

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, held at Amboy, Lee Co., Ill., April 6th, 7th and 8th, 1861.

April 6th, 10 o'clock, A. M.—The Conference was organized by electing Brother Joseph Smith, President, and Isaac Sheen, and Wm. W. Blair, Clerks. After singing and prayer, the minutes of the semi-annual Conference were read, and on motion, amended to read that brother Joseph Smith said, "the quorum of the Twelve Apostles should be filled up, *as far as practicable.*"

The Conference received satisfactory evidence that Walter Ostrander, John Gaylord, Briggs Alden, Betsey Fairbanks, Betsey Stone, Ebenezer Page, Asa B. Manchester, George Kerr and Orton W. Burns, were members of the Church in the days of Joseph the Martyr, and in good standing at this time, they were therefore received into the church by the unanimous vote of the Conference on each case separately.

Conference adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. After singing and prayer, Bro. James Blakeslee, preached on the first principles of the gospel, and Bro. Z. H. Gurley, on the duties of the saints, and the divinity of the doctrines of the new organization.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock, next day.

April 7th, 10 o'clock, A. M.—Conference met. After singing and prayer, Bro. Samuel Powers preached on the first principles of the gospel.

Adjourned to 1 o'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. After singing and prayer, Bro. Wm. W. Blair preached on the subject of the "dispensation of the fullness of times," from Eph. 1:10. Bro. John Shippy preached on the Latter Day Work, from Malachi 3 c.

Large audiences assembled to hear the gospel preached, notwithstanding the frequent showers of rain.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock, A. M., next day.

April 8th, 10 o'clock, A. M.—After singing and prayer, reports of Branches of the Church were presented.

BRANCHES REPRESENTED.—In Iowa: Crescent City, North Star, Council Bluff; Round Lake, Harrison Co.; Little River, Franklin, Decatur Co.; Belvidere, Monana Co.; Montrose, Nashville, String Prairie, Lee Co.; Galland's Grove, Boyer, Boomer. In Illinois: Amboy, Sandwich and Batavia. Galien, Mich.; Burlington, Wis.; Whitestown, Ind.; Syracuse, Ohio.

Many Elders made known their willingness to labor in the ministry. After some remarks by Bro. Joseph Smith, concerning the duties of Elders, Conference adjourned to 1 o'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. After singing and prayer, Bro. Joseph Smith addressed the Conference in reference to the appointment of elders on missions.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Donations be made for the support of the families of Elders who are needy.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Bros. George Kerr, Walter Ostlander, W. J. Ruby, and H. N. Wright, be ordained to the Quorum of seventy.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Lucy Hodges, Sarah Waite, and Abiah Cook be received into fellowship in the Church.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a special Conference of the Church be held at Council Bluff City, Iowa, commencing on the first Friday in June, 1861.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the next Semi-Annual Conference be held at Sandwich, DeKalb Co., Ill., commencing Oct. 6, 1861.

Eleven persons were baptized and confirmed, and twelve re-baptized and re-confirmed, the last mentioned having been members of the old organization. The prayer meetings afforded the saints an opportunity to "sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus," and by the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit they received much instruction, edification and joy unspeakable. By the enjoyment of the diversity of the Gifts of the Holy Ghost we know that these blessings are for "all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call," as Peter declared on the day of Pentecost. We thereby know that we are building on the same foundation, even "the foundation of apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ, the chief corner stone." Adjourned.

ISAAC SHEEN, Clerk.

THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES met April 8th, 1861, and on motion, *Resolved*, That Brothers Jason W. Briggs and Samuel Powers, are hereby requested and authorized to go to England on a mission, accompanied by Brothers Henry Green, Jeremiah Jeremiah and George Rosser, who are requested to go on a mission to Wales.

Bro. S. Powers intends to hold meetings in Whitestown, Boone Co., Ind., May 18th and 19th, and in Syracuse, Meigs Co., Ohio, June 1st and 2d.

GOODS NEWS FROM WALES.

SYRACUSE, OHIO, March 9, 1861.

Dearlly Beloved Brother and Father, I. Sheen: I will give you, this by the hand of our beloved brother, Blakeslee, who has been like a father to us all in this Branch. He was sent in due time to visit us. The following is what I am going to give you to publish in the *Herald*: