

been repeated in Congress, but no redress has been granted, they have been sounded in the ears of the president, but he could do nothing for us.

What remains to be done, if the nation will not arouse itself in behalf of suffering humanity, and with a voice more terrible than thunder, speak out against a people, who have trod down the inherent rights and privileges of freemen and bring the authors of our suffering and woes, to that punishment which the well being of our country demands? Are the tears of widows, the sobs of orphans, the groans of the dying, and the blood of the innocent, to cry to this people in vain? Where art thou, ye American citizens, are those high toned feelings of patriotism? where is the spirit of freedom which animated the bosom of your noble sires, who waded through scenes of carnage and of gore to purchase the glorious privileges which you enjoy, but of which we are denied, although our fathers fought side by side with yours and many of them fell in the glorious struggle for liberty? Is it extinct? does it not now warm the bosom of the scions of those noble men, who presented a spectacle in their days, to the world at large, an and example worthy of imitation to the latest generation? Shall we appeal to you in vain? will you turn away from the scene, unmoved and unconcerned and suffer it to pass unnoticed; Remember,

“He who allows oppression,
Shares the crime.—”

We hope better things of our countryman and that they will by and by arise in their majesty, dry up the tears of the widow and fatherless, and restore our people to their rightful inheritances and to all the privileges of freemen.

We sometime since received the minutes of a conference held in the town of Superior, Washtenaw county, Michigan, which commenced on the 19th of June, 1840, and continued two days, the proceedings were interesting, a number of branches were represented, and ten were baptized.

In our last number, on the 175 page, in the Hymenial notice of Jesse P. Reed; it should have read, Neuman G. Blodget, and Mary Rush, instead of Neuman J. Blodget and Mary Bark.

Minutes of the general conference of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, held in Nauvoo, Hancock county, Ill. Oct., 3rd 1840.

The conference was opened by prayer by President W. Marks.

Joseph Smith jr. was then unanimously called to the chair, and R. B. Thompson, chosen clerk.

A letter from elders Bent and Harris and one from Elder John E. Page were then read by the Clerk, which gave very satisfactory accounts of their mission.

On motion. Resolved, That a committee be appointed to ordain such as have recommends to this conference for ordination, and that elders

Jonathan Hale, Elisha H. Groves,
Charles C. Rich, John Murdock,
Simeon Carter

compose said committee, and report their proceedings before the conference closes.

The president arose and stated that there had been several depredations committed on the citizens of Nauvoo, and thought it expedient that a committee be appointed, to search out the offenders, and bring them to justice.

Whereupon it was resolved, that,
Joseph Smith, Elias Higbee,
William Marks, Vinson Knight,
William Law, Charles C. Rich,
Dimick Huntington,

compose said committee.

On motion. Resolved, that R. B. Thompson be appointed the general church clerk in the room of Geo. W. Robinson, who intends to remove to Iowa.

It having been requested by Elder Page that the conference would appoint an elder to take charge of the church which he and Elder Hyde had raised up in Cincinnati.

On motion. Resolved, that Elder Samuel Bennett, be appointed to preside over the church in Cincinnati.

The president then rose, and stated that it was necessary that something, should be done with regard to Kirtland, so that it might be built up; and gave it as his opinion, that the brethren from the east might gather there, and also, that it was necessary that some one should be appointed from this conference to preside over that stake

On motion. Resolved, that Elder Alman Babbit be appointed to preside over the church in Kirtland, and that he choose his own counsellors.

Conference adjourned for one hour.

One o'clock P. M. Conference met pursuant to adjournment.

An opportunity was given to the brethren who had any remarks to make on suitable locations for stakes.

Elder H. Miller stated that it was the desire of a number of the brethren residing in Adams county to have a stake appointed at Mount Ephraim in that county, and stated the advantages of the place for agricultural purposes &c.

On motion. Resolved, that a stake be appointed at Mount Ephraim in Adams county.

There being several applications for the appointment of stakes, it was resolved that a committee be appointed to organize stakes between this place and Kirtland, and that

Hyrum Smith,
Lyman Wight and
Alman Babbit

compose said committee.

The president then spoke of the necessity of building a "House of the Lord" in this place.

Whereupon it was resolved, that the saints build a house for the worship of God, and that Reynolds Cahoon, Elias Higbee, and Alpheus Cutler, be appointed a committee to build the same.

On motion. Resolved, that a commencement be made ten days from this date, and that every tenth day be appropriated for the building of said house.

President Hyrum Smith arose and stated that there were several individuals, who on moving to this place, had not settled with their creditors and had no recommendation from the branches of the church where they had resided.

On motion. Resolved that those persons moving to this place, who do not bring a recommendation, be disfellowshipped.

J. C. Bennett, M. D. then spoke at some length, on the oppression, to which the church had been subject, and remarked, that it was necessary for the brethren to stand by each other and resist every unlawful attempt at persecution.

Elder Lyman Wight then addressed

the meeting. Conference adjourned until to-morrow morning.

Sunday morning. Conference met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened by prayer by Elder Babbit.

The clerk was then called upon to read the report of the presidency, in relation to the city plot, after which the president made some observations on the situation of the debts on the city plot and advised that a committee be appointed to raise funds to liquidate the same.

On motion. Resolved, that William Marks and Hyrum Smith compose said committee.

On motion. Resolved, that a committee be appointed to draught a bill for the incorporating of the town of Nauvoo, and other purposes.

Resolved, that Joseph Smith Jr. Dr. J. C. Bennett and R. E. Thompson, compose said committee.

Resolved that Dr. J. C. Bennett, be appointed delegate to Springfield, to urge the passage of said bill through the legislature.

President Hyrum Smith then rose and gave some general instructions to the church.

Conference adjourned for one hour.

One o'clock P. M. Conference met pursuant to adjournment and was opened by prayer by Elder J. P. Green.

President Joseph Smith Jr. then arose and delivered a discourse on the subject of baptism for the dead, which was listened to with considerable interest, by the vast multitude assembled.

Dr. Bennett, from the committee, to draught a charter for the city, and for other purposes, reported the outlines of the same.

On motion. Resolved that the same be adopted.

Dr. Bennett then, made some very appropriate remarks on the duty of the saints in regard to those, who had, under circumstances of affliction, held out the hand of friendship, and that it was their duty to uphold such men and give them the suffrages, and support.

Elder E. Robinson then arose, and gave an account of the printing of another edition of the book of Mormon, and stated, that it was now nearly completed and that arrangements had been made for the printing of the hymn book book of doctrine and covenants, &c.

Conference adjourned to Monday morning.

Monday morning, Oct., 5th. Conference met pursuant to adjournment and was opened by prayer by Elder Lyman Wight.

Elder R. B. Thompson after a few preliminary remarks, read an article on the priesthood, composed by president Joseph Smith jr, after which,

Elder Babbitt delivered an excellent discourse on the same subject at some considerable length.

Conference adjourned for one hour.

During the intermission a large number were baptized.

Two o'clock P. M. Conference met pursuant to adjournment.

Elder Lyman Wight addressed the conference on the subject of baptism for the dead and other subjects of interest to the church.

The president then made some observations, and pronounced his benediction on the assembly.

Dr. J. C. Bennett said that many persons had been accused of crime, and been looked upon as guilty, when on investigation it has been ascertained that nothing could be aduced against them,—Whereupon,

On motion; it was resolved that no person be considered guilty of crime, unless proved so by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

Dr. Bennett next brought before the conference the treatment the saints had experienced in Missouri, and wished to know, whether the conference would take any further steps in relation to obtaining redress.

On motion. Resolved that Elias Higbee and R. B. Thompson be appointed a committee to obtain redress for the wrongs sustained in Missouri.

The committee on ordinations reported that they had ordained thirty nine to the ministry.

On motion. Resolved that this conference be dismissed, and that the next conference be held on the 6th day of April next.

JOSEPH SMITH jr., Pres't.
R. B. THOMPSON, Clerk,

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENCY.

The Presidency of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, would respectfully report: that they feel rejoicing to meet the saints at another general conference and

under circumstances as favorable as the present. Since our settlement in Illinois, we have for the most part been treated with courtesy and respect, and a feeling of kindness and of sympathy, has generally been manifested by all classes of the community, who with us, deprecate the conduct of these men, whose dark and blackning deeds, are stamped with everlasting infamy and disgrace.

The contrast between our past and present situation is great. Two years ago, mobs were threatening, plundering, driving and murdering the saints. Our burning houses enlightened the canopy of heaven. Our women and children houseless and destitute, had to wander from place to place, to seek a shelter from the rage of persecuting foes.— How we enjoy peace, and can worship the God of heaven and earth without molestation. And expect to be able to go forward and accomplish the great and glorious work to which we have been called. Under these circumstances we feel to congratulate the saints of the Most High, on the happy and pleasing change in our circumstances, condition and prospects, and which those who shared in the perils and distresses, undoubtedly appreciate. While prayers and thanksgivings daily ascend to that God, who looked upon our distresses and delivered us from danger and death, and whose hand is over us for good. From the unpropitious nature of the weather, we hardly expected to behold so many of our friends on this occasion, in this however, we are agreeably disappointed, which gives us strong assurance that the saints are as zealous, untiring and energetic as ever in the great work of the last days; and gives us joy and consolation, and greatly encourages us, while contending with the difficulties which necessarily lie in our way.

Let the brethren ever manifest such a spirit, and hold up our hands, and we must, we will go forward, the work of the Lord shall roll forth, the Temple of the Lord be reared, the Elders of Israel be encouraged; Zion be built up. And become the praise, the joy, and the glory of the whole earth; and the song of praise, glory, honor and majesty to him that setteth upon the throne, and to the Lamb forever and ever, shall reverberate from hill to hill, from mountain to mountain, from Island to Island and from continent to continent, and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our God and his Christ.

We are glad indeed to know that there is such a spirit of union existing throughout the churches, and at home and abroad; on this continent, as well as on the Islands of the sea, for by this principle and by a concentration of action shall we be able to carry into effect the purposes of our God.

From the Elders abroad we receive the most cheering accounts; wherever the faithful laborer has gone forth reaping, sowing the seed of truth, he has returned with joy, bringing his sheaves with him; and the information we receive from all quarters is, that the laborers are few and that the harvest is great. Many wealthy and influential characters have embraced the gospel, so that not only will the poor rejoice in that they are