S. Patterson be ordained to the office of Seventy, according to previous call and appointment.

This motion prevailed, and he was so ordained, under the hands of W. W. Blair, assisted by John H. Lake and Joseph R. Lambert.

Br. Charles Derry having been appointed to the office of President of the High Priests' Quorum, he was ordained to that office under the hands of Br. W. W. Blair, assisted by A. H. Smith and Joseph R. Lambert.

Moved that when this Conference ad-

journs it does so to meet at Plano, Kendall county, Illinois, April 6th, 1875. Carried.

Moved that we sustain the First Presidency of the Church in righteousness. Carried.

Moved that we sustain the Quorum of the Twelve in righteousness. Carried.

Moved that we sustain the Quorum of the Seventy in righteousness. Carried.

Moved that we sustain the Quorum of High Priests in righteousness. Carried.

Moved that we sustain all the Bishops of the Church, with their Counsellors, in righteousness. Carried.

Moved that we sustain the Quorums of Elders in righteousness. Carried.

Moved that we sustain all the remaining authorities of the Church in righteousness. Carried.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P.M. Sung hymn 913. Benediction by Pres. Joseph Smith.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference called to order at 2 o'clock, by Pres. Joseph Smith, and sung hymn 110. Prayer by Br. D. F. Lambert.

The Danish Mission was taken into consideration.

*Resolved*, That Marcus Fyrando and Hans Hansen be sent on a mission to Scandinavia, under the direction of the First Presidency.

Brn. Fyrando and Hansen, upon the request of the Conference, stated their views and willingness to undertake the mission; and after the testimony of several of the brethren in favor of the mission being taken, the vote was called, and the resolution was passed unanimously.

A request from the Pacific Slope Mission, which is as follows, was read:

"We earnestly commend to the consideration of the Church the propriety of purchasing a location as a residence for the President of this Mission, and that he be returned with his family."

Moved that the request to send his family be granted. Lost.

The resolution referring to the locating of a place, permanently, for the President of the Pacific Slope Mission, was moved to be referred to the Saints of that Mission; upon the discussion of which, a substitute was offered, as follows:

*Resolved*, That should the Saints of the Pacific Slope Mission deem it wise to establish a permanent headquarters for the Pres-

ident of that Mission, we see no impropriety in their so doing by any action which they in Conference assembled may deem advisable, and we heartily consent thereto.

Moved that the act of the North-West Missouri District in the division of that District be hereby ratified. Carried.

Moved that the petition of the Far West Branch to be considered as belonging to the Central Missouri District, be granted. Carried.

*Resolved*, That this assembly tender a vote of thanks to Messrs. Halliday and Morehead, the gentlemanly reporters of the *Nonpariel* and *Globe*, for their courteous and faithful efforts in reporting the proceedings of the sessions of our present Conference. Carried.

*Resolved*, That a vote of thanks be tendered to Mr. Parks for the use of the grounds upon which the Conference has been held. Carried.

Moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Saints of this vicinity for their hospitality to those attending Conference. Carried.

Moved that a vote of thanks be returned to the committee on Conference grounds for their services. Carried.

On motion, Conference adjourned. Hymn 1063 was sung; a benediction was pronounced by President Smith, and the people were dismissed.

By vote of Conference, President Joseph Smith remained upon the ground and addressed those who remained. A large number stopped over the evening services. Br. Gordon E. Duel opened the meeting by prayer and a well chosen speech of twenty minutes, when President Smith took the stand and spoke upon the subject of Spiritual Gifts. It is said to be an able and spiritual discourse.

An earnest prayer was offered by the President, and this pleasant session came to an end.

H. C. BRONSON, *Sec'y*;  
D. F. LAMBERT, *Clerk*.

A SAD TRUTH.—The rose of Florida, the most beautiful of flowers, emits no fragrance; the bird of Paradise, the most beautiful of birds, gives not song; the cypress of Greece, the finest of trees, yields no fruit; dandies, the shiniest of men, have no sense; and ball-room belles, the loveliest creatures in the world, are very often ditto. Perfection exists not under the sun.

It is uncertain at what place death awaits thee; wait thou for it at every place.